

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



THE GALERIE ST. ETIENNE PRESENTS AN EXHIBITION  
TO BENEFIT THE COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS



Egon Schiele: **Squatting Woman**, 1914. Drypoint in sepia with toned ground on German Etching paper.  
Initialed, dated and numbered by Jane Kallir, verso. 18 7/8" x 12 3/8" (47.9 x 31.4 cm).  
From the edition of 100 impressions published with the deluxe edition of Egon Schiele: *The Complete Works*, 1990.

**NEW YORK, NY (May 27, 2020)** – **Galerie St. Etienne** is pleased to announce an online group exhibition of works by Sue Coe, Oskar Kokoschka, Käthe Kollwitz, Alfred Kubin and Egon Schiele. All profits from the sale will be donated to **The Coalition for the Homeless**, to support their ongoing efforts in protecting the homeless population during the COVID-19 outbreak. The exhibition will be presented on Artsy from June 1 to June 30, 2020.

Featuring some of the gallery’s mainstay artists—celebrated masters of German and Austrian Expressionism, as well as the gallery’s sole living contemporary artist, Sue Coe—these works were selected because of their humanistic content. “As we consider the varied impact of COVID-19 on those who have been privileged to shelter in relative comfort, and those who have not, these works remind us of the common humanity we all share,” says Director Jane Kallir on describing the importance of supporting the Coalition and including these artists in Galerie St. Etienne’s benefit sale.

Citing the importance of supporting the most at-risk populations during times of crisis, the Coalition’s Executive Director Dave Giffen says, “The Coalition is so grateful to Galerie St. Etienne for so generously supporting us during this critical time. Our homeless neighbors are so vulnerable right now, and the support raised through these efforts will absolutely save lives.”

Highlights include Egon Schiele's *Squatting Woman*, created during a brief exploration of printmaking that resulted in only 17 known graphic works. During the spring and summer of 1914, the artist produced a total oeuvre of six drypoints. Printed from Schiele's original plate, this impression of *Squatting Woman* comes from an edition of 100 specially pulled at Robert Blackburn's Printmaking Workshop, New York to accompany the deluxe edition of the catalogue raisonné *Egon Schiele: The Complete Works* (Abrams, 1990). All impressions are initialed, dated and numbered by Schiele expert Jane Kallir on the verso.

While Käthe Kollwitz is best known for documenting social injustice, *Mother Holding Child in Her Arms* expresses her softer side, capturing the profound joy of motherhood. One of only thirty of Kollwitz's etching plates that survived the mass destruction of World War II, this impression was pulled by Kollwitz's publisher, Alexander von der Becke. His efforts made it possible for a new generation of collectors to acquire Kollwitz originals at affordable prices and helped solidify the artist's place as a master of the graphic arts.

A response to the weeks-long bombing of thousands of civilians during the Gulf War, Coe's *Bomb Shelter* (1991) is marked by the influence of Expressionist artists such as Kollwitz. *Bomb Shelter* was recently included in MoMA PS1's "Theater of Operations: The Gulf Wars 1991-2011." In his review of the exhibition, *The New Yorker's* Peter Schjeldahl praises Coe for capturing the "lifelong sorrow and anger at human barbarities." Coe will have a retrospective exhibition at Galerie St. Etienne in the autumn of 2020, the gallery's final show before transitioning to a non-profit.

#### **About Galerie St. Etienne**

Founded in 1939 by Otto Kallir, Galerie St. Etienne is the oldest gallery in the United States specializing in Austrian and German Expressionism as well as in the work of self-taught artists. The gallery mounted the first American one-person shows of Erich Heckel (1955), Gustav Klimt (1959), Oskar Kokoschka (1940), Alfred Kubin (1941), Paula Modersohn-Becker (1958) and Egon Schiele (1941). The gallery is also known for its expertise on Käthe Kollwitz. St. Etienne was also instrumental in arranging the first American museum acquisitions of works by these artists, through sales and donations. Galerie St. Etienne developed a commitment to the work of self-taught American and European artists after discovering Grandma Moses, who had her first one-person show at the gallery in 1940. Firmly committed to scholarship, the gallery's directors have authored catalogues raisonnés on Richard Gerstl, Grandma Moses and Egon Schiele. The current director, Jane Kallir, has written more than 20 books and is the leading authority on Egon Schiele.

#### **About The Coalition for the Homeless**

The Coalition for the Homeless is the nation's oldest advocacy and direct service organization helping homeless men, women and children. They believe that affordable housing, sufficient food and the chance to work for a living wage are fundamental rights in a civilized society. Since their inception in 1981, the Coalition has worked through litigation, public education and direct services to ensure that these goals are realized.

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