Object: Mother and Child Reclining

Museum: Kunsthalle Bremen
Am Wall 207
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Collection: Kupferstichkabinett

Inventory 1913/703
number:

Description

No other artist of the late 19th and early 20th century took up the theme of mother and child as consistently as Paula Modersohn-Becker. In 1906, she began portraying them as nudes, thus developing a new form of expression and imbuing the traditional motif with convincing immediacy. Protectively, the mother has drawn up her legs to her child, cradling his head in her arms. The basic means of expression is the contour line, with which Modersohn-Becker reduced the naked body to a picture formula by forgoing details. Here, once again, she pursued her goal to "strive for the greatest simplicity in the most intimate observation." This drawing is most likely the last of four that Modersohn-Becker produced in preparation for three painted versions of the subject. Two of these are thought to be lost; another is in the art collection at the Kunstsammlungen Böttcherstrasse in Bremen.

Basic data

Material/Technique: Charcoal

Measurements: 230.0 x 313.0 mm

Events

Drawn When 1906

Who Paula Modersohn-Becker (1876-1907)

Where

[Relationship When

to location]

Who

Where Paris

[Relationship When

to location]

Who

Where Seine

Keywords

- Bridge
- Drawing
- dog