

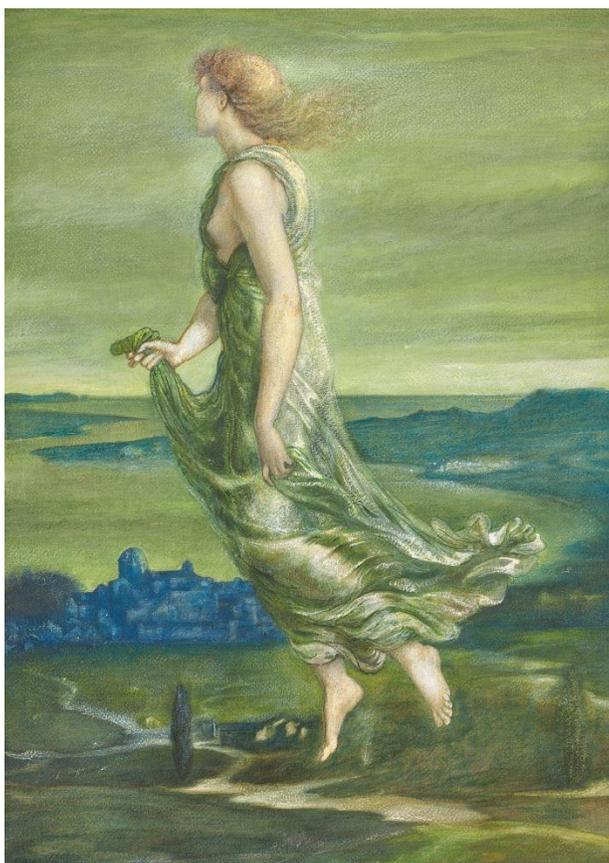
CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | LONDON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 26 November 2013

IMPORTANT SYMBOLIST WORK BY BURNE-JONES AT CHRISTIE'S LONDON IN DECEMBER

Coming to the market for the first time, it has been in the same
private collection since it was acquired from the artist
Unseen in public for over 40 years

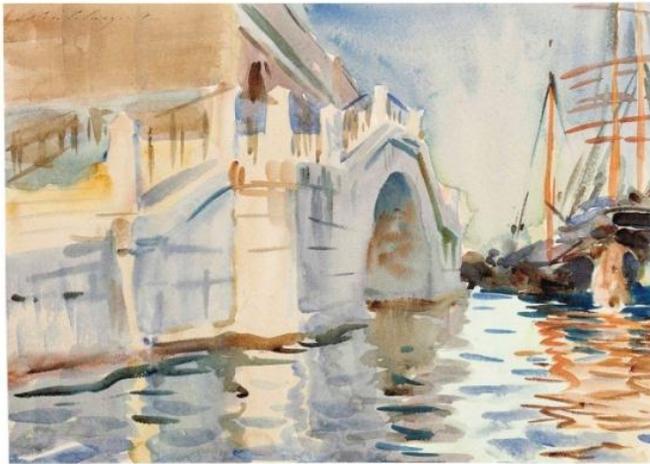


London – Christie's is pleased to offer an important Symbolist work by Sir Edward Coley Burne-Jones, Bt., A.R.A., R.W.S. (1833-1898), *Evening*, in the sale of *Victorian & British Impressionist Art* on 12 December 2013 (estimate: £300,000 – 500,000, *illustrated above*). Coming to auction for the first time this work has been in the same private collection since it was acquired from the artist. *Evening* belongs to a group of works in which Burne-Jones explored the idea of representing cosmic subjects by allegorical figures floating in the night sky. The other works in the series have all been part of important collections including that of Yves Saint Laurent.

Building on the success of the record breaking auction in July 2013, Christie's is pleased to offer 104 works spanning the Victorian and Edwardian era with works by the most prolific artists of the time. The sale presents the opportunity for both established and new collectors alike to acquire works at a wide range of price points with estimates ranging from £2,000 to £500,000.



The sale will feature a pair of watercolours by **Burne-Jones** - *The Pilgrim at the Garden of Idleness: an illustration to Chaucer's 'Romance of the Rose'* (estimate: £70,000 – 100,000, *illustrated above*). In 1874 Burne-Jones and William Morris designed a needlework frieze illustrating Chaucer's *Romance of the Rose*; it was to hang round the upper walls of the dining-room at Rounton Grange, Northallerton, a house commissioned from Philip Webb two years earlier by the Tyneside ironmaster and metallurgist Sir Isaac Lowthian Bell. *The Romance of the Rose*, one of the most popular secular texts in medieval literature, is an allegory embodying the conventions of courtly love. The poet seeks his beloved, who takes the form of a rose in a beautiful garden, only winning her after many trials and tribulations. In the present work he is seen encountering figures of the Vices represented by free-standing bronze sculptures set in niches along the exterior wall of the garden of Idleness.



John Singer Sargent, R.A., R.W.S., H.R.S.A. (1856-1925) formed an abiding love for and fascination with Venice's unique patina and engaging contradictions, which informed his depictions of the mysterious floating city for over thirty years. *A Bridge in Venice* is a vibrant and dynamic example of the Venice Sargent painted during his almost annual visits from 1898 to 1913 and serves as a window into the life and travels of one of the most celebrated artists of the 19th and 20th centuries (estimate: £100,000 – 150,000, *illustrated left*). Sargent's affair with Venice spanned the majority of his life and

came to reflect many of the dichotomies and contradictions inherent to the city.

In *Neptune* the large black-and-white Newfoundland that **Sir Edwin Henry Landseer, R.A. (1802-1873)** made famous can be seen (estimate: £300,000 – 500,000, *illustrated right*). Newfoundlands were famous for their rescues at sea; the present portrait, named after the Roman god of the sea, has a frame that is made from the beams of the warship *Téméraire*, after it was broken up in 1838. *Téméraire* found herself directly behind *Victory* in Lord Nelson's 'weather column' at Trafalgar where she fought magnificently. Heavily engaged from all sides, she survived the battle but was so severely damaged that she was deemed unfit for further service at sea. She was finally sold for breaking in 1838 and, whilst under tow to Rotherhithe, found immortality when she inspired J.M.W. Turner to paint one of his most celebrated works, *The Fighting Téméraire* (fig. 1, 1839, National Gallery, London), exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1838.





In *A Morning Walk* by British Impressionist **Sir George Clausen, R.A., R.W.S. (1852-1944)** a young woman dressed in dark navy and black is pictured in a Hampstead street (estimate: £120,000 – 180,000, *illustrated left*). The painter had moved into his studio close to Haverstock Hill in the new London suburb of Hampstead in 1878. Here he was surrounded by a group of up-and-coming painters influenced more by continental trends than home-grown traditions. Further works by Clausen to be offered include *Village Inn*, *Misty Morning* (estimate: £20,000 – 30,000) and *Sunset* (estimate: £15,000 – 25,000).

The sale will also feature a winter scene by **Joseph Farquharson (1846-1935)** *Silence of the snow, Bucket Mill on the Feugh, Finzean* (estimate: £100,000 – 150,000, *illustrated right*). The farm buildings, fields and rivers of Aberdeenshire provided the subject matter for many of Farquharson's paintings. Finzean, the setting of the present painting, was particularly adored by the artist, who lived in this part of Scotland for much of his life. Born the son of a laird, a title which he was later to inherit from his brother in 1918, Farquharson displayed his aptitude for landscape painting from a young age. Presented with his own box of paints at the age of twelve by his father, he was to exhibit his first picture at the Royal Scottish Academy the following year. While Farquharson may have dabbled in portrait painting in his youth, it was his depiction of the rural Scottish winter, and his particular attention to the warmth and atmosphere of sunrise and twilight, which were to become his trademarks.



Further highlights of the sale include paintings, drawings and watercolours by artists such as Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, O.M., R.A. (1836-1912), John Atkinson Grimshaw (1836-1893) and Sir Alfred James Munnings, P.R.A., R.W.S. (1878-1959).

PRESS CONTACT: Dernagh O'Leary | +44(0)207 389 2398 | doleary@christies.com

PUBLIC EXHIBITION:

Sunday, 8 December: 12:00pm – 5:00pm
Monday, 9 December: 9:00am – 4:30pm
Tuesday, 10 December: 9:00am – 4:30pm
Wednesday, 11 December: 9:00am – 4:30pm
Thursday, 12 December: 9:00am – 12:00pm

AUCTION:

Victorian & British Impressionist Art
Thursday, 12 December 2013
2:30pm

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2013 that totaled £2.4 billion/\$3.68 billion. In 2012, Christie's had global auction and private sales that totaled £3.92 billion/\$6.27 billion making it the highest annual total in Christie's history. 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 £465.2 million (\$711.8 million) in the first half of 2013, an increase of 13% on the previous year, and for the third successive year represents the highest total for the period in both company and art market history.

Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 12 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Mumbai. 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.*

###

Visit Christie's Website at www.christies.com

Complete catalogue available online at www.christies.com or via the Christie's iPhone app

FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:

