

The Post-War & Contemporary Art Department launches **FIRST OPEN/LDN**

AT CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON ON 25 SEPTEMBER 2014



Damien Hirst

*beautiful, hydrochloric, non-functional,
expansive, vortex, whorl, wizz painting*
household gloss on canvas
estimate: £80,000-120,000



R.H Quaytman

Cherchez Holopherne, Chapter 21
(Assawin Gethutaworn)
silkscreen ink, oil, gesso on wood
estimate: £60,000-80,000



Marc Quinn

Stratospheric Ozone
oil on canvas
estimate: £60,000-90,000

South Kensington – Christie's is pleased to announce the launch of [FIRST OPEN/LDN](#) as part of the Global FIRST OPEN Auctions this September, including [FIRST OPEN/NYC](#), [FIRST OPEN/ASIA](#) and [FIRST OPEN/ONLINE](#). Taking place in South Kensington on 25 September, this carefully curated selection of 194 works with estimates ranging from £700 to £80,000, will showcase accessible works by global talent, including works by Damien Hirst, R.H. Quaytman, Marc Quinn, and Jannis Kounellis such as his painting *Untitled* from 1987, (estimate: £70,000-90,000, illustrated right). A key evolution for the Post-War & Contemporary Art sales in South Kensington, FIRST OPEN/LDN strives to be inclusive in its offering to collectors, both new and established.



Building on the established FIRST OPEN sales already occurring in New York, the launch of the London edition signals the start of a unified Post-War & Contemporary art brand, one synonymous with high caliber Post-War works, as well as young, cutting-edge and accessible contemporary art, such as Ida Ekblad's *Dubbed* from 2010 (estimate: £6,000-8,000, *illustrated right*). The online element continues to offer curated selections on the e-commerce platform and will continue to engage our established clients as well as contemporary art aficionados and new collectors.



We are delighted to announce a fantastic charity section in FIRST OPEN/LDN, sold to benefit The Eve Appeal, the UK's only national charity raising funds for all five gynaecological cancers affecting women today. Forming a total of 11 lots, this group of works features an all-star roster of female artists – such as Lynette Yiadom-Boakye's *Marsh Warbler* (estimate: £12,000-18,000 *illustrated left*), as well as works by Paula Rego, Mona Hatoum, Rachel Howard, Phyllida Barlow, and new, younger names which promise to excite.

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The full eCatalogue is available online [here](#)

Note to Editors:



***The Eve Appeal** is the UK's only national charity raising funds for all five gynaecological cancers. Every day, 53 women in the UK are diagnosed with one of these cancers, of which 21 will lose the battle they have been fighting. The Eve Appeal is determined to change this and this auction will raise funds to ensure that we can continue its important work of funding research in this field. The international scope of the artists who have chosen to participate demonstrates the truly universal call to action that The Eve Appeal inspires amongst its supporters. I would like to thank Francis Outred, Bianca Chu and the First Open LDN team at Christie's for their support as well as the generosity of the artists, their galleries and their studios.

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2013 that totalled £4.5 billion/ \$7.1 billion, making it the highest annual total in Christie's history. 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 around 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 & Contemporary, Impressionist & Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales totalled £760.5 million (\$1.19 billion) in 2013, an increase of 20% on the previous year.

Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 12 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Mumbai. 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.*