

CHRISTIE'S

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CHRISTIE'S SHANGHAI AUTUMN AUCTIONS 2017

**Celebrating the Fifth Anniversary of Auctions in Mainland China
Continuing Christie's Lead in Innovative Curation**



Beijing Preview : Sept 15-16, Beijing Art Space

Shanghai Preview : Sept 22-24, the Peninsula Hotel & Shanghai Art Space

Auctions : Sept 24, First Open 15:30, 20th Century & Contemporary Art 18:00, the Peninsula Hotel

Shanghai – This season, Christie's Shanghai autumn auctions will take place at the Peninsula Hotel on September 24. Riding on Christie's global leadership in the first half of 2017, the Shanghai sales will kick off its international auction calendar for the second half of the year in Asia.

Marking its fifth year of sales in China, Shanghai is now a truly international auction platform for Christie's, bringing together the culture and art of East and West. Leading the season are over 110 carefully curated works spanning two flagship auctions - 「**FIRST OPEN | Shanghai**」 and 「**20th Century & Contemporary Art**」, responding to the increasingly international and cross-category appetite of Chinese collectors.

「FIRST OPEN | Shanghai」

The 「**FIRST OPEN | Shanghai**」 sale will kick off the season at 15:30 on September 24. Close to 80 dynamic works explore a wide range of subject matter, style and medium. Highlighting the

importance of Chinese contemporary art, a line-up of oil paintings, sculptures and photography from both emerging and established artists such as Zeng Fanzhi, Geng Jianyi, Yang Fudong, Xie Nanxing, Huang Yuxing, Ouyang Chun will be on offer.

A special section of the sale is devoted to works from six artists – Zhang Xiaogang, Sui Jianguo, Fang Lijun, Chen Ke, Qin Yifeng, and Yan Heng. The sale proceeds from these lots will contribute to the continued operation and development of the Yuz Museum, Shanghai.

Launching this season is a newly created section entitled – 'Contemporary Scholars' Studio'. The curated section in the First Open sale features 30 diverse works of art ranging from furniture, ink paintings, photography, white jade carvings, Yixing clay teapots, bonsai trees, to handwoven bamboo vases. The selection of works is brought together under the concept of the modern-day scholar's studio, with each object speaking to a modern lifestyle, which embodies taste and refinement.

「20th Century & Contemporary Art」

The second flagship sale– 「20th Century & Contemporary Art」 will take place in the evening and showcase 35 works from Chinese, Japanese, Southeast Asian and Western modern & contemporary artists. The auction features an array of works from international masters such as Marc Chagall, Salvador Dalí, Zao Wou-Ki, Chu Teh-Chun, and Andy Warhol.

A collection of six works by Zao Wou-Ki created between 1950 and 2008 will lead the sale. The compositions span different mediums ranging from oil paintings to works on paper and epitomize more than half a century of Zao's artistic journey. The top lot among this collection is *24.12.2002 - Diptyque II*, which was consigned from a European collection and has never before been on the market. Measuring 1.95 meters tall and 2.60 meters wide, this grand diptych will be on public view both in Beijing and Shanghai.

Highlighting the modern and impressionist section are two top-quality works from acclaimed masters of the 20th Century. Painted in 1979, *Le Mariés* contains many of Marc Chagall's most famous motifs and themes, with flowers, romance and an overarching dreamlike atmosphere brought vividly to life by a range of fantastical elements that populate the composition. Created during a period of intense reflection and retrospection for the artist, *Le Mariés* demonstrates the central importance of memory in Chagall's work, particularly as he entered the later years of his life and began to look back on his time through rose-tinted glasses of retrospection.

The second work, *Eléphant de triomphe*, is one of the most iconic and instantly recognizable subjects by Salvador Dalí – one of the most prominent proponents of Surrealism. This large-scale sculpture is one of only eight to have been cast in this size. In the eyes of Dalí, the elephant is an iconoclastic symbol of the future and one of his favorite images. It is often depicted on top of spiderlike legs, emphasizing the contrast between robustness and fragility, much like the contrast between the past and modernity.

The Post-War and Contemporary section presents a strong line-up of avant-garde artists such as Yayoi Kusama, Sam Francis, KAWS, and Andy Warhol representing the diversity and spirit of the global contemporary art scene.

Other Highlights

On view is a selection of works from Christie's upcoming auctions from around the world. International highlights include paintings from Old Masters, 19th Century European Art and British Impressionism departments, as well as jewelry from Geneva. Of particular note is a group of ten Old Master paintings – the first time a collection of this quality will tour to Mainland China, with works from artists such as Rembrandt Harmensz. van Rijn and his Studio, Jan Steen, and Eugène Delacroix.

Charlotte Liu, Managing Director of Christie's China, commented, “2017 celebrates the fifth year that Christie's has held auctions in Mainland China. Our Asian and Chinese clients now constitute 35% of global sales revenue in the first half of 2017 and we have witnessed the evolving tastes and demands of collectors in China. It is with great pleasure that we introduce another season of extraordinary works of art and innovative curatorial concepts, such as the "Contemporary Scholars Studio". Of particular note is the curation of an important series of works by Zao Wou-Ki, epitomizing the essence of East and West, which will be offered at both our First Open and Evening sales”.

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in first half of 2017 that totalled £2.35 billion / \$3 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Christie's offers around 350 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.

Alongside regular sales online, Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.*

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Images available on request*

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