

CHRISTIE'S

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AUTUMN SERIES OF CHINESE CERAMICS AND WORKS OF ART SALES

Beyond Compare: A Thousand Years of the Literati Aesthetic
Chinese Archaic Jades from the Yangdetang Collection Part II
Multifarious Colours - Three Enamelled Qianlong Masterpieces
Important Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art



A Selection of Highlights to be auctioned on 28 November

From left to right: A MAGNIFICENT AND VERY RARE JADEITE 'BUDDHIST LION' TRIPOD CENSER AND COVER
AN EXTREMELY RARE AND FINE SET OF TWELVE BLUE AND WHITE 'MONTH' CUPS
AN EXTREMELY RARE AND SUPERBLY PAINTED IMPERIALY INSCRIBED YANGCAI 'LANDSCAPE' VASE

In addition to the cross-category Evening Sale held on 26 November, Christie's Hong Kong Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art auctions will take place on 28 November with two themed sales: **Chinese Archaic Jades from the Yangdetang Collection Part II**, and **Multifarious Colours - Three Enamelled Qianlong Masterpieces**, a 3-lot sale dedicated to the legendary *yangcai* technique of the Qing dynasty; as well as the return of the well-established **Important Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art** sale.

Highlights for this season include: **A Very Rare Northern Song Ru bowl**, **A Qianlong Imperially Inscribed Yangcai 'Landscape' Vase**, **a Magnificent Qianlong Yangcai 'Hundred Deer' Blue-Handled Vase**, **an Extremely Rare Set Of Kangxi Twelve Blue and White 'Month' Cups**, **a Magnificent Jadeite "Buddhist Lion" tripod Censer and Cover**, and a range of rare archaic jades from the Yangdetang Collection.

Chi Fan Tsang, Senior Vice President, Specialist Head of Department, commented, "We are privileged to be presenting some of the finest works through the course of Chinese history, showcasing the ever-evolving aesthetics of celebrated Chinese artforms across time. The curated sales this season caters to the diverse taste of our clients who seek works of exceptional craftsmanship and quality. The enamelled Qianlong masterpieces on offer speak directly to collectors in search of imperial ceramics that exemplified the consummate craftsmanship of porcelain production; while the offering of a sale dedicated to archaic jades underscores the continued fascination of this category among global collectors."

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Multifarious Colours - Three Enamelled Qianlong Masterpieces

Presented in this sale are 3 exceptional works showcasing among the best examples of *yangcai* ceramics from the reign of Emperor Qianlong. They represent some of the rarest and most desirable porcelains from the Qing Dynasty.



AN EXTREMELY RARE AND SUPERBLY PAINTED IMPERIALY
INSCRIBED YANGCAI 'LANDSCAPE' VASE
QIANLONG SIX-CHARACTER SEAL MARK IN UNDERGLAZE BLUE
AND OF THE PERIOD (1736-1795)
7 1/2 in. (19.1 cm.) high
Estimate on Request

This magnificent vase belongs to a very small group of imperial Qianlong 'hundred deer' vases, which are of exceptional quality and brilliantly painted with a herd of deer gambolling and grazing in a lush landscape. While most Qianlong 'hundred deer' vases have red handles, only very few examples are decorated with blue and yellow handles like this vase. It is the only blue-handled example in perfect condition in the open market, and is truly remarkable for its substantial size and extraordinary painting.



A FINE MAGNIFICENT AND EXCEPTIONALLY RARE
YANGCAI 'HUNDRED DEER' BLUE-HANDLED VASE, HU
QIANLONG SIX-CHARACTER SEAL MARK IN UNDERGLAZE
BLUE AND OF THE PERIOD (1736-1795)
17 1/2 in. (44.5 cm.) high
HK\$20,000,000-30,000,000



A FINE AND EXTREMELY RARE YANGCAI
'BROCADE FLOWER' JAR
QIANLONG SIX-CHARACTER SEAL MARK IN UNDERGLAZE BLUE
AND OF THE PERIOD (1736-1795)
6 7/8 in. (17.5 cm. high)
HK\$8,000,000-12,000,000

Displaying an unusual and playful design known as *piqiu hua*, 'brocade-flower', this type of design is exceedingly rare on Qianlong jars. Only two known examples exist – one offered at auction in 2013 and one in museum collection. Likely inspired by traditional Japanese design, the imperial potters in Jingdezhen borrowed the general composition but reinterpreted the design as finely depicted flower-heads in the *yangcai* palettes, creating the unique and joyous design we see presented.

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Chinese Archaic Jades from the Yangdetang Collection Part II

Following the success of the Yangdetang sale in autumn 2017 which was 100% sold and exceeded the pre-sale low estimate by 7 times, Christie's is proud to present part II of this esteemed collection. Amassed and refined over the course of three decades, the collection of carved jades spans from the Neolithic period to Han dynasty and is considered to be one of the best known collections in existence, having been well published and exhibited at the National Palace Museum and the Chang Foundation Museum of Art in Taipei in the 1990s.



AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE AND FINELY CARVED JADE 'DRAGON' RING,
HUAN WARRING STATES PERIOD-EARLY WESTERN HAN DYNASTY,
CIRCA 475-141 BC
3 3/4 in. (9.5 cm.) wide
HK\$4,000,000-6,000,000



A VERY IMPORTANT SET OF THREE CELADON JADE OPENWORK
'DRAGON AND PHOENIX' PENDANTS
WARRING STATES PERIOD-WESTERN HAN DYNASTY (475 BC-AD 8)
The largest: 4 3/8 in. (11 cm.) long
HK\$3,000,000-4,500,000



AN EXCEPTIONALLY RARE AND LARGE WHITE JADE 'TIGER' DISC, *B/*
EASTERN HAN DYNASTY (AD 25-220)
9 7/8 in. (25 cm.) high
HK\$1,500,000-2,500,000



A RARE JADE 'ANIMAL MASK' CONG LIANGZHU CULTURE,
CIRCA 3300-2300 BC
1 9/16 in. (4.1 cm.) high
HK\$800,000-1,200,000



TWO CELADON JADE STAG-FORM PENDANTS
WESTERN ZHOU DYNASTY, CIRCA 1100-770 BC
Larger: 3 1/8 in. (8 cm.) long
HK\$600,000-1,200,000



A VERY RARE WHITE JADE MASK-FORM HANDLE
SHIJIAHE CULTURE-XIA DYNASTY,
CIRCA 2600-1700 BC
3 3/4 in. (9.5 cm.) high
HK\$800,000-1,200,000

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Important Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art

Leading this sale is a delicate set of 12 Kangxi "month" cups, representing the 12 months of the lunar calendar. Each cup is complemented by a poem related to a particular flower depicted, and a seal depicting the word "*shang*" (appreciation). The intricate combination of painting, poem and seal is all the more impressive given the commensurate skill of the artist in creating porcelain so thin that the cobalt blue decorations on the exterior can be

seen on both side of the egg-shell body. It is extremely rare to find a complete set of blue and white Kangxi 'month' cups intact, with only two other known complete sets of blue and white Kangxi 'month' cups in private hands.



AN EXTREMELY RARE AND FINE SET OF TWELVE BLUE AND WHITE 'MONTH' CUPS
KANGXI SIX-CHARACTER MARKS IN UNDERGLAZE BLUE WITHIN DOUBLE CIRCLES
AND OF THE PERIOD (1662-1722)
2 7/16 in. (6.5 cm.) diam. Each
Estimate On Request



A VERY RARE PAIR OF SMALL FAMILLE ROSE 'PEACH' DISHES
YONGZHENG SIX-CHARACTER MARKS WITHIN DOUBLE-SQUARES IN DOUBLE SQUARES
AND OF THE PERIOD (1723-1735)
5 1/4 in. (13.4 cm.) diam.
HK\$28,000,000-35,000,000

The present pair of dishes belongs to a larger group of similarly decorated examples on which each showcases eight peaches accompanied by five bats. Appearing in four different sizes, the present dishes are the smallest in the group (13.4 cm. diam.) and are the only examples of this measurement. Being particularly well balanced in design, the contrast between the white body and the vibrant enamels are particularly striking, while the tonal differences between the two branches and the white blossoms are achieved with great subtlety. Such a work was likely created to celebrate imperial birthdays.

Beyond Compare: A Thousand Years of the Literati Aesthetic



AN IMPORTANT AND VERY RARE
LONGQUAN CELADON MALLET-SHAPED
'KINUTA' VASE
SOUTHERN SONG DYNASTY (1127-1279)
9 1/8 in. (23.4 cm.) high.
Estimate on Request



AN IMPORTANT AND EXTREMELY RARE RU
'SKY-BLUE' TEA BOWL
NORTHERN SONG DYNASTY,
LATE 11TH-EARLY 12TH CENTURY
4 in. (10.2 cm.) diam.
Estimate on Request



AN IMPORTANT AND EXTREMELY RARE JUN
'NUMBER FOUR' JARDINIÈRE
YUAN-EARLY MING DYNASTY,
14TH-15TH CENTURY
10 in. (25.4 cm.) wide
HK\$30,000,000-50,000,000

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Notes to Editors:

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DATE: 26 & 28 NOVEMBER 2018

LOCATION: Convention Hall, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, No.1 Expo Drive, Wanchai, Hong Kong

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**Please note when quoting estimates above that other fees will apply in addition to the hammer price - see Section D of the Conditions of Sale at the back of the sale catalogue.*

**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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