

# CHRISTIE'S

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## CHRISTIE'S TO SUPPORT INDIA ART FAIR AND INDIA TOUR OF 'HOMELANDS' - BRITISH CONTEMPORARY ART FROM THE BRITISH COUNCIL COLLECTION



**London / Mumbai** - Christie's signaled its ongoing commitment to supporting the arts in India by announcing its engagement with the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the India Art Fair in January/February 2013 and its partnership with 'Homelands', an exhibition of British contemporary arts from the British Council collection to tour to Mumbai, Kolkata and Bengaluru, opening in New Delhi on 22 January, 2013.

Christie's has had a long association with India. James Christie, the enigmatic founder of Christie's, offered *four India pictures painted on glass* in his inaugural auction in London in 1776. In 1994 Christie's opened an office in Mumbai, the only international auction house to have a consistent presence in India, and held its first sale of contemporary Indian art the following year. As market leaders in this category, with sales held annually in New York and London, Christie's is delighted to be offering its international support to these two major initiatives in India for 2013.

Amin Jaffer, International Director Asian Art at Christie's said: *"We are delighted to support the annual India Art Fair as we recognise its importance as a convening moment for all those who are passionate about the future of the Indian art market and are interested in India's national artistic development."* Menaka Kumari-Shah, Christie's Head of India, continues: *"The 'Homelands' exhibition will showcase the very best art being produced by leading contemporary artists in Britain – a fitting juxtaposition to our international sales of works by their South Asian contemporaries. Both, the Art Fair and the exhibition are opportunities for us to lend our support to cultural and educational opportunities which are important milestones in the Indian cultural agenda for 2013."*

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## About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2012 that totaled £2.2 billion/\$3.5 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's has since conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 450 auctions annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$100 million. Christie's also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War and Contemporary, Impressionist and Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales totaled £413.4 million/ \$661.5 million in the first half of 2012, an increase of 53% on the previous year.

Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, and Hong Kong. More recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

*\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and do not reflect costs, financing fees or application of buyer's or seller's credits.*

**PRESS CONTACT: Alexandra Kindermann | ±41 44 268 1019 | [akindermann@christies.com](mailto:akindermann@christies.com) or  
Emma Cunningham | ±44 207 389 2664 | [ecunningham@christies.com](mailto:ecunningham@christies.com)**

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*Images available on request*

*Visit Christie's Website at [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com)*

