

Melbourne 18 October 2016

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Rare Portrait of a Shepardi Rabbi For Auction

Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design
Auction in Sydney 25 October 2016



LAZAR KRESTIN 1868-1938, (*Shepardi Rabbi at Study*) 1921. Estimate \$12,000-18,000.

Rare to the Australian market is an insightful portrait of a Shepardi Rabbi at study by Lazar Krestin, which will be auctioned on 25 October by Sotheby's Australia in Sydney. (*Shepardi Rabbi at Study*) 1921 (estimate \$12,000-18,000, lot 195, pictured) is consigned by the Temple Beth Israel, Melbourne with proceeds to assist with continuing the Temple's outreach activities and social justice services.

Senior Rabbi Gersh Lazarow, from Temple Beth Israel commented: 'Lazar Krestin's (*Shepardi Rabbi at Study*) has been in our care for over 70 years, most likely given to us by an immigrant Jewish family who had difficulty in finding space for the work in their small home. The sale of the painting will aid us in continuing our commitments in the community including our new social outreach program "Nourish" to feed the disadvantaged in our community. Additionally, we have committed to providing social justice services, assisting refugees in settling into this country – we could think of nothing better than using the proceeds from a painting given to us by an immigrant to continue assisting those in need.'

Renowned for his Judaic genre scenes and portraits of Eastern European Jews, Lazar Krestin lived and worked in Austria, Germany and the Ukraine before moving to Jerusalem in 1910, where he continued his practice and teachings with the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, Israel's national school of art.

'Sotheby's Australia is honoured to be entrusted with the sale of Lazar Krestin's (*Shephardi Rabbi at Study*) by the Temple Beth Israel' said Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby's Australia. 'The motivation in selling this rare painting of a senior Rabbi by Temple Beth Israel is truly inspiring, and we look forward to assisting them in their mission to raise funds to continue their social services in the community.'

AT A GLANCE

PROPERTY FROM THE TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL, MELBOURNE

LAZAR KRESTIN 1868-1938

(*Sephardi Rabbi at Study*) 1921

oil on canvas, 105 x 75 cm

Estimate \$12,000-18,000

Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design

Auction in Sydney, The Hughenden, 14 Queen Street, Woollahra, 25 October 2016, 6 pm

Total auction estimate \$1,270,700-1,750,000 | 261 lots

Exhibition in Sydney, 30 & 34 Queen Street, Woollahra, 20-25 October, 10 am to 5 pm

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**Estimates do not include buyer's premium and prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium.*

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