

For Immediate Release

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CHRISTIE'S NEW YORK UNVEILS PHOTOGRAPH MASTERWORKS AND ICONIC IMAGERY THIS SPRING

Photographs
April 26, 2005

New York – Christie's New York Spring 2005 Photographs sale offers collectors an exemplary and broad collection of European and American works, including iconic imagery from the early masters to contemporary artisans. The auction features 340 lots, takes place on Tuesday 26 April and is estimated to realize in excess of \$3 million.

Seminal photographs by Diane Arbus, Robert Mapplethorpe, Andy Warhol and Man Ray feature – and the auction also offers Property from the Estate of Charlotte Loeb, a fascinating collection of Edward Weston and Johan Hagemeyer images.

Contemporary

Following the success of the October 2004 New York sale, which saw new world auction records set for William Eggleston, Robert Mapplethorpe and Irving Penn, contemporary works feature prominently in this Spring auction – led by *Child with a Toy Hand Grenade, Central Park, N.Y.C.*, 1962 by Diane Arbus (estimate: \$300,000-400,000).

A visual synonym for America in the pre-Vietnam era, and one of the most iconic and important images of the 20th century, this vintage print was given to author and artist Pati Hill by Arbus. One of only seven known to be in existence, this image is the only example to be signed by the photographer on the recto.

Other contemporary highlights include Robert Mapplethorpe's *Tulips*, a unique diptych commissioned by Paul Walter (estimate: \$90,000-120,000). The work holds an indisputably important place in Mapplethorpe's legacy – one of his first flower studies, the image was produced soon after his debut solo New York show in 1977. Another Mapplethorpe attraction is *Lydia*, 1985 – a nude triptych study (estimate: \$60,000-80,000).

Andy Warhol's *Untitled (Holly Solomon)*, a set of six photobooth strips taken at 47th and Broadway, Manhattan in 1963-1964, is a vibrant example of Warhol's New York (estimate: \$40,000-60,000) – the sitter, Holly Solomon, notes that Warhol, 'made me into the archetype of the sexually-liberated woman of our time...'.

An excellent selection of Irving Penn works feature, including fashion images such as *Woman in Chicken Hat (Lisa Fonssagrives-Penn)*, New York, c.1949 (estimate: \$30,000-50,000); *Man Lighting Girl's Cigarette*, New York, 1949 (estimate: \$20,000-30,000); and a vintage South American Indian portrait, *Young Quechuan Man, Cuzco, Peru*, 1948 (estimate: \$25,000-35,000).

William Eggleston works are led by *Greenwood, Mississippi*, 1973, an interior study (estimate: \$100,000-150,000); Helmut Newton is well-represented, with *Big Nude III, Henrietta, Paris*, 1980 a notable inclusion (estimate: \$30,000-50,000); and a Cindy Sherman image, *Untitled*, 1989 depicts Sherman in American period costume (estimate: \$50,000-70,000).

Early Masters & Traditional Americana

Man Ray's *Érotique Voilée* is an iconic surrealist image and the 1933 vintage print featured in the sale comes with a terrific provenance - it was given to Louis Marcoussis after the shoot and has remained in the family ever since (estimate: \$140,000-180,000). Man Ray's endeavors took him in many directions in the 1920s and 30s in Europe, yet it was in his personal nudes that he most fully realized his creative goal - *Érotique Voilée* is an important illustration of his stated objective to infuse the real with the imaginary, in this case transforming the female nude into an erotic enigma.

American highlights include Depression-era imagery by Dorothea Lange, such as *White Angel Breadline*, 1933 (estimate: \$30,000-40,000) and *Mended Stockings, San Francisco*, 1934 (estimate: \$25,000-35,000); a complete set of *Camera Work, An Illustrated Quarterly Magazine devoted to Photography and to the Activities of the Photo-Secession*, 1903-1917, edited by Alfred Stieglitz (estimate: \$90,000-120,000); and *Heavy Roses, Voulangis, France*, 1914 by Edward Steichen, believed to be the last photograph Steichen took before he left France at the advent of the Great War.

Property from the Estate of Charlotte Loeb

Charlotte Loeb was the wife of eminent Berkeley physicist, Dr. Leonard Loeb, and this collection offers a fine selection of work by underrated photographer Dutch immigrant Johan Hagemeyer and his close companion Edward Weston. Hagemeyer and Weston met in 1917 and enjoyed a singularly intense friendship for over twenty years. The collection illustrates the extraordinary richness, variety and vitality of Hagemeyer's work, as well as his stylistic influences he shared with Weston. Highlights include *Power lines, San Francisco*, 1928 by Hagemeyer (estimate: \$6,000-8,000) and *Steel: Armco, Middletown, Ohio*, 1922 by Weston (estimate: 150,000-250,000).

Auction: Photographs
April 26, 2005

Viewing: Christie's Rockefeller, New York
April 21 – 25

More information about Christie's *Photographs* sales can be found on www.christies.com.
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