

OSBORNE SAMUEL

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART

FRANK AUERBACH (B. 1931)



Head of JYM III, 1980
Chalk and charcoal on paper
76.2 x 58.4 cms
(29.95 x 22.95 in)

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Available

Chalk and charcoal on paper

Provenance: Private Collection

Exhibited: Frank Auerbach 'Recent Work' 13 January – 11 February, 1983, Cat No 31, Marlborough Fine Art, London from where purchased.

Literature: William Feaver, *Frank Auerbach*, published by Rizzoli, no. 428

Auerbach had first met Julia Yardley Mills in 1956, when she was a professional model at Sidcup College of Art. By 1963, she had become Auerbach's main model and muse, visiting his Camden studio every Wednesday and Sunday until 1997. The fact that she had already been portrayed so often and over such a length of time by 1980, when when this work was created, has resulted in a great familiarity. On the one hand, this long relationship between artist and model has inevitably resulted in their having a complex friendship, a factor that seeps into the drawing, making it all the more electric; on the other hand, it has also meant that Auerbach had contemplated these features again and again hundreds and hundreds of times. This is a process that he believes can lead to a true revelation: 'To paint the same head over and over leads you to its unfamiliarity; eventually you get near the raw truth about it, just as people only blurt out the raw truth in the middle of a family quarrel'.