

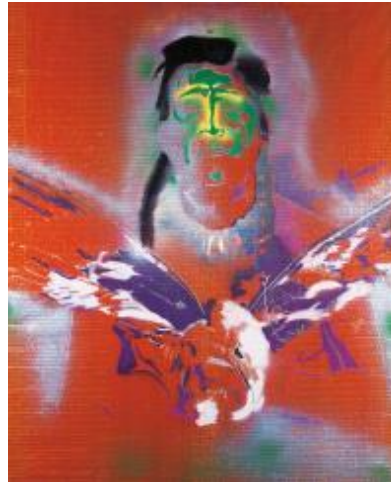
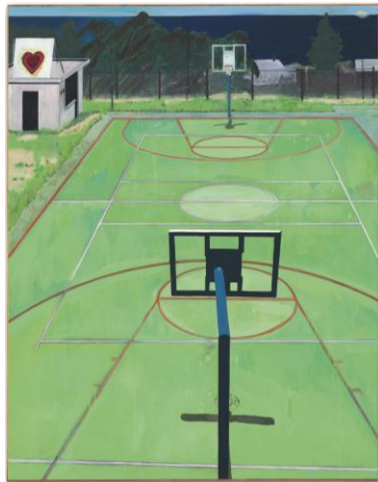
# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | LONDON  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 08 OCTOBER 2014

## CHRISTIE'S HIGHEST-EVER SERIES OF OCTOBER POST-WAR AND CONTEMPORARY ART AUCTIONS IN LONDON, WITH PRE-SALE ESTIMATE OF £104.5 - 150.4 MILLION

The combined total for Christie's Frieze Week Auctions:  
Essl 44 Works - Giants of German Art  
The Italian Sale and Evening and Day Auctions

Christie's captures the spirit of Frieze Week with a young generation of artists new to  
Christie's London Evening Auction alongside iconic work by YBAs  
Plus Peter Doig's first tropical painting



PETER DOIG (B. 1959)  
*The Heart of Old San Juan*  
Oil on canvas  
Painted in 1999  
98 1/8 x 77 in. (250.2 x 195.6 cm)  
Estimate: £4,000,000 – 6,000,000

ALIGHIERO BOETTI (1940 - 1994)  
*Mappa*  
Embroidery on linen  
Executed in 1988  
47 1/8 x 89 in. (121 x 226 cm)  
Estimate: £1,000,000 – 1,500,000

SIGMAR POLKE (1941 - 2010)  
*Indian with Eagle*  
Acrylic, spray enamel and glitter glue on Lurex  
Executed in 1975  
71 1/8 x 59 1/4 in. (178.5 x 150.3 cm.)  
Estimate: £1,500,000 – 2,000,000

**London** – Christie's will present an outstanding selection of Post-War and Contemporary Art works during Frieze Week. The Evening Auction on 16 October showcases giants of German art, including Gerhard Richter, Anselm Kiefer, Sigmar Polke, Martin Kippenberger and Georg Baselitz. Highlights also include Peter Doig's first tropical landscape painting and Jean-Michel Basquiat's emotionally charged tribute to his mentor Andy Warhol as well as a major sculptural work by Juan Muñoz. In the spirit of Frieze Week, the Evening Auction also showcases a new generation of leading contemporary artists who are making their mark on the art world, such as Sterling Ruby, Adrian Ghenie, Joe Bradley, Alex Israel, Brent Wadden, Louis Eisner and Toby Ziegler.

**Francis Outred, Christie's Chairman of Post-War & Contemporary Art, Europe, comments:**

*"When I first began working in the auction business in 1999, the October series was a mid-season sale with a value of around £2million and an Italian sale of around £5million. This year we've surpassed £100million as a low estimate for the season for the very first time, with the combination of the Essl 44 Works collection, the Italian Sale and Evening and Day auctions. This shows the direct impact of Frieze as a cultural and commercial catalyst for London. Our exhibition at Christie's Mayfair, The Bad Shepherd, looking at the impact of the Brueghel dynasty on six contemporary artists complements the concept of Frieze Masters, with our Old Masters and Post-War and Contemporary art specialists working in unison for the first time. Our October Evening Auction is geared to the Frieze spirit, featuring young, in-demand artists like Brent Wadden and Toby Ziegler alongside rising art market stars such as Adrian Ghenie, Joe Bradley and Alex Israel, who are presented together with the artists who have influenced them, like Sigmar Polke, Georg Baselitz, Gerhard Richter and Peter Doig as well as the Young British Artists. The last three to four seasons have seen a resurgence in the market for YBAs at Christie's, and, following our record success with Tracey Emin's My Bed in July, we are proud to offer one of her most important needlework pieces, alongside key works from the 1990s by Rachel Whiteread, Damien Hirst and Gary Hume."*

**GERMAN ART TITANS**



Coinciding with major exhibitions of German art - **Anselm Kiefer** at the Royal Academy of Art and **Sigmar Polke** at Tate Modern – Christie's Evening Auction will include major works by these artists, as well as by other German art titans. It features **Georg Baselitz's** *Ein zerrissener Hund, aufwärts*, 1968 (estimate: £600,000 – 800,000), part of his seminal *Fracture Paintings*, which represent the transition between his early *Hero* paintings of the early 1960s and his fully inverted canvases of 1969, as well as *Orangenesser*, 1983 (estimate: £600,000 – 800,000), one of the largest works of this important series. Kiefer's sweeping panorama of his acclaimed

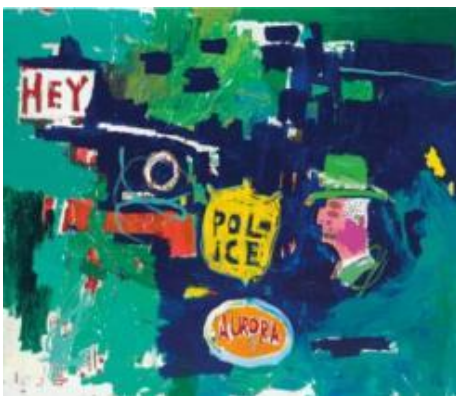
*Occupations* series, *Läßt tausend Blumen blühen!*, 1999 (estimate: £700,000 – 1,000,000, pictured left) comes to auction for the first time since it set a record for the artist's work in 2007, along with his powerful sculptural painting, *Sefer Hechaloth*, 2003 (estimate: £400,000 – 600,000). Other highlights include Polke's *Untitled*, 1998 (estimate: £600,000 – 800,000) and **Martin Kippenberger's** *Falsches Zeichen der Lord Jim Loge*, 1985 (estimate: £250,000 – 350,000).

The auction will also offer a mini-retrospective of **Gerhard Richter's** work, celebrating the compelling dialogue between photorealism and abstraction that has defined his extraordinary reinvention of painting. A key work is *Waldstück*, 1969 (estimate: £3,000,000 – 5,000,000, *pictured right*), which is one of Richter's three large-scale paintings capturing the heart of the Chilean rainforest. Dissolving in and out of focus, the blurred edges evoke an atmospheric haze of humidity, pushing the composition to the edge of abstraction. Previously part of the prestigious Onnasch collection, this work has remained in the same hands for nearly forty years and dates from a breakthrough moment in Richter's career coinciding with his first New York exhibition at the Guggenheim Museum. Moving into his colour work, *Fiktion*, 1975 (estimate: £1,500,000 – 2,000,000), closely related to Richter's *Annunciation* series after Titian, is situated on the brink of the *Abstraktes Bilder* series that would commence the following year as seen in *Abstraktes Bild*, 1981 (estimate: £1,100,000 – 1,600,000), *Abstraktes Bild*, 1990 (estimate: £1,200,000 – 1,800,000) and up to the height of his abstract practice with *Abstraktes Bild*, 1995 (estimate: £1,500,000 – 2,000,000).



## THE POWER OF PAINTING

**Peter Doig's** *The Heart of Old San Juan*, 1999 (estimate: £4,000,000 – 6,000,000, *pictured above*) – an image of an emerald basketball court on the edge of the sea - holds a significant place in the artist's oeuvre as it is his first painting in a tropical landscape. This work represents a shift away from the autumnal and wintery landscapes of snowy Canada in the early 1990s towards a renewed fascination with the tropics that has occupied him for the last 15 years. In these works, the paint becomes lighter and more distilled. Moving away from the application of thick textures and multiple techniques in each painting, in this work Doig began to investigate the veiling of sequential layers of liquid paint, looking at how light changes the tone and hue in each veil to create a diaphanous surface replete with the sense of being there. The multitude of textures and painterly techniques offered in *The Heart of Old San Juan* exhibit the deep investigations Doig was undertaking at this early point in his career that would go on to cement his reputation as a painter of textures. A key transitional work, it has been included in most of his major museum exhibitions including last year's landmark show *No Foreign Lands*, which toured to the Scottish National Gallery, Edinburgh, 2013 and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Montreal, 2014.



Executed in 1987, **Jean-Michel Basquiat's** *Love Dub for A* (estimate: £4,000,000 – 6,000,000, *pictured left*) is an emotionally charged posthumous tribute, sized at billboard proportions, to his close friend and mentor, Andy Warhol who had died unexpectedly in February that same year. Warhol's death greatly affected Basquiat as the two had a charged and competitive relationship. Painted the year before Basquiat's death, the explosive composition marks the return of the Basquiat that the art world had fallen in love with in 1981, especially through its embodiment of his inimitable street-inflected style. Vividly capturing the sensation of the artist both at the height of his creative powers and on the brink of destruction, *Love Dub for A* exemplifies Basquiat's unmistakable idiom, particularly his bravura handling of paint, spontaneous sense of line and inventive use of colour. These expressive qualities



legendary shark: *The Physical Impossibility of Death in the Mind of Someone Living*. Influenced by the Punk movement of the 1970s, **Tim Noble and Sue Webster** exploit shock tactics in their work. *The New Barbarians*, 1997-99 (estimate: £120,000 - 180,000), which shares its title with a punk band from the late 1970s, is a seminal self-portrait sculpture of the artistic duo, in which they have cast themselves in resin and fibreglass as naked primordial humanoids at the dawn of time. Widely exhibited, the work was shown in the Chisenhale Gallery, London in the year of its completion.

Among the most important **Juan Muñoz** sculptures, *Conversation Piece I* (estimate: £1,500,000 – 2,000,000, pictured right) is composed of four figures that collectively produce a dramatic narrative. The curated distance between sculptural components immediately places the figures in conversation with one another, allowing the spectator to move among the figures, acknowledging their own bodily presence in relation to the rich bronze patinas and spheroid forms. Using his sculptural form of the body, repeated yet varied in each piece, Muñoz adapted the purity and perfection of Minimalism to present a socially charged commentary on alienation and isolation in society.



#### NOTEWORTHY FIRST TIMERS



Capturing the spirit of Frieze Week, the October Evening Auction includes a number of young artists who have works appearing for the first time in a Christie's Evening Auction in London, including **Brent Wadden's** *Alignment (10)*, 2013 (estimate: £20,000 – 30,000), an archetypal example of the artist's fusion of painting and knitting. The painter **Adrian Ghenie** trained at the Cluj school of Fine Art in Romania, home to a growing number of highly regarded young painters. His painting *The Blue Rain*, 2009 (estimate: £200,000 – 300,000, pictured left), is an atmospheric mise-en-scene that exemplifies his practice of painting what he calls 'the texture of history'. **Toby Ziegler's** *The Grand Cause*, 2006 (estimate: £40,000 – 60,000), in which geometric patterns swirl across the canvas in a variety of shapes and sizes, painted over gold leaf with opulent purple and flaming red hues to suggest a brilliant, abstracted sunset. The sister painting of this work, *The Hedonistic Imperative Version 2*

(2006) is in the Tate Collection. A sculpture by the artist made a record price in Christie's *Thinking Big: Monumental Sculpture from the Saatchi Gallery Collection* auction in October 2013. Other debut artists in the Evening Auction include **Joe Bradley**, **Alex Israel**, **R H Quaytman** and **Louis Eisner**.

#### THE ITALIAN SALE

Following the record performances of the Italian Sale in 2013 - the most successful Italian Modern Art sale in history - and the single owner collection *Eyes Wide Open, An Italian Vision* this past February, Christie's is the market leader in Italian 20<sup>th</sup> Century Art. The annual Italian Sale, immediately following the Post-War &

Contemporary Art Evening Auction, features an important single-owner collection 'Mapping Modern Art in Italy', a mini-survey of half a century of Italian art, spanning from **Marino Marini** - with his iconic sculpture *Cavaliere* - echoing the artist's *L'Angelo della città*, a cast of which famously stands at the entrance of the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice (estimate: £600,000 - 800,000) to important pieces by Post-War Italian masters. Highlights include **Lucio Fontana's** *Concetto Spaziale* (estimate: £800,000 – 1,200,000) and **Alberto Burri's** *Rosso Nero* (estimate: £1,500,000 – 2,000,000) – Burri is the subject of a major retrospective at the Guggenheim New York in 2015. Further highlights include the Azimut/h artists **Piero Manzoni** and **Enrico Castellani**, coinciding with the exhibition *Azimut/h: Continuity and Newness* (until 19 January) at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice, sponsored by Christie's. Other sale highlights include **Alighiero Boetti's** *Colonna*, (estimate: £1,500,000 – 2,000,000). Rarely found offered on the private market, this is a unique opportunity to acquire such a significant arte povera sculpture in exceptional condition. Executed in 1968, *Colonna* is a highly important and pivotal work that marks both the culmination of the artist's early arte povera explorations and the beginning of the more conceptual direction that his art would take on after this decisive year. Boetti is further highlighted in the sale with a selection of other works including a green *Mappa* (estimate: £1,000,000 – 1,500,000, *pictured above*) from the series of embroidered world maps that he made between 1971 and his premature death in 1994.

## POST-WAR AND CONTEMPORARY ART DAY AUCTION

The Post-War and Contemporary Art Day Auction will take place on 17 October. A highlight of the Auction is **Andy Warhol's** *Barbie, Portrait of BillyBoy\**, 1986 (estimate: £200,000 – 300,000, *pictured right*), one of only two existing paintings of Barbie created by the artist; the second known example with a ruby red background was commissioned later by Mattel in 1986. The work is distinguished for its deeply personal provenance as Warhol gave it to the young designer, BillyBoy\*, who was a highly original creator of couture clothes for Barbie, whose surreal couture clothes and bijou jewellery impressed Warhol. Following the success of **David Hockney's** painting *With Conversation*, which led Christie's July Auction, a further highlight of the October Day Auction is David Hockney's *Ravel's Garden 3*, 1980 (estimate: £400,000 – 600,000). Taking nature as his primary inspiration, Hockney propels the viewer into another world of three vibrant trees set in a field and creates a vision informed by the musical cadence of opera that draws upon the art historical canon and places the artist within its pantheon of great colourists. The Day Auction is also proud to offer five works of art to benefit Macmillan Cancer Support, including the lush, textural painting *Sundown*, 2013 (estimate: £20,000-29,000) by **Marius Bercea**, one of the notable group of young painters trained at the Cluj School of Fine Art in Romania, as well as work by **Jake and Dinos Chapman**, **Antony Gormley**, **Mark Wallinger** and **Yinka Shonibare**. All proceeds from this auction will fund Macmillan Cancer Support Line, which answers over 150,000 calls a year and provides a lifeline to people with cancer.



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## Auction Viewing:

Evening Auction and Italian Sale: 10 – 16 October 2014, Christie's King Street (NB: on 16 October the auction view closes at 4pm)

Day Sale: 10 - 17 October (NB: on 17 October, the auction view closes at 11am)

**Auctions:**

*Post-War and Contemporary Art Evening Auction, 7pm, 16 October 2014, Christie's King Street*

*The Italian Sale, 16 October 2014, immediately following Evening Auction, Christie's King Street*

*Post-War and Contemporary Art Day Auction, 1pm, 17 October 2014, Christie's King Street*

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***Images available on request***  
***To view the catalogue, please visit [here](#)***

**About Christie's**

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2013 that totaled £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 totaled £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.

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