



Erich Heckel: Picture "Acrobats" (1949) (Unique piece)

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Erich Heckel and the artists of the "Brücke" rebelled against bourgeois lifestyles and traditional art concepts, striving to find a new expression of art. They found inspiration and ideas from non-European cultures as well as the world of theatre and circus. The actors from variety shows and theatre were also artists, living lives far removed from convention, in the dazzling realm of evening and night, in the colourful in-between of appearance and reality.

Thus, it is no surprise that the young "Brücke" artists were almost magically fascinated by this motif. Erich Heckel enthusiastically and frequently visited variety theatres in Dresden, Germany, such as the "Wintergarten", the "Flora-Variété" or the "El Dorado", as well as the Schuhmann and Sarrasani circuses. The Brücke artists sketch the acrobats and dancers on site before processing these impressions in numerous paintings.

The depth of this connection to the fascinating theatre milieu extends beyond artistic inspiration, which is also evident in the present work from 1949, in which Heckel once again revives the experiences of the 1910s and 1920s.

Gouache, watercolour and pencil on paper, 1949, signed, dated and titled. Motif size/sheet size 34.8 x 24.8 cm. Size in frame 59 x 48 cm as shown.

Product link: <https://www.kunsthhaus-artes.de/en/erich-heckel-picture-acrobats-1949-unique-piece-949253-r1/>