

CHRISTIE'S

RESULTS | NEW YORK | 24 SEPTEMBER 2020 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ASIAN ART WEEK

SACRED AND IMPERIAL

The James and Marilyn Alsdorf Collection

PART I & II TOTALS: \$22,436,500

92% SOLD BY LOT

ACHIEVES OVER THREE TIMES OVERALL ESTIMATE

AND SETS TWO AUCTION RECORDS

Online Sale | Continues through Tuesday, 29 September 2020



For the first time during Asian Art Week, Christie's hosted auctions simultaneously in two global sale sites. Pictured above is auctioneer Rahul Kadakia taking bids on the top lot of the sale in the New York saleroom. Liang-Lin Chen, auctioneer in Hong Kong, is pictured to the right on screen.

Results – Christie's live auctions of [Sacred and Imperial: The James and Marilyn Alsdorf Collection](#) achieved a combined total of \$22,436,500 for Part I and Part II after a marathon ten-hours of auction. The top lot was a rare and magnificent bronze figure of Shiva Tripuravijaya, South India, Tamil Nadu, Chola Period, circa 1050, which achieved more than four times its estimate selling for \$4,350,000 and establishing the record for a South Indian sculpture. Additional results are included in the following pages. The online auction continues through September 29.

Tina Zonars, Co-Chairman of Asian Art, Christie's, remarks: *"It has been a tremendous privilege for Christie's to present The Collection of James and Marilyn Alsdorf. Steadily acquired throughout the latter half of the 20th century by two of Chicago's most important civic and cultural patrons, the Alsdorf collection represents a notable achievement in the history of American connoisseurship. The exceptional results demonstrate the importance of provenance and pay tribute to the impression left by the Alsdorfs on collecting. The excitement surrounding this collection, depth of bidding witnessed in the two salerooms, and strong results achieved are a testament to Christie's successful teamwork and leadership across all areas of Asian art."*

Deepanjana Klein, International Head of Classical and Contemporary Indian and Southeast Asian Art, remarks: *"It was an honor to bring to auction The Collection of James and Marilyn Alsdorf. Known for their generosity of spirit as significant arts patrons in their hometown of Chicago, the Alsdorfs assembled one of the world's premier collections of Indian and Southeast Asian Art. This collection afforded the rare opportunity to acquire museum-quality works with the esteemed provenance of two of America's leading collectors of Asian art and our clients responded with enthusiasm. We are delighted with the exceptional results for classical Indian bronzes which demonstrates the resilience for the masterpiece market."*

Celebrated arts patrons of Chicago, James and Marilyn Alsdorf spent their 38-year marriage building a wide-ranging collection marked by quality and diversity. The Alsdorfs were especially ardent benefactors of The Art Institute of Chicago where they made transformative contributions throughout their lifetime. In November 2019, Christie's was honored to present Impressionist & Modern Art, Post-War and Contemporary Art, American Art, and Latin American Art from the Alsdorf Collection. Additional highlights were offered in Spring 2020 in the New York sales of Antiquities, European Sculpture, Old Master Paintings, and Jewelry, with further objects presented in the Paris sales of African, Oceanic and North American Art, and Pre-Columbian Art.



Rahul Kadakia, auctioneer in New York, and Liang-Lin Chen, auctioneer in Hong Kong, viewed via Christie's LIVE.

CHRISTIE'S USES DUAL-SALEROOM TECHNOLOGY FOR THE FIRST TIME DURING ASIAN ART WEEK

Simultaneously hosted in New York and Hong Kong

For the first time during New York Asian Art Week, Christie's hosted auctions in two salerooms with dedicated auctioneers in Hong Kong and New York. The strong interest for the Alsdorf collection in Asia inspired the new approach to offer the highest level of experience for clients. Christie's utilized two sale rooms to increase access in global bidding regions. This format will be used again for [Important Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art](#) on 25 September beginning at 8:30am EST.

DAY 3 | ASIAN ART WEEK | 24 SEPTEMBER 2020 | AUCTION RESULTS



A RARE AND MAGNIFICENT BRONZE FIGURE OF SHIVATRIPURAVIJAYA. SOUTH INDIA, TAMIL NADU, CHOLA PERIOD, CIRCA 1050. PRICE REALIZED: \$4,350,000 AUCTION RECORD FOR A SOUTH INDIAN SCULPTURE

[Sacred and Imperial: The James and Marilyn Alsdorf Collection: Part I](#)

24 September 2020

TOTAL: \$15,062,250

100% SOLD BY LOT | 100% SOLD BY VALUE

329% HAMMER ABOVE LOW ESTIMATE

TWO WORLD AUCTION RECORDS

Part I of the Alsdorf collection achieved a total of \$15,062,250 with 100% sold by lot, 100% sold by value, and 329% hammer above low estimate. The top lot of Part I was a rare and magnificent bronze figure of Shiva Tripuravijaya, South India, Tamil Nadu, Chola period, circa 1050 that achieved more than four times its estimate selling for \$4,350,000, establishing the record for a South Indian sculpture. Other notable results included a very rare and important marble head of buddha, China, Sui dynasty, AD 550-618 that sold for \$2,250,000 against its low estimate of \$500,000; a very rare *ru*-type brush washer China, Qing dynasty, Qianlong six-character seal mark in underglaze blue and of the period, sold for over five times its initial estimate realizing \$562,500; and an album of landscapes and calligraphy attributed to Zhang Ruitu that achieved 21x its estimate selling for \$3,210,000 setting a record for an album by the artist. [Browse Part I results here.](#)



XU BEIHONG (1895-1953)
HORSE
HANGING SCROLL, INK AND COLOR ON PAPER
PRICE REALIZED: \$687,500

[Sacred and Imperial: The James and Marilyn Alsdorf Collection: Part II](#)

24 September 2020

TOTAL: \$7,374,250

92% SOLD BY LOT | 99% SOLD BY VALUE

245% HAMMER ABOVE LOW ESTIMATE

Part II of the Alsdorf collection achieved a total of \$7,374,250 with 92% sold by lot and 99% sold by value. The top lot of the sale was a hanging scroll by Xu Beihong (1895-1953), *Horse* that sold for \$687,500 against a low estimate of \$20,000. Strong prices were achieved for Imperial monochrome porcelains including a guan-type mallet vase, Qianlong six-character mark in underglaze blue and of the period, that achieved \$400,000; and a rare celadon-glazed brush washer that sold for \$225,000. Other notable highlights included a small white marble figure of a seated lion, China, Tang dynasty, that sold for \$475,000 against a low estimate of \$20,000; a gilt-bronze figure of Amoghapasha Lokeshvara that sold for \$17,500; an Italian gilt-bronze, porphyry, lapis lazuli and hardstone collector's cabinet that sold for \$21,250; and a silk and metallic thread 'Phoenix' carpet, China, Qing Dynasty that sold for \$17,500. [Browse Part II results here.](#)



**THE IRVING COLLECTION
A RARE BUFF SANDSTONE FIGURE OF A
SALABHANJIKA
CENTRAL INDIA, MADHYA PRADESH OR UTTAR
PRADESH, 11TH CENTURY
PRICE REALIZED: \$500,000**

[Indian, Himalayan and Southeast Asian Works of Art](#)

24 September 2020

TOTAL: \$1,181,250

Following the Alsdorf collection sales, **[Indian, Himalayan and Southeast Asian Works of Art](#)** achieved a total of \$1,181,250. The top lot of the sale was a rare Central Indian red sandstone figure of a Salabhanjika from the collection of Herbert and Florence Irving that sold for \$500,000. Other highlights included a rare bronze figure of dancing Krishna, South India, Tamil Nadu, Chola period, 13th century that sold for double its estimate realizing \$200,000.

[Browse sale results here.](#)

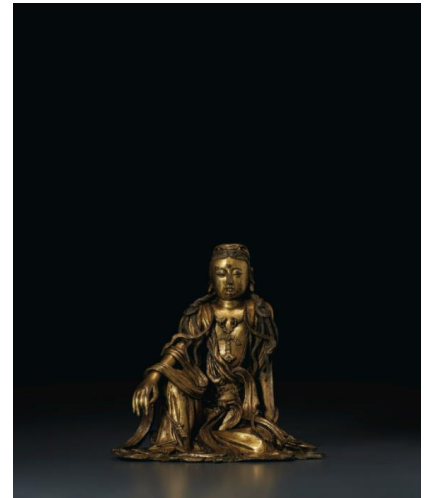
***SACRED AND IMPERIAL: THE JAMES AND MARILYNN ALSDORF COLLECTION: PART I
NOTABLE RESULTS | 24 SEPTEMBER 2020***



**A RARE AND MAGNIFICENT BRONZE FIGURE
OF SHIVATRIPURAVIJAYA
SOUTH INDIA, TAMIL NADU,
CHOLA PERIOD, CIRCA 1050
PRICE REALIZED: \$4,350,000**



**A VERY RARE AND IMPORTANT
MARBLE HEAD OF BUDDHA
CHINA, SUI DYNASTY (AD 550-618)
PRICE REALIZED: \$2,250,000**



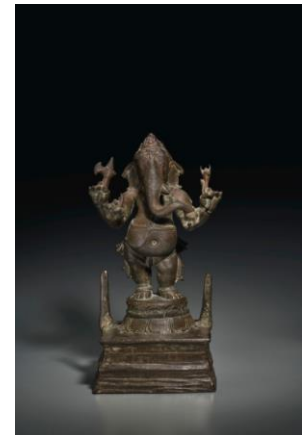
**A VERY RARE GILT-BRONZE FIGURE OF
WHITE-ROBED GUANYIN
CHINA, MING DYNASTY, 15TH CENTURY
PRICE REALIZED: \$942,000**



**A VERY RARE RU-TYPE BRUSH WASHER
CHINA, QING DYNASTY, QIANLONG SIX-
CHARACTER SEAL MARK IN UNDERGLAZE
BLUE AND OF THE PERIOD (1736-1795)
PRICE REALIZED: \$562,500**



**ZHANG RUITU (ATTRIBUTED TO, 1570-1641)
LANDSCAPES AND CALLIGRAPHY
ALBUM OF FOURTEEN DOUBLE LEAVES, INK ON GOLD-
FLECKED PAPER, DATED 1625
PRICE REALIZED: \$3,210,000**



**A RARE BRONZE FIGURE OF GANESHA
SOUTH INDIA, TAMIL NADU, CHOLA PERIOD,
12TH CENTURY
PRICE REALIZED: \$894,000**

ASIAN ART WEEK SALES CONTINUE

LIVE AUCTIONS:

Important Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art | 25 September 2020

ONLINE SALES:

A Lasting Engagement: The Jane and Kito de Boer Collection | 4-25 September 2020

Sacred and Imperial: The James and Marilyn Alsdorf Collection | 4-29 September 2020

Crafted Landscapes: The Ankarcrona Collection of Japanese Lacquer and Asian Works of Art | 10 Sept. to 1 Oct. 2020

Contemporary Art Asia | 4-30 September 2020

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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. Sale 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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