

CHRISTIE'S

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CHRISTIE'S PRESENTS IMAGINARY FRIENDS BY SIR QUENTIN BLAKE SOLD TO BENEFIT COMIC RELIEF



Quentin Blake (b.1932), *Imaginary Friends*, 2020, Pen, ink, cartridge paper, signed, 297 x 420mm (estimate: £500-800 each)

LONDON: Christie's *Beyond Worlds: Fine Books & Manuscripts* online auction, open for bidding from 14 May to 4 June, will present a collection of 12 drawings by Sir Quentin Blake, sold to benefit Comic Relief. The series, titled *Imaginary Friends*, has been created exclusively by Sir Quentin Blake to raise funds for Comic Relief and illustrate the imaginary companions people in isolation may dream of. Money raised by the drawings will go to charities in the UK and around the world that urgently need support to respond to the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic.

Sir Quentin Blake commented: *"When I was asked to make some drawings for Comic Relief I naturally thought of all those people isolated by lockdown, and I realised that I voluntarily spend quite lot of time on my own, with pen in hand, drawing imaginary friends (well, not always friends, actually). What I have produced is a dozen imaginary friends whom I thought might be interesting. I think my own choice would be the girl with the cocktail but I hope there may be imaginary friends here for all kinds of people on their own."*

The sale will also present a further selection of illustrations by Sir Quentin Blake to benefit Greenpeace and Survival International.



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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had auction sales in 2019 that totalled £4.5 billion / \$5.8 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.

**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.*

About Comic Relief

Comic Relief raises money to support people living incredibly tough lives. Through humour and stories of hope, we've shown that people can make a massive difference. We fund hundreds of amazing organisations who are working on the ground to support the most vulnerable people and communities in society including many of those hardest hit by the coronavirus crisis. This includes vulnerable children and young people, people who are homeless or living in extreme poverty, women and families at risk of domestic abuse and those struggling with existing or new mental health problems.

For more info visit www.comicrelief.com