

CHRISTIE'S

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THE ART OF THE COVER

CHRISTIE'S PRESENTS AN ONLINE PRIVATE SELLING
EXHIBITION OF AMERICAN ILLUSTRATION ART

20 MAY - 19 JUNE



NORMAN ROCKWELL (1894-1978)
Happy Skiers on a Train
oil on canvas 34 1/4 x 28 1/4 in.
Painted in 1948.

New York – Christie's announces an online private selling exhibition ***The Art of the Cover***, featuring America's most-loved illustration artists, will take place 20 May through 19 June. Comprised of 23 lots, highlights include works by Norman Rockwell, N.C. Wyeth, J.C. Leyendecker, George Hughes and Joseph Kernan, among others. Prices range from below \$100,000 to over \$5 million, and a [virtual gallery experience](#) features audio from specialists on key paintings.

The Art of the Cover explores how illustration artists created a visual narrative of modern American life in the first decades of the 20th Century, reflecting the spirit of their times and establishing traditions and idioms that last to this day. Before television and the internet dominated news and entertainment, popular culture in the United States propagated largely through illustrated magazines. Through their

craftsmanship and storytelling, illustrators depicted humorous and heart-warming scenarios of everyday life which resonated with the public, thus conveying a collective memory of culture.

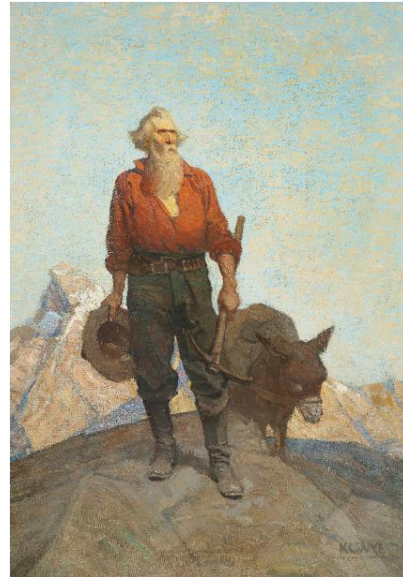
Paige Kestenman, Specialist of American Art, comments, *“They forged a sense of national identity, helping the American public to understand the worst of times – two world wars and a great depression – and also celebrating the best of times, from the holiday season to the everyday joys of life.”*

SELECT HIGHLIGHTS | THE ART OF THE COVER



NORMAN ROCKWELL (1894-1978)

Full Treatment
oil on canvas
43.1/4 x 35 in.
Painted in 1940.



N.C. WYETH (1882-1945)

The Prospector
oil on canvas laid down on board
39 x 27 1/4 in.
Painted in 1912.



JOSEPH CHRISTIAN LEYENDECKER (1874-1951)

Policeman and School Children
oil on canvas
31 x 23 in.
Painted in 1931.



STEVAN DOHANOS (1907-1994)

Ref Out Cold
gouache and watercolor on board
25 x 19 1/2 in.
Executed circa 1950.



GARTH MONTGOMERY WILLIAMS (1912–1996)

Cover for 'Charlotte's Web': A Pair of Works

Ink Drawing for the Cover
ink and pencil on paper
12 x 10 in.
Executed in 1952.

Hand-Colored Blueline for the Cover
watercolor on blueline printed paper
9 x 8 in.
Executed in 1952.

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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.*

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Images available on request

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