



"The Woman and the Ocean", Watercolor
featuring the Great Wave off Kanagawa

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SKU

LU825840494202



Details

This watercolor presents a surreal and poetic scene where a naked woman emerges from a swimming pool. She holds aloft a representation of Hokusai's iconic "Great Wave off Kanagawa." This renowned image, a powerful symbol of artistic continuity and renewal, takes on new life here, becoming an active participant rather than an object of contemplation.

Each stroke is subtle, the epitome of suggestion, an equivocal outline. To the right, at the pool's edge, a table and a parasol add a contrasting splash of color to the overall chromatic palette. Hokusai's wave, more than an illustration of the ocean, symbolizes nature's strength and human fragility while also showcasing the method and aesthetics of ukiyo-e art.

Watercolor is a medium of subtlety and finesse, that always creates a dynamic between reality and poetry. The soft color transitions and fluid blends give this work a celestial and expressive tone. The deliberate juxtaposition of surrealism and tradition unfolds as the artist transforms Hokusai's famous wave into a polymorphic symbol, a "door" between the imaginary and the real.

Portraying the character nude rather than in swimwear suggests both emancipation and rebirth, evoking the imagery of mythical and legendary feminine figures emerging from the sea. The act of lifting the wave above her head, done with sober strength, narrates a story of defiance and power. Her choice to appear naked can be seen as a celebration of the human body and a challenge to societal taboos. The colored parasol, echoing Mount Fuji from Hokusai's wave, adds a touch of fantasy. Though rooted in reality, this element is poetically reimagined within the surrealist tableau.

The artist's palette, with gradients of blues, greens, and yellows, evokes the vocabulary of dreams, crafting a vividly



charged parallel universe. This watercolor invites us into a world where the boundaries between tradition and surrealism blur, offering a rich weave of symbolism and gracefulness.

REFERENCE NUMBER: LU825840494202

PERIOD: 1950s

CONDITION: Good

MEASUREMENTS: Height: 22.5" Width: 21.5" Depth: 0.63"

COUNT: 1

MATERIAL: Paint

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Japan