

CHRISTIE'S

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DESIGN

CHRISTIE'S IS PAYING TRIBUTE TO JEAN ROYÈRE WITH AN EXCEPTIONAL ORIGINAL COMMISSION

30 JUNE 2020



Set of works by Jean Royère from an original 1962 commission

Paris - Christie's France will hold its Design sale on June 30th and will present more than 118 lots for an overall estimate of nearly €5 million. Commissioned in 1962 and composed of 19 lots, collectors will be able to discover the unique and so recognizable universe of Royère: Sofa and armchairs called "Polar Bear", wall lamp "Liane", table "Flaque", all these works that brought him the fame we know. This commission is referenced at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in the Royère archives, a very important aspect according to collectors.

Flavien Gaillard, Director of the Design Department: " We are very proud to present this season, an original commission of such quality. Collectors have preserved these works for many years with great care and it is a real pleasure to offer these pieces in an impeccable state of conservation as well as a beautiful provenance and superb documentation. Thanks to this exceptional collection, we are pleased to pay tribute to Jean Royère once again, after the sale dedicated to the French avant-garde that we organized in 2017, which realized more than 3.5 million for 24 lots".



Another remarkable piece is a bicycle, designed by Jean Prouvé in 1941. Made of stainless steel, the idea of the "Monopoutre" bicycle was born in the middle of the war to facilitate the transport of workers between their home and their workplace, all cars having been requisitioned by the French state. As the project did not see the light of day, only about ten of these bicycles were produced. The model is now part of the Centre Georges Pompidou's collections and was exhibited in 1991 during the major retrospective devoted to the designer (estimate: €40,000-

60,000).

Among the other great artists of the 20th century, we will find Charlotte Perriand, with a rare copy of her 'Japan' chest, adapted from the initial model created in 1939 for the design office she founded with



Georges Blanchon. The design of the chest, conceived one year after her first 'Free Form' table, is based on the same principle, which tends to make the furniture look like a functional sculpture through the play of lines and volumes. Our copy illustrates the subtle way in which Charlotte Perriand will develop the design of this piece of furniture, influenced by her long stays in Japan, one of her great sources of inspiration (estimate: €200,000-300,000).

We will also pay a beautiful tribute to the dreamlike, offbeat, whimsical, humorous and tender universe of the artists Claude and François-Xavier Lalanne, with a set of 14 pieces, including some of their key works: an exceptional 'à la chouette' bed by Claude Lalanne, a unique piece dating from 2004 - a demonstration of his perfect mastery of electroplating, which allows him, by electrolysis, to capture and freeze the movement of the natural elements that inspire him, such as the sinuous and graceful development of the branches that make up



the headboard topped by an owl (€200,000-300,000); a 'Mouton de laine' by François-Xavier Lalanne, one of the first to be made, around 1965, in the immediate aftermath of the model's design, still preserved in its original state, making it a rare historical example of a creation that has become iconic in his work today (€500,000-700,000); finally, from the same artist, a 'Weeping Fountain', a model created in 1983 and this one made in 1984, a sort of poetic re-reading of the mythological figure of Narcissus, of which we only know of two copies that have appeared at auction to date (estimation: €250,000-350,000).

A beautiful collection of contemporary design will also be featured with a selection of ten pieces purchased at the Kreo gallery. Important works by the Bouroullec brothers, Martin Szekely, and Pierre Charpin will thus dialogue in our viewing rooms.

A beautiful *DL* Corian desk by Martin Szekely estimated at €12,000-18,000 or a *Heroic Shelves* library estimated at €15,000-20,000 will be among the important lots in this section. This selection of Avant-

garde Design will feature a collection of works by Hubert Le Gall whose fantasy and universe will be represented with his *Romulus* mirror (estimate: €25,000-35,000) or his *Orange* desk (estimate: €20,000-30,000).

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SALE



Jean Royère (1902-1981)
Pair of 'Oeufs' armchairs, high
version, 1962
Estimate: €80,000-120,000



Jean Royère (1902-1981)
Six-
Es



Jean Royère (1902-1981)
Sofa, 1962
Estimate: €150,000-200,000



Jean Royère (1902-1981)
Coffee table 'Flaque', 1962
Estimate: €150,000-200,000



Shiro Kuramata (1934- 1991)
Armchair 'Miss Blanche', the model
created in 1988
Estimate : €200,000-300,000



Hubert le Gall (Born in 1961)
'Orange' desk, unique piece, circa 2004
Estimate : €20,000 – 30,000

Auction: Tuesday 30 June 2020, at 5:30pm

Exhibition: 26-30 June, 10am-6pm (28 June, 2pm-6pm; 30 June, 10am-2pm)

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About Christie's

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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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