

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | London
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 19 November 2014

SAM FRANCIS PRINTS AND WORKS ON PAPER

Christie's Online Auction
19 November to 2 December 2014



La Primavera Fredda, from: Le Cinque Stagioni (Cold Spring, from: The Five Seasons)
Etching and aquatint in colours, on wove paper, 1988
Sheet: 1159 x 2413 mm.
Estimate: £5,000-7,000

Online – Christie's is pleased to present an exclusive online sale of works by the abstract painter and printmaker, Sam Francis, open for bidding from 19 November to 2 December 2014. Comprising 76 lots representing three decades of the artist's creativity, from 1960-1990, the sale includes exceptional prints, rare colour trial proofs and monotypes and a selection of acrylics on paper and canvas. Estimates range from £1,000 to £60,000, offering an inspiring opportunity for both new and existing collectors to purchase these vibrant works. To begin bidding please visit <https://onlineonly.christies.com/s/sam-francis/lots/117>

While studying botany, medicine and psychology at the University of California, Francis was called to serve in the United States Air Force during the Second World War. Injured in training in 1943 he was hospitalized and took up painting from his hospital bed. It was while making studies of the shifting light passing across the walls of the ward that Francis discovered his interest in light and space, which would continue to be an inspiration throughout his life. In 1950, Francis enrolled at Fernand Leger's private academy in Paris, and in the following decade moved between Paris, New York and Japan, where he absorbed the influences of the modern French masters and the New York School, as well as Eastern philosophy and Zen calligraphy. Developing his own very distinctive brand of West Coast abstraction, it is possibly on paper, in his acrylic paintings and prints, that the luminous beauty of his work can most readily be appreciated.

Sam Francis Prints and Works on Paper



Yunan State IV
Lithograph in colours, on Kikuban
Torinoko paper, 1971
Sheet: 525 x 732 mm.
Estimate: £2,000-3,000



Blue-Green
Lithograph in colours, on watermarked
BFK Rives wove paper, 1963
Image and Sheet: 632 x 905 mm.
Estimate: £1,200-1,800



Untitled
Lithograph in colours, on watermarked
BFK Rives wove paper, 1967
Estimate: £2,000-3,000



Untitled
Acrylic on paper, 1980
Sheet: 385 x 476 mm.
Estimate: £9,000-12,000



Untitled
Acrylic, on Japan paper, 1986
Estimate: £45,000-60,000



Untitled
Screenprint in colours, on wove
paper, 1986
Sheet: 2134 x 1503 mm.
Estimate: £7,000-10,000

PRESS CONTACT

Lauren Clarke | +44 (0) 207 389 2391 | laurenclarke@christies.com

REGISTRATION FOR BIDDING & FURTHER INFORMATION:

Auction:

Sam Francis Prints and Works on Paper

Bidding opens: 19 November 2014, 3:00pm GMT/10:00am EST

Bidding starts to close: 2 December 2014, 3:00pm GMT/10:00am EST

Link to web page: <https://onlineonly.christies.com/s/sam-francis/lots/117>

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2014 that totaled £2.69 / \$4.47 billion, making it the highest half year 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 in the first half of 2014 totalled £498.9 million (\$828.2 million).

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.*

#

For ongoing information on the sale, visit www.christies.com/fashion

Visit Christie's Website at www.christies.com

FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:

