

Paul Klee

Portrait of Frau P. in the South, 1924

Watercolor and oil transfer drawing on paper, mounted on gouache-painted board, 42 x 31 cm including mount

The painting depicts a stylized woman wearing a hat against a brightly colored background. The face is rectangular and disproportionate compared to the rest of the body. Curly hair is rendered down to the chin on the left portion of the painting. The eyes are small and round, the nose is lightly rendered and shifted to the right, and the mouth is half open. The trapezoidal hat, elongated to the right, has two plumes and a central emblem similar to a button. The bust wears a semicircular bib, divided in half by a rough horizontal line reminiscent of sand which continues under the arms. Beneath the bib is a heart shape.