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Francis Bacon (1909-1992)

STUDY FOR PORTRAIT OF POPE INNOCENT X, 1989
lithograph in colour; (épreuve d'artiste, artist's proof)
signed lower right; with edition ["E.A."] lower left
37.50 by 27in. (95.25 by 68.58cm)

Study for Portrait of Pope Innocent X was created in an edition of 60.
Sheet size: 46 by 30.25in.

In 1953, Bacon painted *Study after Velázquez's Portrait of Pope Innocent X* also known as *The Screaming Pope* based on the Spanish master's portrait of the same subject from 1650. The subject as depicted by both artists is considered a masterpiece from their respective oeuvres. Bacon was fixated with the image and painted numerous versions of the subject. The present work mirrors the composition and palette of Velázquez's painting but is imbued with a characteristically Bacon quality.

€6,000-€8,000 (£4,900-£6,500 approx).