A Corpse in the Countryside
(Geländete Leiche)

Primary Maker
Alfred Kubin

Date
1919

Medium
Lithograph

Dimensions
Stone: 5-7/8 x 4-3/16 in. (14.9 x 10.6 cm) Sheet: 16-1/16 x 12-1/8 in. (40.8 x 30.8 cm)

Credit Line
Gift of Andrea L. Weil and John A. Weil

Object number
2001.61f

Type
Prints

Both artist and writer, Alfred Kubin illustrated the poems and short stories of the nineteenth-century American Romantic Edgar Allan Poe, who is known for his tales of mystery and the macabre. The best known of Kubin's own books is <i>The Other Side (Die Andere Seite)</i> (1909), a fantastic novel set in an oppressive imaginary land. <i>The Other Side</i> has an atmosphere of claustrophobic absurdity reminiscent of the existential writings—filled with the themes and archetypes of alienation, physical and psychological brutality, terrifying quests, and mystical transformations—of the Czech writer Franz Kafka, who admired Kubin's <i>The Other Side</i>. Such thematic tendencies appear in this small landscape print, in which the idyll of a country house is broken unexpectedly by the unexplained presence of naked human corpse in the foreground.