CHRISTIE'S

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CHRISTIE'S AUCTION SALES TOTAL £2.2 BILLION / $2.8 BILLION IN FIRST HALF 2019







Clockwise from top left: Jean-Henri Riesener, A Louis XVI Ormolu-Mounted Commode (1774, sold for: $1,155,000, New York); Jeff Koons, *Rabbit* (1986, sold for $91,075,000, New York); Jan Sanders van Hemessen, *Double portrait of a husband and wife, half-length, seated at a table, playing tables* (1532, sold for $10,036,00, New York); Michael Craig-Martin, *Commissioned Portrait Untitled (George)* (2007, sold for £175,000, Online); Pablo Picasso, *Homme et femme nus* (1968, sold for £12,464,250, London); Zao Wou-Ki, *Triptyque 1987-1988* (1987-88, sold for HK$178,000,000, Hong Kong); and Cartier, Belle Époque Devant-de-corsage (1912, sold for $10,603,500, New York).

London – Christie's, the world's leading art business, announces auction sales of £2.2 billion ($2.8 billion) for the half year period in 2019. Consistent sell-through rates of 83% were achieved across all auctions and 60% of the highest priced objects in the first half were sold at Christie's.

Guillaume Cerutti, Chief Executive Officer, Christie's commented: *"Global collectors have shown consistent demand across all categories with notable successes for important private collections as well as individual masterpieces. Sales totals for this half-year are consistent with the same period in 2016, 2017 and 2018, if adjusted to remove the exceptional sale of the Rockefeller Collection in May last year. Overall, the market remains resilient and we continue to focus on serving our clients with a good pipeline of material coming to market in the Autumn."*

Additional highlights:

- Leading collections sales globally including S.I. Newhouse, George Michael, David Gilmour, Mayer Family Collection, Drue Heinz and The Irving Collection.
- Highest price for living artist at auction was established by Jeff Koon's *Rabbit* ($91,075,000) selling in New York in May.
- 27% of all buyers new to Christie's, with online sales still top recruiter for new buyers (40%).
- Strong engagement from Asian clients across all categories; with 51% of spend globally outside Asian Art.
- David Hockney's *Henry Geldzahler and Christopher Scott* from The Barney A. Ebsworth Collection realised £37,661,250, a European record for a living artist.
- *Maharajas & Mughal Magnificence* achieved $109,271,875, the second highest auction total for a private jewellery collection.
- *The David Gilmour Guitar Collection* was 100% sold and totalled $21,490,750, the most valuable musical instruments sale in auction history. Proceeds were donated to the charity ClientEarth.
- The inaugural *ICONOCLAST* sale in Hong Kong combined with the 20th Century & Contemporary Art Evening sale to total HK$910,255,000, with over 42% of lots selling above high estimate. Zao Wou-Ki's *Triptyque 1987-1988*, realised HK$178,000,000.

- The philanthropic George Michael Collection achieved £11,328,125 in London.
- In Paris, the *Catherine Deneuve et Yves Saint-Laurent* sale realised €900,625, with 56,000 visits to the sale site online.

Autumn highlights will include Chinese Works of Art from the Art Institute of Chicago for sale in September and the Collection of Lee Bouvier Radziwill as part of Christie's *Collector Week* of auctions in October in New York. In London in early October, Christie's will offer the Jeremy Lancaster Collection and *Parc des Princes* by Nicolas de Staël will be offered in October during FIAC week in Paris.

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Notes to Editors
**In accordance with standard accountancy practice, Christie's uses a sales weighted average to account for exchange rate fluctuations. During first half 2019 please note that all cumulative sales figures are reported in £ and US$, using a sales weighted average (SWA) of 1: 1.291.*

The prices for individual lots for 2018 are reported as when sold. All auction sales figures include premium. They do not reflect costs or financing fees. All market share totals are based on publicly available competitor information.

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.

About Christie's
Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global 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.

**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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