

CHRISTIE'S

RESULTS | NEW YORK | 1 OCTOBER 2021 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

POST-WAR TO PRESENT SALE ACHIEVES ITS HIGHEST TOTAL: \$34,409,820

STRONG DEPTH OF BIDDING WITH 145% HAMMER SOLD ABOVE ESTIMATE
GLOBAL PARTICIPATION WITH BIDDERS FROM 40 COUNTRIES
6 NEW WORLD AUCTION RECORDS SET

IN A HISTORIC FIRST, CHRISTIE'S CONDUCTS LIVE BIDDING IN ETHER
CURIO CARDS SELLS FOR ETH393 (USD\$1,267,320)



PHILIP GUSTON (1913-1980)

The Clock II

oil on illustration board mounted on Masonite

24 5/8 x 35 3/4 in.

Painted in 1957.

Price Realized: \$2,670,000



HELEN FRANKENTHALER (1928-2011)

Warming the Wires

acrylic on canvas

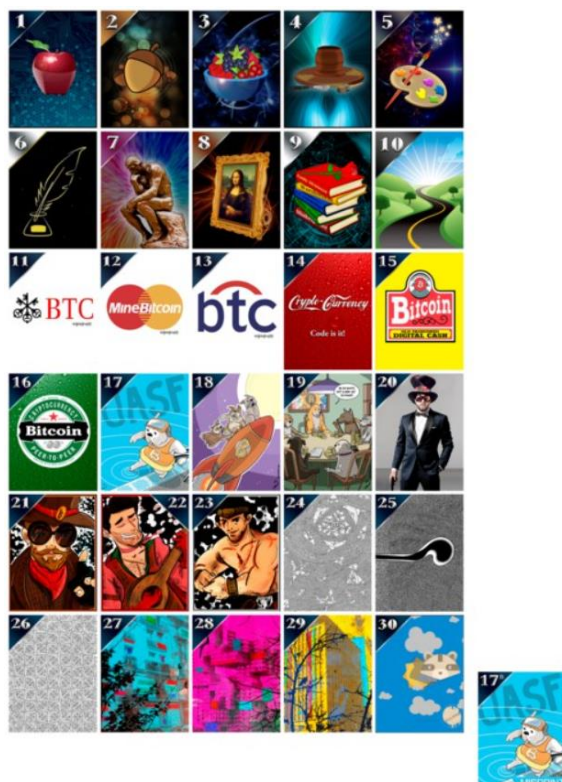
84 x 114 in.

Painted in 1976.

Price Realized: \$2,670,000

New York – On 1 October 2021, in a historic first for a leading auction house, Christie's accepted live bids in the cryptocurrency Ether, selling the first lot of the **Post-War to Present** sale, Curio Cards, Full set of 30 cards plus 17b. for ETH393 (\$1,267,320). This set of 31 NFTs is considered to be some of the oldest artworks on the Ethereum blockchain. The auction achieved its highest total of \$34,409,820, with strong depth of bidding of 145% hammer above low estimate.

The sale, which brought together leading examples of contemporary art, NFTs, and design saw strong participation throughout its entirety. It was led by two abstract paintings from the post-war era, that each sold for \$2,670,000; Helen Frankenthaler's Warming the Wires, and Philip Guston's The Clock II. Guston's work surpassed its presale estimate of \$280,000 – 350,000 by nearly tenfold, selling for 954% of its low estimate.



CURIO CARDS (EST. 2017)
Full set of 30 cards plus 17b
Price Realized: ETH393



Auctioneer Rahul Kadakia sells Curio Cards for ETH393

Isabella Lauria, Christie's Specialist, Head of Post-War to Present Sale, remarks: *"The overwhelming success of today's sale is mainly a result of having the privilege of offering top quality artworks at attractive estimates, appealing to clients across the globe and drawing incredible depth of bidding on lots at all price points, as we saw with works by Guston, Benglis and Frankenthaler far exceeding their high estimates and setting new market benchmarks. We are particularly thrilled to have represented the legacy of Ernie Barnes in his long overdue debut on a worldwide sale platform."*

Successful results were also seen by Yoshitomo Nara's 1, 2, 3...; which was expected to achieve \$550,000 – 750,000, and sold for \$2,070,000. The sale saw strong performances by a number of female artists, ranging from the Abstract Expressionists era through the contemporary period. Highlights included Mickalene Thomas's Portrait of Aaliyah, which more than doubled its high estimate of \$300,000 to realize \$625,000; Joan Mitchell's Little Rain, which sold for \$475,000; Lynda Benglis's Devaux, which achieved \$450,000, a new auction world record for the artist, and Yayoi Kusama's Pumpkins which surpassed its high estimate of \$1,500,000 to sell for \$1,950,000.

The sale was also highlighted by a wonderful group of works by Wayne Thiebaud from the Collection of the Frances Hamilton White Trust. The group was 100% sold and was led by Ridge Valley Farm Study, which totaled \$990,000.

A seminal group of works by Charles White and Ernie Barnes from the collection of Hollywood producer Danny Arnold was 100% sold, with strong performances throughout, establishing a new auction world record for Ernie Barnes. Charles White's Black Man was the top performer of the grouping, selling for \$587,500.

New auction world records were achieved by Lynda Benglis, Ernie Barnes, Gary Vaynerchuk, Roberto Fabelo, Dorothy Fratt, and rising contemporary artist Wonder Buhle Mbambo whose work The Hearts sold for over triple its estimate of \$30,000 - 50,000 to realize \$175,000.

The sale concluded with the conceptual art video NFT White Male for Sale by artist Dread Scott which sold for \$32,500 to an online bidder.

SALE HIGHLIGHTS



PROPERTY FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE
FRANCES HAMILTON WHITE TRUST

WAYNE THIEBAUD (B. 1920)

Ridge Valley Farms Study

oil on panel

12 7/8 x 17 1/8 in.

Painted in 2001.

Price Realized: \$990,000



YOSHITOMO NARA (B. 1959)

1, 2, 3...

acrylic on panel, in artist's wooden frame

48 3/4 x 71 x 2 1/2 in.

Executed in 2006.

Price Realized: \$2,070,000



YAYOI KUSAMA (B. 1929)

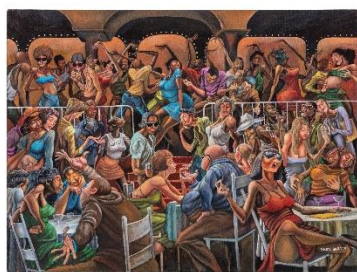
Pumpkins

acrylic on canvas

15 x 17 7/8 in.

Painted in 1987.

Price Realized: \$1,950,000



FRAGMENTS OF LIFE: WORKS BY CHARLES
WHITE AND ERNIE BARNES
FROM THE COLLECTION OF DANNY AND
DONNA ARNOLD

ERNIE BARNES (1938-2009)

The Disco

acrylic on canvas

29 7/8 x 39 3/4 in.

Painted in 1978.

Price Realized: \$287,500



FRAGMENTS OF LIFE: WORKS BY CHARLES
WHITE AND ERNIE BARNES
FROM THE COLLECTION OF DANNY AND
DONNA ARNOLD

CHARLES WHITE (1918-1979)

Black Man

charcoal and crayon on paper

18 1/2 x 33 1/2 in.

Executed in 1965.

Price Realized: \$587,500



FRAGMENTS OF LIFE: WORKS BY CHARLES
WHITE AND ERNIE BARNES
FROM THE COLLECTION OF DANNY AND
DONNA ARNOLD

ERNIE BARNES (1938-2009)

The Pulpiteer

oil on canvas

29 7/8 x 40 in.

Painted in 1972.

Price Realized: \$275,000



JOAN MITCHELL (1925-1992)

Little Rain

diptych—oil on canvas

13 x 18 7/8 in.

Painted in 1989.

Price Realized: \$475,000



ELAINE DE KOONING (1919-1989)

Echo Wall (Cave #68)

acrylic on canvas

84 x 66 in.

Painted in 1986/1988.

Price Realized: \$325,000



WONDER BUHLE MBAMBO (B. 1989)

The Hearts

acrylic on canvas

46 1/8 x 58 1/8 in.

Painted in 2021.

Price Realized: \$175,000



LYNDA BENGLIS (B. 1941)

Devaux

bronze wire mesh, sprayed zinc, copper and nickel-chrome plating

48 x 33 x 14 ½ in.

Executed in 1987.

Price Realized: \$450,000



ALLISON ZUCKERMAN (B. 1990)

Woodland Muse

acrylic and archival CMYK ink on canvas

84 x 66 in.

Executed in 2018.

Price Realized: \$250,000



MICKALENE THOMAS (B. 1971)

Portrait of Aaliyah

acrylic, oil, oilstick, paper collage and rhinestones on panel mounted on panel

48 ½ x 60 x 2 in.

Executed in 2018.

Price Realized: \$625,000

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About Christie's

Founded in 1766, Christie's is a world-leading art and luxury business. Renowned and trusted for its expert live and online auctions, as well as its bespoke private sales, Christie's offers a full portfolio of [global services](#) to its clients, including art appraisal, art financing, international real estate and education. Christie's has a physical presence in 46 countries, throughout the Americas, Europe, Middle East, and Asia Pacific, with flagship [international sales hubs](#) in New York, London, Hong Kong, Paris and Geneva. It also is the only international auction house authorized to hold sales in mainland China (Shanghai).

Christie's [auctions](#) span more than [80 art and luxury categories](#), at price points ranging from \$200 to over \$100 million. In recent years, Christie's has achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction (Leonardo da Vinci's *Salvador Mundi*, 2017), for a single collection sale (the Collection of Peggy and David Rockefeller, 2018), and for a work by a living artist (Jeff Koons' *Rabbit*, 2019).

Christie's [Private Sales](#) offers a seamless service for buying and selling art, jewellery and watches outside of the auction calendar, working exclusively with Christie's specialists at a client's individual pace.

Recent innovations at Christie's include the groundbreaking sale of the first NFT for a digital work of art ever offered at a major auction house (Beeple's *Everydays*, March 2021), with the unprecedented acceptance of cryptocurrency as a means of payment. As an industry leader in digital innovation, Christie's also continues to pioneer new technologies that are redefining the business of art, including the creation of viewing and bidding experiences that integrate augmented reality, global livestreaming, buy-now channels, and hybrid sales formats.

Christie's is dedicated to advancing [responsible culture](#) throughout its business and communities worldwide, including achieving sustainability through net zero carbon emissions by 2030, and actively using its platform in the art world to amplify under-represented voices and support positive change.

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The COVID-related re-opening status of our global locations is available [here](#)

*Please note when quoting estimates above that other fees will apply in addition to the hammer price - see Section D of the Conditions of Sale at the back of the sale catalogue.

*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.

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Images available on request

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