

For Immediate Release

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**CHRISTIE'S EVENING AUCTION
LIVING WITH ART – A PRIVATE EUROPEAN COLLECTION
REALISES
£30.1 MILLION / \$47.6 MILLION / €35.7 MILLION**

- Miró painting sells for £5.1 million
- Luis Meléndez still life sells for £3.5 million –
World record price for the celebrated Old Master
- 7 lots sell for over £1 million (12 for over \$1 million)
- Auction continues tomorrow at 10.30am



London – The evening auction of *Living with Art – A Private European Collection* realised £30,060,200 / \$47,615,357 / €35,741,578, selling 83% by lot and 91% by value. The top lot was *Personnages et oiseaux devant le soleil*, 1946, by Joan Miró (1893-1983) which sold for £5,081,250 / \$8,048,700 / €6,041,606. The auction continues tomorrow (10 February) at 10.30am.

Orlando Rock, Deputy Chairman, Christie's Europe: "Collectors in today's art market are no longer constrained to traditional collecting categories and are buying works of art with a focus on aesthetic quality, independent of origin or age. This trend was in great evidence this evening as we saw modern art collectors bidding for tribal art and furniture, and traditional collectors bidding for modern and contemporary pictures. It is a great testament to the vision, quality and taste of this private collection that it attracted such competitive and diverse international bidding at this evening's sale."

Juan Varez, Managing Director, Christie's Spain: *"This evening's auction was a celebration of Spanish art through the ages. We are particularly thrilled to have established a world record price for Luis Meléndez whose still life sold for £3.5 million, beating the previous record by over \$1.5 million. From Picasso and Miró, whose record price was set in these rooms on Tuesday evening, to Chillida, Tapiés and Barceló, we were also thrilled to have seen a strong international response for Spanish artists of the 20th and 21st centuries."*



Impressionist and Modern Art from the collection realised £15,775,700 / \$24,988,709 / €18,757,307. Combined with the various-owner auctions earlier this week, Impressionist and Modern art sales this week at Christie's have realised a combined total of £176.4 million / \$278.3 million, with further lots to be offered at tomorrow's auctions at King Street and South Kensington. The top lot of the sale was *Personnages et oiseaux devant le soleil*, 1946, by **Joan Miró (1893-1983)** which sold for £5,081,250 / \$8,048,700 / €6,041,606 (left). Further highlights included *Femme au fauteuil*, 1949, by **Pablo Picasso (1881-1973)** which realised £4,745,250 / \$7,516,476 / €5,642,102; and *La table devant le bâtiment*, 1919, by **Juan Gris (1887-1927)** which sold for £2,505,250 / \$3,968,316 / €2,978,742.

Post-War and Contemporary Art from the collection realised £8,092,900 / \$12,819,154 / €9,622,458. The top lot this evening was *Katezale (Enchained)*, 1956, by **Eduardo Chillida (1924-2002)** which sold for £1,945,250 / \$3,081,276 / €2,312,902 – the second highest price for the artist at auction. *Contracorrent (Crosscurrent)*, 1991, by **Miquel Barceló (b. 1957)** realised £1,497,250 / \$2,371,644 / €1,780,230; and *Die grosse Fracht (The Heavy Cargo)*, 2005, by **Anselm Kiefer (b. 1945)** sold for £505,250 / \$800,316 / €600,742.

Old Master paintings realised £4,450,500 / \$7,049,592 / €5,291,645. The top lot was *Oranges, nuts, spices, boxes of sweetmeats, a jug and a cask on a table* by **Luis Meléndez (1716-1780)** which sold for £3,513,250 / \$5,564,988 / €4,177,254 – a world record price for the artist at auction. *The Wedding Dance* by **Pieter Brueghel II (1564/5-1637/8)** realised £937,250 / \$1,484,604 / €1,114,390 against a pre-sale estimate of £500,000 to £800,000.

An exceptional North German 13th century bronze *aquamanile* in the form of a lion sold for £690,850 / \$1,094,306 / €821,421 against an estimate of £150,000 to £250,000. A gilt-copper and polychrome enamel rectangular reliquary chalice from Limoges, *circa* 1200, realised £217,250 / \$344,124 / €258,310; and an Empire ormolu, steel and ebony centre table, *circa* 1800, sold for £169,250 / \$268,092 / €201,238 against an estimate of £40,000 to £60,000.

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Images available on request
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*Full results can be found at the following link: <http://www.christies.com/results/>

*This evening's sale had a pre-sale estimate of £22.7 million to £34.3 million.