



HIRSCHL & ADLER GALLERIES

STEFAN HIRSCH (1899–1964)

*Portrait of an African-American Man*

Oil on canvas, 16 1/4 x 12 1/2 in.

EX COLL.: the artist; to his widow, until the present

Stefan Hirsch studied law at the University of Zurich, Switzerland, from 1916 to 1919, and became involved with Dadaist activities in the city during this time. In 1919 he moved to New York and studied with Hamilton Easter Field until 1922. Hirsch played an important role in the development of fine arts departments at Bennington College, Bennington, Vermont, from 1934 to 1940, and, later, at Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, from 1942 to 1960. His status as an academician never compromised the progressive integrity of his work, which developed from a Precisionist style in the 1920s, to Social Realism in the 1930s, and, later, during the 1940s and '50s, to a more abstract and surreal style. In addition to abstractions, still lifes, cityscapes, landscapes, and quasi-allegorical subjects, Hirsch also painted portraits. *Portrait of an African-American Man* demonstrates the degree to which Hirsch's keen observation and impeccable technique found their extension through portraiture.

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