

For Immediate Release

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**CHRISTIE'S RUSSIAN ART SALE SETS A RECORD FOR
SVETOSLAV ROERICH AT \$2,994,500**

Highest Price Achieved During Russian Art Week In New York



New York – Christie's Russian Art sale set a world auction record for Svetoslav Roerich with a painting of his father entitled, *Portrait of Nicholas Roerich in a Tibetan Robe*, 1933, which sold for \$2,994,500. The painting led Russian Art week in New York, and exceeded the pre-sale high estimate of \$1,100,000. The previous record for a painting by the artist was \$266,500, for *Three Boddhisatvas*.

Alexis Tiesenhausen, International Head of Department, Russian Art, comments, "We are delighted with the results of this exquisite painting for Svetoslav Roerich. The *Portrait of Nicholas Roerich in a Tibetan Robe* is considered to be one of the most significant works of the artist's entire oeuvre."

This iconic portrait is a revealing image that reflects the artist's great admiration for his father. Roerich believed that when painting a portrait, one should emphasize the features that are the most consequential, and eliminate those that are less essential and likely to weaken the whole. *Portrait of Nicholas Roerich in a Tibetan Robe* exemplifies this concept, in the inclusion of a Buddhist symbol and abstract architectural elements rather than the actual background from the sitting.

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