



**DOERR DALLAS
VALUATIONS**



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Modern Art Specialist

HOW ARE TRADITIONAL AUCTION HOUSES CHANGING?

The sad passing of Lucian Freud in 2011 and Leon Kossoff in 2019, leaves Frank Auerbach as the last of these three great Titans of Post War British painting, they had a shared heritage and passion for painting in the traditional mediums of oil paint, works on paper and in print.

Auerbach is a wonderfully enigmatic perfectionist and although I have never met him in person, I feel I have heard enough about him from his regular sitters to enable me to feel I know a little of his character and working methods. I have heard him speak, albeit only once, it happened quite by chance. I was in a supermarket car park and turned-on Radio 4 there to my delight there he was talking about his art, life and an upcoming exhibition, I remained rooted to my parking spot and listened to the end. Having never

heard his voice before I was at once transported into his world and ways of making art. Something he didn't mention which I heard from Lucian Freud, the only one of the three I have actually met in person who said that he relied on Frank's opinion as to whether a painting of his was finished or not and that only when it received Frank's approval was Lucian happy for it to leave the studio. As far as I know the arrangement did not apply in reverse as Frank's own tried and tested methods of working and rigorous standards were enough by themselves. He is known to scrape down pictures to bare board when they are not working, destroy or even throw them away! Leon Kossoff had a similar approach to quality control often tearing unsuccessful drawing into four pieces and popping them on a skip or in the bin, it's not uncommon for oils by Auerbach and torn drawings by Kossoff to turn up for sale having been found in skips and rubbish bins near the artists respective North London homes.



Head of Lucian Freud, 1960, Charcoal and chalk on paper, 78 x 56 cm

Auerbach's work is predominantly portraiture including friends such as Freud in this case. Other regular subjects and sitters are only known by their initials. There can be as many as 70 weekly sittings for a finished work on paper such as this. The paper can end up being frayed and torn towards the end.

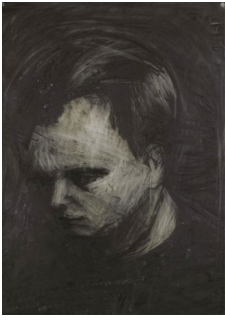
For example:

EOW = Estella West a regular sitter since the early 1950's.
JYM = Juliet Yardley Mills a very frequent sitter.

Insurance values:

2017: £550,000 • **2022:** £750,000

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Head of Leon Kossoff, 1956, Charcoal and chalk on paper, 76 x 56 cm

Insurance values:

2017: £1,000,000 • **2022:** £1,400,000



Self Portrait, 'The Brazen Serpent', Pencil on cream wove paper, 1954, 21.5 x 27.5cm

Insurance values:

2017: £5,000 • **2022:** £30,000



Study after Rubens 'Samson and Delilah' 1993, Oil on canvas, 128 x 138 cm

This is very rare subject for Auerbach hence its very high price making it the current world auction record price for the artist.

Insurance values:

2017: £4,000,000 • **2022:** £5,000,000



Primrose Hill, Summer 1968, Oil on board, 122 x 122 cm

Auerbach has always lived in North London and his landscape works usually depict this area of London.

Insurance values:

2017: £2,800,000 • **2022:** £4,200,000



E O W (Estella West) on her blue Eiderdown V, 1963, Oil on board, 57 x 83 cm

Sitters portraits more often show them seated or lying down and less often reclining as in this picture.

Insurance values:

2017: £2,500,000 • **2022:** £3,800,000



Head of Gerda Boehm, 1977, Oil on board, 61 x 66 cm
Gerda Boehm is the artist's cousin.

Insurance values:

2017: £450,000 • **2022:** £650,000



Head of Leon Kossoff 1954, Oil on panel, 61 x 55 cm

This is a dramatic and intimate portrait of the artist great friend and fellow artist.

Insurance values:

2017: £2,900,000 • **2022:** £3,900,000



Elephant and Rider, Ink and crayon on paper, 12 x 18 cm

Affordable original work on paper and prints by Auerbach are still available to buy at reasonable prices so buy while you still can!

This one is fun and its inscribed for JYM.

Insurance values:

2017: £1,000 • **2022:** £3,500



Mornington Crescent, black crayon pencil and oil on paper, 1973-74, 22.8 x 23.2

Insurance values:

2017: £5,000 • **2022:** £25,000



Lucian Freud, 1981, Etching, from the series six etchings of heads, no 42/50, 40 x 33 cm

Auerbach is also a printmaker and print prices are still reasonable works are made in sets of six in signed limited and numbered editions.

Insurance values:

2017: £3,000 • **2022:** £12,000



David Landau, (another regular sitter), Etching, proof copy from the edition of 40, signed and inscribed, 40 x 30 cm

Insurance values:

2017: £4,000 • **2022:** £13,000