

CHRISTIE'S 佳士得

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHRISTIE'S HONG KONG PRESENTS CHINESE PAINTING SPRING AUCTIONS 2014

Hong Kong – Christie's Hong Kong **Fine Chinese Classical Paintings and Calligraphy** auction and **Fine Chinese Modern Paintings** auction will take place on 26th and 27th May 2014. Featuring more than 750 works from the classical and modern masters, the 2-day sales are estimated to realize in excess of HK\$311 million/ US\$39 million.

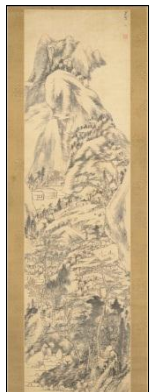
A Chinese contemporary ink private sale exhibition will be held during the auction week at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and then afterwards at the James Christie Room.

MAGNIFICENT PAINTINGS BY CLASSICAL MASTERS

For classical paintings, we are proud to offer a rare work from the Qing master Bada Shanren, *Landscape*, as well as an exquisite hanging scroll, *Two Ladies*, by the renowned figure painter Chen Hongshou.



Born Zhu Da, Bada Shanren was a ninth-generation descendant of the Ming-dynasty prince Zhu Quan. After the fall of the Ming dynasty, he became a Buddhist monk and adopted the pseudonym Bada Shanren, which he kept until the end of his life. Known as one of the "Four Monks" of the early Qing period, Bada Shanren painted *Landscape*, a rare example of the subject for him, with the mind-set of a former subject abandoned by the defunct Ming empire. Despite being influenced by Dong Qichang's elegant landscapes, he painted desolate mountains and rivers to present a world he saw as broken and probably to express sorrow over the death of the country to which he belonged (*Illustrated right*, Estimates: HK\$3,000,000–5,000,000/ US\$390,000–650,000).



Another iconic figure in the late Ming period was Chen Hongshou. His works, including *Two Ladies*, exemplify the lifestyle, thoughts and taste of contemporary scholars, and are especially sought after by today's collectors. The sense of elegance and serenity is accentuated by soft and delicate lines, which also highlight the graceful movements of the court ladies as well as the inner feelings of the artist (*Illustrated left*, Estimates: HK\$8,000,000–10,000,000/ US\$1,100,000–1,300,000).

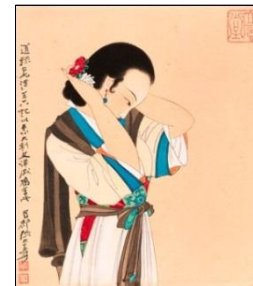
EXCEPTIONAL PAINTINGS BY MODERN MASTERS

In Modern paintings, we are entrusted to offer a number of important works by the modern master, Wu Guanzhong, including *Bamboos*, *Banyan and the Sea*, *Weeds in a Pond* and *A Village of Bridges*. In addition, while *Lady* by Zhang Daqian stands out for its incomparable beauty and elegance, *Lake of Five Pavilions* by the same master, exemplifies the grandeur and re-interpretation of Chinese landscape painting, testifying to the genius and the evolution of the artist's career. Other highlights of both Classical and Modern Paintings sales include *Calligraphy* by Jin Nong, *Going to School* by Qi Baishi and *A Hundred Monkeys* by Pu Ru.



In the 1990s Wu Guanzhong started to explore abstraction. Painted in 1996, *Bamboos* is a representative and sizeable work of this period. Wu employs both oil and ink to explore a subject matter and to identify the best medium of expression. This painting comprises vigorous straight lines in ink to render the luxuriance and tallness of bamboo, the form and texture of which cannot be fully expressed if it were painted in oil. The dots, lines and planes found in the composition testify to the shift from realistic painting to a more abstract style of artistic expression (*Illustrated left*, Estimates: HK\$12,000,000–15,000,000/ US\$1,560,000–1,950,000).

A prolific and talented artist, Zhang Daqian excelled in all genres. He first made a name for himself with his portraits of beauties, a subject throughout his career, and was nicknamed Zhang Meiren, or 'Zhang the Painter of Beauties'. A small work, the subject of *Lady* has part of her face covered by her arm holding her hair. Her look and graceful posture tell us that she should be a well-educated and elegant lady. The inscription notes that it is dedicated to the translator of *Six Records of a Floating Life* by Shen Fu, and Zhang was probably inspired to paint this lady based on the female character of the book, Shen Fu's wife - Chen Yun (*Illustrated right*, Estimates: HK\$800,000–1,000,000/ US\$104,000–130,000).



IMPORTANT PRIVATE COLLECTION

One of the highlights of the season will be the continuing the sale of more than 150 important Chinese paintings which were formerly in the collection of Dr. K. S. Lo, the founder of Vitasoy and a prominent Chinese antiques collector. The works include *Pine and Rock* by Shitao, *Cows Grazing* by Xu Beihong and *Fish* by Huang Yongyu.



Shitao painted *Pine and Rock* when he was becoming old, but the vigorous and confident brushwork shows no signs of ageing or frailty. He paints the rocks and mountains using the sides of brushes filled with ink in distinct shades. The right and the middle sections of the work display rolling rocks, cliffs and mountains, all intricately portrayed and mostly tilting to the left. Although no space is left for the sky or the ground, the composition feels neither crowded nor constrained. Among the mountains are seas of rustling pines and swirling mist, which imbue the painting with a sense of motion. A river, whose source is hidden deep in the background, flows through the towering cliffs to the foreground, accentuating the sense of distance. The mountains appear gentler as they reach the shore in the lefthand section. On the horizon, water is connected to a lofty and boundless sky. *Pine and Rock* is an outstanding piece by Shitao from his later years (*Illustrated above*, Estimates: HK\$5,000,000–7,000,000/ US\$650,000–910,000).

CHINESE CONTEMPORARY INK PAINTINGS PRIVATE SALE EXHIBITION



Chinese contemporary ink is a re-interpretation of a millennium old art form. Full of energy and creativity, these ink paintings are a witness to the development of modern China and the diaspora of the Chinese people in the past three decades.

This selling exhibition uses 55 works to explore the way artists make their ink paintings relevant to modernity, multiculturalism, and technology. Represented are 19 leading Chinese artists who are well-known in China and abroad.

These paintings, which vary from a small fan leaf to a six-metre work on paper mounted on canvas, will testify to the versatility of a medium that was once-considered conservative. While in the past Chinese ink painting was often considered something to be appreciated in an intimate setting, now it has much wider appreciation and a wider public audience. (*Highlight illustrated left, Three Beauties – 1* by Wang Huaiqing).

CHRISTIE'S HONG KONG CHINESE PAINTING SPRING AUCTIONS 2014

Fine Chinese Classical Paintings and Calligraphy

Date: 26 May (Monday)
Time: 10am

Fine Chinese Modern Paintings, Part I

Date: 26 May (Monday)
Time: 3pm

Fine Chinese Modern Paintings, Part II

Date: 27 May (Tuesday)
Time: 10:30am and 2:30pm

Venue: Convention Hall, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

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Please click [here](#) to download the images.

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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CHRISTIE'S HONG KONG CHINESE PAINTING SPRING AUCTIONS 2014 FACTSHEET

Fine Chinese Classical Paintings And Calligraphy



CHA_3

BADA SHANREN (1626-1705)

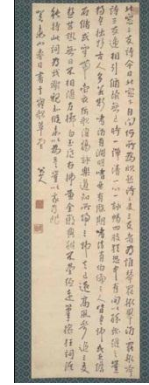
Landscape

Hanging scroll, ink on satin
180 x 48 cm. (70 7/8 x 18 7/8 in.)

Estimates:

HK\$3,000,000 – 5,000,000

US\$390,000 – 650,000



CHA_14

BADA SHANREN (1626-1705)

Calligraphy

Hanging scroll, ink on paper
150 x 42.5 cm. (59 x 16 3/4 in.)
Dated 1703

Estimates:

HK\$1,200,000 – 1,500,000

US\$160,000 – 200,000



CHA_5

CHEN HONGSHOU (1598-1652)

Two Ladies

Hanging scroll, ink and colour on silk
95 x 45.2 cm. (37 3/8 x 17 3/4)
Dated 1634

Estimates:

HK\$8,000,000 – 10,000,000

US\$1,100,000 – 1,300,000



CHA_15

BADA SHANREN (1626-1705)

Two Birds on Rock

Hanging scroll, ink on silk
144 x 44 cm. (56 3/4 x 17 1/4 in.)

Estimates:

HK\$1,200,000 – 1,500,000

US\$160,000 – 200,000



CHA_4

PROPERTY FORMERLY IN THE COLLECTION OF DR K S LO

SHITAO (1642-1707)

Pine and Rock

Handscroll, ink on paper

32.5 x 383 cm. (11 3/4 x 150 3/4 in.)

Dated 1699

Estimates: HK\$5,000,000 – 7,000,000 / US\$650,000 - 910,000



CHA_13

JIN NONG (1687-1763)

Seal Script Calligraphy

Handscroll, ink on paper

31.2 x 971 cm. (12 1/4 x 382 1/4 in.)

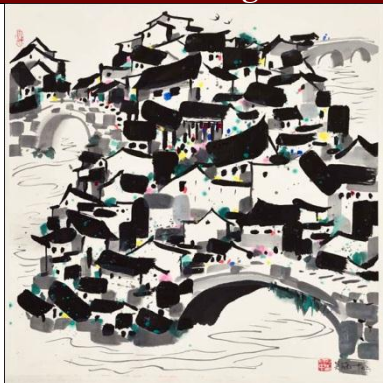
Dated 1751

Estimates:

HK\$3,500,000 – 5,000,000

US\$452,000 – 650,000

Fine Chinese Modern Paintings



CHA_16

WU GUANZHONG (1919-2010)

A Village of Bridges

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper

69 x 69 cm. (27 1/8 x 27 1/8 in.)

Signed, with two seals of the artist

Dated 1992

Estimates:

HK\$800,000 – 1,000,000

US\$104,000-130,000



CHA_12

QI BAISHI (1863 – 1957)

Going to School

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper

110 x 43 cm. (43 1/4 x 16 7/8 in.)

Dated 1931

Estimates:

HK\$12,000,000 – 15,000,000

US\$1,560,000 – 1,950,000



CHA_1



CHA_2

WU GUANZHONG (1919 – 2010)

Bamboos

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper
138.5 x 175 cm. (54 1/2 x 68 7/8 in.)

Dated 1996

Estimates:

HK\$12,000,000 – 15,000,000

US\$1,560,000 – 1,950,000

PROPERTY FORMERLY IN THE COLLECTION OF DR K S LO

XU BEIHONG (1895 – 1953)

Cows Grazing

Hanging scroll, ink and colour on paper
114.5 x 56 cm. (45 1/8 x 22 in.)

Estimates:

HK\$4,000,000 – 6,000,000

US\$520,000 – 770,000



CHA_17



CHA_18

WU GUANZHONG (1919 – 2010)

Weeds in a Pond

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper
69 x 69 cm. (27 1/8 x 27 1/8 in.)

Inscribed and signed, with two seals of the artist

Dated 1999

Estimates:

HK\$1,000,000 – 2,000,000

US\$130,000 – 260,000

WU GUANZHONG (1919 – 2010)

Banyan and the Sea

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper
90 x 96.2 cm. (35 1/2 x 37 7/8 in.)

Dated 1997

Estimates:

HK\$2,000,000 – 3,000,000

US\$260,000 – 390,000



CHA_20

PU RU (1896 - 1963)

A Hundred Monkeys

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper
15.8 x 123.5 cm. (6 1/4 x 45 3/8) in.

Dated 1955

Estimates: HK\$700,000 - 900,000 / US\$91,000 - 117,000



CHA_19

ZHANG DAQIAN (1899-1983)

Lake of Five Pavilions

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper

60 x 96.7 cm. (23 5/8 x 38 1/8 in.)

Dated 1967

EXHIBITED:

Taipei, Chan Liu Art Museum, *Three Masters Crossing the Sea – The Essential Exhibition of Color Ink Painting of Zhang Daqian, Pu Ru and Huang Chunpi*, 8 December 2010 – 30 January 2011.

LITERATURE:

Three Masters Crossing the Sea – The Essential Exhibition of Color Ink Painting of Zhang Daqian, Pu Ru and Huang Chunpi, Chan Liu Art Museum, Taipei, pp.62-63.

Estimates:

HK\$12,000,000 – 15,000,000

US\$1,560,000 – 1,950,000



CHA_6

ZHANG DAQIAN (1899-1983)

Lady

Album leaf, mounted on paper board and framed, ink and colour on paper

27.2 x 24.1 cm. (10 3/4 x 9 1/2 in.)

Estimates:

HK\$800,000 – 1,000,000

US\$104,000-130,000

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***All the schedules above are subject to change.**

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