# CHRISTIE'S

Contact: Hannah Schmidt Alex Deyzac +44 (0) 207 389 2964 +44 (0) 207 389 2265 hschmidt@christies.com adeyzac@christies.com

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF GREAT RARITY AND QUALITY AT CHRISTIE'S LONDON IN MAY





London – Christie's *Photographs* sale on Wednesday 16 May features over 100 works with estimates ranging from £3,000 to £120,000. The sale brings the story of photography closer to the present with some of the most recognisable contemporary practitioners: a diptych by Andreas Gursky, who currently holds the auction record for the medium, entitled *Schiesser, Diptych*, 1991 (estimate: £80,000–120,000, *illustrated above*); Hiroshi Sugimoto's *Guggenheim Museum, New York*, 1997 (estimate: £70,000–90,000, *illustrated on page 2*) and Helmut Newton's large format *Self-Portrait with Wife and Models 'Vogue' Studios, Paris 1980*, measuring 139.7 x 144.8 cm (estimate: £70,000–90,000, *illustrated bottom left*). This is an opportunity to acquire some of the most important works of the history of photography, with works by 19<sup>th</sup> century masters, and a strong focus on post-war and fashion photography, led by the work of Irving Penn, Helmut Newton and Peter Beard. The incredible roll call of subjects captured includes Picasso, Greta Garbo, Andy Warhol, Francis Bacon, Marilyn Monroe, Christy Turlington, Naomi Campbell and Barack Obama.



Important and rare **post-war** works include a photograph by Constantin Brancusi from the series *Bird in Space*, 1923, (estimate: £6,000–8,000), which depicts one of the most expensive sculptures ever sold at auction (Christie's New York, 2005). The sale also

features an exceptional group of works by Irving Penn, which span iconic portraits to fashion photography, with a rare to the market, vintage print of Lionel Le Grand for Christian Dior, *Kerchief – Glove (Dior) Paris*, 1950 (estimate: £15,000–20,000). An

outstanding group photographs by Helmut Newton include one of his large format works, On the 10<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Hilton, Paris 1976 (108.2 x 71.7 cm), which predates any editioning of his work (estimate: £30,000–50,000 illustrated right). Always highly sought after, these photographs come to the market at a time when Newton's major retrospective is being held at the Grand Palais in Paris.



Another stellar example of post-war photography is the gelatin silver triptych by Richard Avedon, *Andy Warhol and Members of the Factory, New York City,* 1959 (estimate: £25,000–35,000 *illustrated right*). This piece not only represents the eccentric extravagance of Warhol's studio, but also marks the year

in which the artist adopted a multi-panel technique that, in this case, suggests a reading of the group as a frieze of classical figures.

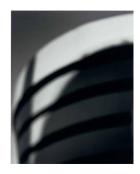


### THE CLASSICS:









Christie's will also present an array of classic images. From left to right: *Nude Study, circa* 1925–28, a rare to the market, superb glass plate negative by Frantisek Drtikol presents collectors with a one-off opportunity (estimate: £6,000–8,000); *Large Tusker, circa 110-115 pounder, Near Kattremula...*, 1965, by Peter Beard – which characterises the artist's study of African wildlife with vigorous applications of blood (estimate: £20,000–30,000); *West Porch, Lichfield*, 1858, by Roger Fenton is one of the earliest photographs in this sale, having been printed and published in limited number by Francis Frith shortly after Fenton abandoned photography (estimate: £4,000–6,000); and one of the most important lots of the sale: *Guggenheim Museum, New York* 1997, a stunning abstraction of 20<sup>th</sup> century architecture by Hiroshi Sugimoto, from the edition of five(estimate: £70,000–90,000).

#### **CONTEMPORARY:**







The contemporary photographs include (from left to right): Xteriors XIII, 2000-07 by Desirée Dolron (estimate: £40,000–60,000) the second Artist's Proof from an edition of two, Orchid I, 2007, by David Bailey (estimate: £6,000–8,000); and The Birth Of Venus, 2009, by David LaChapelle, in his museum format size (241.3 x

182.9 cm), which is numbered two out of an edition of three (estimate: £30,000–50,000).

#### **FASHION:**









Showcasing iconic images and groundbreaking campaigns, the fashion section features (from left to right): Fashion Studies, Milan, 1997, one of the three polaroids by Helmut Newton, providing collectors with a particularly rare opportunity to acquire 3 polaroids from the same sitting (estimate: £10,000–15,000); Naomi Campbell, Deauville, Vogue, 1988, by Peter Lindbergh (estimate: £8,000–12,000); Harlequin Dress, 1950, by Irving Penn (estimate: £70,000–90,000); Smoke and Veil, Paris Vogue', 1958, by William Klein (estimate: £6,000–8,000).

## **FAMOUS FACES:**











Among the stellar roll call of famous faces on offer in this auction outlined on page 1, highlights include (from left to right): Naomi Campbell, Tatler, Paris, 2005, by David LaChapelle, which is number one of an edition of three.

(estimate: £25,000–35,000); Christy Turlington, Hollywood, 1988, by Herb Ritts (estimate: £8,000–12,000); Barack Obama, 2004, by Martin Schoeller (estimate: £6,000–8,000); Francis Bacon in His Studio, 1960, by Cecil Beaton (estimate: £3,000–5,000); and Andy Warhol, Edie Sedgwick and Chuck Wein, 1965, by Burt Glinn (estimate: £3,000–5,000).

###
Images available on request
Visit Christie's on the web at www.christies.com

#### **About Christie's**

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2011 that totaled £3.6 billion/\$5.7 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's has since conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 450 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 and Contemporary, Impressionist and Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales totaled £502 million / \$808.6m in 2011, an increase of 44% on the previous year.

Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, and Hong Kong. More recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and do not reflect costs, financing fees or application of buyer's or seller's credits.