

For Immediate Release....



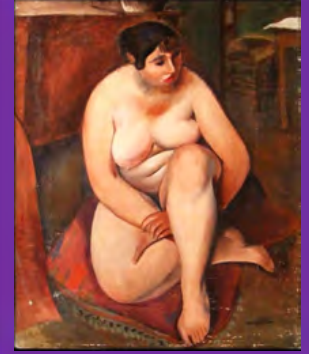
Discovery of a Hidden Painting Treasure

Amedeo Modigliani's

Sitting Nude with Crossed Hands, (c.) 1917

Newly Authenticated Painting Gem

Now Being Offered for Private Acquisition



Napa Valley Arts Institut is pleased to announce the exclusive offering of Amedeo Modigliani's *Sitting Nude with Crossed Hands* (c. 1917). A newly authenticated masterwork featuring Alice Ernestine Prin at age 16—later known to the world as **Kiki de Montparnasse** after 1922 soon after meeting/falling in love with Man Ray. The second half of Kiki's title was bestowed upon her in a lavish ceremony, forever known as **KIKI, "Queen of Montparnasse"**. Earnest Hemingway wrote the forward to **Kiki's Memoirs**, one of two he would do in his life.

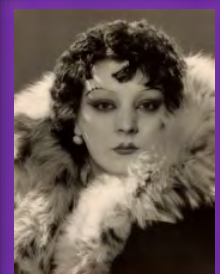
This extraordinary painting captures Kiki on the threshold of legend—before the fame, the salons, and the mythos that came to define the Montparnasse Era in the roaring 1920s. With his signature red lake effect, violent eyes and haunting emotional realism, Modigliani presents her in a pose that is intimate and timeless, rendered with lyrical restraint and psychological depth.

In 2022, a comprehensive forensic analysis was conducted by **InsightART** in Prague—employing advanced CERN particle physics robotic imaging—confirmed the materials, layering, signature, canvas, frame and brushwork as authentic to Modigliani's oeuvre. A Certificate of Authentication and Verification Report were recently issued by Dr. Otto M. Urban, former curator of the National Museum in Prague and world renowned expert in early modern art. The work is currently at Institut Restellini for scientific analysis and authentication by Marc Restellini. Upon positive outcome, the Painting will receive another Certificate of Authenticity and Letter of Entry into Restellini's Catalogue Raisonne.

This is the first time this Modigliani Nude has ever been offered for private sale. It is not only a singular rediscovered work by one of the most revered artists of the 20th century—it is also a vital contribution to the visual legacy of *Kiki de Montparnasse*, who inspired two generations of artists, poets, and revolutionaries in Inter-war Paris, known as the **Montparnasse Era**.



Left: pages 156-157 from **Assouline's** Deluxe Edition of *Kiki's Memoirs* - "Paris in the 1920s" - a 1922 Illustration by Max Earnst depicting the diversity of artists who flocked to avant-garde Montparnasse in the early 20's. **Right:** iconic 1922 Photo by Man Ray, Kiki looking "**Queenly**"



Private and confidential discussions are welcome, for showing and acquisition inquiries please contact:

Richard Triberg
Executive Director | Research Specialist
415-233-3131
Richard@NapaValleyArtInstitut.com
Website & Virtual Gallery

Napa Valley Art Institut & Virtual Gallery - Representation - Research - Authentication - Consulting



Nestled in the heart of the **Napa Valley**, the 33-acre property is surrounded by stunning views of sprawling vineyards, mountain ranges, sunsets and moon rises. **Villa Monticello**, {Tuscany inspired} was built out of castle stone. The gated property includes resort-style grounds, four decks, over 4,500 sq. ft. of outdoor entertainment space. The Institut is available to gallery's, private collectors and broker/dealers for private events, art shows & fundraising. The Villa can accommodate groups of up to 200 guests, {sleeps 10}. A 15-minute drive to **St Helena**, 20 minutes to **Calistoga**. Security services and secure transportation are available.