



DANCER WITH A RIBBON WERKSTÄTTE HAGENAUER CA. 1935

Dancer with a ribbon, Werkstatte Hagenauer Wien,
ca. 1935, marked

The theme of the female body, often in an artistic and dynamic pose, is very present in the oeuvre of both Hagenauer brothers. The designs can exude an erotic or – as in this case – athletic quality. Expressive dance was an inexhaustible source of inspiration, as can be seen in the depiction of the famous dancer Josephine Baker in the form of a small sculpture. The convincing balance of an expressive pose, minimalistic and reduced body features typical of Werkstätte Hagenauer, as well as the successful capture of a dynamic moment, illustrates the unmistakable formal language of these important Austrian designers.

The copper band spiraling around the dancer's legs emphasizes the pure elegance of this aesthetic moment in perfect harmony. In addition, the tension created between the lifeless (copper) and the living materials (wood) gives this artwork additional appeal. The use of this duality, characterized by the highest level of craftsmanship, testifies to true sophistication.









