

CHRISTIE'S

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QUENTIN BLAKE: NOT IN BOOKS

204 unseen drawings from the artist's studio
Sold to benefit Greenpeace and Survival International

London – After the resounding success of 2018's *Quentin Blake: A Retrospective*, Christie's is delighted to offer another collection of works from the artist's studio, sold to benefit two charities close to Sir Quentin Blake's heart: Greenpeace and Survival International. *Quentin Blake: Not in Books* – a dedicated online sale open for bidding from 10 to 17 December – comprises 204 drawings of playful creatures, fantastical scenarios and unusual individuals, who spring directly from Quentin Blake's lively imagination, full of humour and empathy.

Not in Books showcases the wide variety of work undertaken over the past decade alongside book illustration – we are introduced to characters who may not be familiar to us, yet are unmistakably 'Quentin Blake' in their joyful execution and characteristic style: "*I have a lot of drawings that are not in books,*



Quentin Blake (b.1932)
Crossing the stream, 2015
Pen, ink, watercolour paper, signed., 287 x 175 mm
Estimate: £500-800

but in many ways, they nearly all seem to have a story in them. I am pleased to be able to share this collection of drawings with a wider audience so that readers and collectors may be able to enjoy imagining the many stories and scenarios they could be part of,” says Sir Quentin Blake.

This charming collection presents the public with the opportunity to acquire unique drawings from one of Britain’s most-loved illustrators. *Quentin Blake: Not in Books* will be on view and open to the public from 7 to 13 December at Christie’s London. Bidding starts at £100.

Quentin Blake is one of today’s most recognised illustrators, known for his collaboration with writers such as Russell Hoban, Joan Aiken, Michael Rosen, John Yeoman and, most famously, Roald Dahl. He has also illustrated classic books and created much-loved characters of his own, including *Mister Magnolia* and *Mrs Armitage*. His books have won numerous prizes and awards, including the Whitbread Award, the Kate Greenaway Medal, the Emil/Kurt Maschler Award and the international Bologna Ragazzi Prize. He won the 2002 Hans Christian Andersen Award for Illustration, the highest international recognition given to creators of children's books. In 1999 he was appointed the first UK Children’s Laureate and in 2005 was created CBE. This was followed in 2013 by a knighthood for 'services to illustration' in the New Year's Honours. In 2014, Blake was admitted to the Legion d'Honneur and he then became an Honorary Freeman of the City of London in 2015.

July 2018’s *Quentin Blake: A Retrospective* sale of a series of ‘Alternative Versions’, preliminary drawings, and related artwork offered as part of the *Valuable Books and Manuscripts* auction and in a dedicated online sale achieved a total of £768,625. Please click [here](#) for Christie’s interview with Sir Quentin Blake in relation to that sale.

Some highlights



Quentin Blake (b.1932)
Mother and Baby, 2007
 Pen, ink, watercolour, watercolour paper,
 signed. 233 x 280mm
 Estimate: £500-800



Quentin Blake (b.1932)
Meeting of two interested readers, 2018
 Pen, ink, watercolour, watercolour paper,
 signed., 565 x 380mm
 Estimate: £2,000-3,000



Quentin Blake (b.1932)
Parcel, 2017
 Pen, ink, watercolour, watercolour paper, signed., 270 x 218 mm
 Estimate: £400-600



Quentin Blake (b.1932)
Cactus and flowers, 2008
 Pen, ink, watercolour, watercolour paper, signed.,
 380 x 570mm
 Estimate: £1,200-1,800

PRESS CONTACT: CRISTINA WYATT | 020 7389 2291 | cwyatt@christies.com

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had auction sales in the first half of 2019 that totalled £2.2 billion / \$2.8 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and international expertise. 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.

About Greenpeace

Greenpeace is a global movement whose mission is to defend the natural world from destruction. They campaign to protect our fragile earth's environment and everything that depends on it – from oceans to forests, and climate to biodiversity – to create a greener and more peaceful planet for generations to come.

About Survival International

Survival International is the global movement for tribal peoples' rights. It is the only organization that champions tribal peoples around the world. It helps them defend their lives, protect their lands and determine their own futures. Sir Quentin Blake has been an Ambassador for Survival International for many years. Link to: survivalinternational.org

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Images available on request

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