

CHRISTIE'S

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHRISTIE'S POST-WAR & CONTEMPORARY WEEK

Monumental Paintings, British Icons, International Stars

AT AUCTION IN LONDON THIS FEBRUARY



Jean-Michel Basquiat (1960-1988), *Museum Security (Broadway Meltdown)*
acrylic, oilstick and paper collage on canvas

84 x 84 in. (213.4 x 213.4 cm.)

Painted in 1983 (14)

Estimate: £7,000,000-9,000,000 / US\$11,000,000-14,000,000 / €7,900,000-10,000,000

London - On the 13 February 2013, Christie's will be holding its Post-War and Contemporary Art evening auction led by monumental paintings by celebrated artists Jean-Michel Basquiat and Gerhard Richter. The auction also brings together a unique group of twentieth century British masters, with iconic works by Francis Bacon, Allen Jones, David Hockney, Peter Doig and Damien Hirst. Other key highlights include a major piece of American Pop Art by Andy Warhol and important works from the Goetz collection, Germany's largest and most distinguished private collection of Post-War and Contemporary Art, sold in aid of charitable causes.

Francis Outred, Christie's Head of Post-War & Contemporary Art, Europe: "This season Christie's is celebrating the very best of British art with emblematic works by four generations of British masters: Francis Bacon, David Hockney, Allen Jones, Peter Doig and Damien Hirst. The most valuable pieces in the auction come from Jean-Michel Basquiat and Gerhard Richter, two of the greatest painters in our field. Basquiat's *Museum Security (Broadway Meltdown)* (1983) is a world renowned work dating from the height of the artist's career and Gerhard Richter's monumental painting is one of the finest examples of his late abstraction to come to auction".

Completed in 1983, at the very pinnacle of the artist's ascent to international critical acclaim, **Jean-Michel Basquiat's *Museum Security (Broadway Meltdown)*** is a world renowned masterpiece (*illustrated on page 1*; £7,000,000-9,000,000 / US\$11,000,000-14,000,000 / €7,900,000-10,000,000). Included in the Whitney Biennial in 1984, the painting also showed in his second solo show at Gagosian in LA as well as in the most recent major retrospective of the artist's work at the Fondation Beyeler, Basel. This painting's first owner was Kamran Diba - who alongside Farah Diba formed the world class collection of the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art. This extraordinary, large scale painting perfectly encapsulates the artist's powerful downtown graffiti style and vocabulary that marks the very best works in his oeuvre. The market for works by Jean-Michel Basquiat has grown significantly over the past five years, and more considerably over the past year. Between 2011-2012, we have seen the world record price for Basquiat at auction broken three times. Most recently in November 2012, Christie's New York brought *Untitled* (1981) to auction, selling for \$26.4 million against an unpublished estimate, establishing the current world record price. This outstanding result capitalised on Christie's London's success with *Untitled* (1981) in June 2012, which established the previous world record price for the artist at £12.9 million. The dramatic rise in the market has seen five of Basquiat's top ten prices achieved in 2012.

Gerhard Richter's *Abstraktes Bild* (2004) is a majestic abstract painting and one of the most important examples from the artist's late oeuvre (*illustrated right*; estimate on request). Richter's abstract practice is internationally celebrated and the market has seen major prices achieved for these works in particular. Auction records for Richter have been achieved year on year since 2008 and between 2011-2012, Richter has seen his world record price at auction broken four times. *Abstraktes Bild* (2004) demonstrates Richter having mastered his practice, recalling his opulent abstracts from the early 1990s including the suite of four Bach abstract paintings now housed in the Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden and importantly prefiguring Richter's major suite of Cage paintings (2006).



Christie's auction will also feature a group of important works created by some of **the most celebrated British masters of the 20th century**: Francis Bacon (b.1902-1992), Allen Jones (b.1937), David Hockney (b.1937), Peter Doig (b.1959) and Damien Hirst (b.1965). The featured works are representative of the genius of four different generations within the field of Contemporary Art, and each artist's style is instantly recognisable. For additional information please click [here](#).

The penultimate painting in **Francis Bacon's** seminal suite of *Man in Blue* paintings (1954), ***Man in Blue VI*** is a stirring and profoundly perceptive portrait of existential, post-War Europe, executed between March and June 1954 - the same year the artist represented Britain at the 27th Venice Biennale (*illustrated right*; estimate: £4,000,000-6,000,000 / US\$6,100,000-9,000,000 / €4,500,000-6,700,000). Three paintings from this landmark series are now housed in museums including *Man in Blue I*, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam; *Man in Blue IV*, Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig, Vienna and *Man in Blue V*, Kunstsammlung Nordrhein Westfalen, Dusseldorf. One of the most feverish of the suite, *Man in Blue VI* is, according to Ronald Alley, one of very few paintings undertaken from life, painted at the Imperial Hotel in Henley-on-Thames, where Bacon was hauled up close to his caustic lover Peter Lacy. In June 2011 Christie's London sold Bacon's *Study for a Portrait* (1953), the precursor of this painting, for £17.9 million. *Man in Blue VI* was acquired by the present owner in 1971 and has been in their possession ever since.



Great Pyramid at Giza with Broken Head from Thebes is a unique, landmark painting, which stands as the only canvas to commemorate **David Hockney's** first trip to Egypt at the age of 26 (estimate: £2,500,000-3,500,000 / US\$3,800,000-5,300,000 / €2,900,000-3,900,000, *illustrated left*). Egypt had long been a source of fascination for Hockney, first appearing as a theme in his work as early as 1961. The fascination developed through his encounter with ancient Egyptian art at the Pergamon Museum, Berlin, as well as his admiration for Greek-Alexandrian poet Constantine P. Cavafy. It was only in 1963 however, at the age of twenty-six that Hockney was eventually to travel to the country. Forming part of an important British collection for more than forty years, this is the

first time that this painting has ever been seen at auction. Click [here](#) for a full press release. David Hockney is further highlighted in the sale with ***Green Pool with Diving Board and Shadow*** (1978), this tactile work forms part of his largely innovative *Pulped Paper Pools* series, many of which are now held in the permanent collection of the National Gallery of Australia (estimate: £500,000-700,000 / US\$760,000-1,100,000 / €570,000-790,000).



Executed in 1969, **Allen Jones's *Table, Chair, Hatstand*** is a gleefully subversive ménage of sculptures carried out at the height of the British artist's career: they are quite simply icons of Pop (estimate: £1,500,000-2,000,000 / US\$2,300,000-3,100,000 / €1,200,000-2,300,000; *illustrated left*). Capturing the zeitgeist of a generation, these seminal works are as sensational today as they have ever been, courting controversy and delight in equal measure. Jones grew out of the wave of Pop art that was growing

across Britain and the United States during the 'Swinging Sixties'. Schooled by Richard Hamilton at the Royal College of Art, he was one of a new generation of British artists including David Hockney challenging conventions and embracing their sexuality.

Formerly in the Saatchi collection, an epic masterpiece by **Peter Doig, *The Architect's Home in the Ravine*** (1991) dates from a pivotal moment in the artist's career (estimate: £4,000,000-6,000,000 / \$6,100,000-9,000,000 / €4,500,000-6,700,000; *illustrated right*).



Closely covered with snow-laden trees, it recreates Canadian architect, Eberhard Zeidler's modernist home in Rosedale at the heart of the Toronto ravine. Doig returned to Canada with this scene in mind, fascinated by its inaccessibility; dense nature hiding away the house, allowing only glimpses of life through the trees. The work was painted shortly after Doig's graduation from the Chelsea College of Art and Design when he was awarded the prestigious Whitechapel Artist Prize culminating in a solo exhibition at the Whitechapel Art Gallery in 1991. The pantheon of great paintings that Doig realised during the early 1990s is now widely considered the best of his career. Many of the works from this period are now housed within international museum collections including: *The House that Jacques Built* (1992), Tel Aviv Museum of Art, *Boiler House* (1994), promised to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and *Ski Jacket* (1994), Tate Modern, London.

A single sheep, suspended serenely within two perfectly proportioned Minimalist tanks, **Damien Hirst's *Away from the Flock (Divided)*** is an early masterpiece from **Damien Hirst's** celebrated *Natural History* series (estimate: £1,800,000 / US\$2,800,000-3,800,000 / €2,100,000-2,800,000; *illustrated right*). Created in 1995, the same year Damien Hirst was awarded the Turner Prize, this work follows in a sequence of important bisected *Natural History* works. A key early work, Hirst created four versions of *Away from the Flock*, with this work being the sole bisected example.



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The sheep has become an important symbol for Hirst: first realised in 1994 for the group exhibition curated by Hirst, 'Some Went Mad, Some Ran Away', at the Serpentine Gallery, London, Hirst created the seminal work *Away from the Flock*, now housed in the collection of Tate and National Galleries of Scotland.

Additional highlights from the evening

auction include **Andy Warhol's *Round Jackie*** (1964) (illustrated right;

estimate: £2,000,000-4,000,000 / US\$3,100,000-6,100,000 /

€2,300,000-4,500,000). Painted at the very height of the artist's powers, it is a unique, double tondo of the gleaming First Lady of the United States, Jacqueline Kennedy. Having formed part of the Froehlich collection, *Round Jackie* stands as the perfect counterpart to Warhol's unique, resplendent *Round Marilyn* (1962). Amongst the paintings of Jackie that Warhol

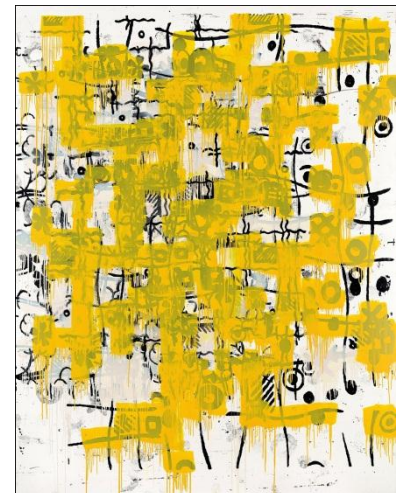


undertook, only eight adopted a tondo format, two of which are now on long-term loan to The Art Museum, Princeton University from the Schorr Family Collection. These tondo canvases were some of the very first the artist was to produce, dating from February-March 1964 as chronicled in Billy Name Linch's now memorable photograph of Warhol's factory. Of the eight round canvases only two, extremely rare paintings bear the image of Jackie and J.F.K. united. Of these two, only the present work, *Round Jackie*, is accompanied by a void, gold tondo to form a pair; Warhol's existential statement on presence and absence, love and loss, life and death.



Only a week away from **Roy Lichtenstein's** major retrospective held at the London Tate Modern, we are glad to offer *Sweet Dreams Baby! (Study)* (illustrated left; estimate: £700,000-1,000,000; \$1,100,400-1,572,000). One of only two studies produced for this iconic Pop image, it occupies a central position in the evolution of Pop Art and relates to Lichtenstein's celebrated war-themed images of soldiers and fighter pilots, which typified the period during which it was created in 1964-1965. Looking at *Sweet Dreams Baby! (Study)*, the emphatic figuration based so clearly on print media suggests a deliberate assault on the gestural abstraction espoused by generations of American artists, as well as the machismo of the Action Painters.

Christie's is also honoured to announce the sale of a selection of **128 works of art** from the celebrated **collection of Mrs. Ingvild Goetz** to be offered in London through three auctions, two in February and one in April. Illustrating the quality and comprehensiveness of Mrs. Goetz's collection, this selection features works by 63 different artists such as Christopher Wool, Richard Prince, Urs Fischer and Sherrie Levine, amongst others. Assembled across nearly three decades, Mrs. Goetz's collection is **Germany's largest and most distinguished private collection of Post-War & Contemporary Art**, including almost 5,000 objects which date from the late 1950s to the present time and span a vast range of media. Mrs. Goetz passion for art is only rivalled by her **devotion to philanthropy**.



Having just completed an extensive project to support children in Nepal, she has now dedicated her time and energy to raise awareness of under-represented charitable causes, including support for those battling anorexia, and the improvement of the conditions for asylum seekers, a cause that she has embraced for many years. Mindful of the fact that artists are so often asked to donate their own works to charity for the greater good, Mrs. Goetz was inspired to offer a selection of pieces from her own esteemed collection at Christie's.

The top lot of the Goetz Collection is **Mad Cow**, a 1997 painting realised by **Christopher Wool** (B. 1955) on a large-scale aluminium panel (*illustrated on the previous page, below right*; estimate: £700,000-900,000 / US\$1,100,000-1,400,000 / €790,000-1,000,000). For additional information please click [here](#).

Auctions:

Christie's 8 King Street, St James' London SW1Y 6QT

POST-WAR & CONTEMPORARY ART EVENING AUCTION

13 February 2013 at 7pm

POST-WAR & CONTEMPORARY ART DAY AUCTION

14 February 2013 at 1pm

Viewings:

Christie's 8 King Street, St James' London SW1Y 6QT

Saturday 9 February	2pm - 5pm
Sunday 10 February	12noon - 5pm
Monday 11 February	9am - 6pm
Tuesday 12 February	9am - 6pm

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2012 that totaled £3.92 billion/\$6.27 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 £631.3 million/\$1 billion in 2012, an increase of 26% on the same period last 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.*

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Images available on request

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