

CHRISTIE'S

THE ART PEOPLE

PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | 13 NOVEMBER 2015

CHRISTIE'S NOVEMBER SALE WEEK DEVOTED TO IMPRESSIONIST, MODERN, POST-WAR & CONTEMPORARY ART TOTALS \$1.1 BILLION (£728.7 MILLION/€1.0 BILLION)

80% OF ARTWORKS SOLD BY LOT AND 87% BY VALUE



NEW YORK - Christie's concluded its marquee week of major auctions devoted to Impressionist, Modern, Post-War and Contemporary Art on Friday with \$1.1 billion in total sales, and overall sell-through rates of 80% by lot and 87% by value. A companion online-only sale of [Picasso Ceramics](#) continues through Tuesday, November 17.

The November sales series brought over 15,000 visitors to Christie's Rockefeller Center galleries, where more than 1,000 works of art were presented for sale. "The Artist's Muse", a special curated exhibition and sale of master works anchored the week and attracted visitors and bidders from 40 different countries around the world. Buying activity was geographically diverse, with strong participation from the Americas, underpinned by Asia and Europe.

Jussi Pylkkänen, Global President of Christie's International, commented: "This has been a strong week of sales at Christie's with robust sell-through rates of 80% by lot across all price levels of the Impressionist, Modern and Contemporary art markets this week. As in May, our specially curated "Artist's Muse" auction was the most successful New York evening sale of the season, totaling \$491 million. In this sale records were broken for several artists including Modigliani's outstanding *Nu couché*, which fetched \$100 million more than has ever been paid for the artist before. Twelve artist's records were broken in our sales this week, including for works by Bourgeois, Courbet, Fontana, Gauguin and Lichtenstein. Our day sales saw the strongest sale percentages, which is a satisfying indicator of the breadth and depth of the middle market, which continues to grow and prosper as more international clients seek to collect fresh, well priced material across the 20th Century art fields at Christie's. Our week closed today with a particularly strong result for our Impressionist Works on Paper team, which posted sold percentages of 86% by lot and 91% by value in this specialized middle-market collecting field."

“This has been a very measured week of sales in New York. Both our consignors and buyers continue to give us very positive feedback about our curated 20th Century sale week and we have been delighted with the increasing engagement with our clients and the strong attendance at our sales in Rockefeller Center,” noted Mr. Pylkkänen.

IMPRESSIONIST AND MODERN ART SOLD: \$540.4 MILLION
POST-WAR AND CONTEMPORARY ART SOLD: \$555.1 MILLION

**Christie’s online only sale of Picasso Ceramics continues to May 19*

STRONG RESULTS FOR IMPORTANT PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

The Arthur and Anita Kahn Collection

A cross-category collection of Impressionist works on paper and Post-War and artworks

Estimate: \$23.3 -33.6 million

Collection total: \$65.7 million

Works from The Collection of Ileana Sonnabend and The Estate of Nina Castelli Sundell

Post-War and Contemporary Art

Estimate: \$10.9 -16.4 million

Collection total: \$17.4 million

European Sculpture from the Harry W. and Mary Margaret Anderson Collection

Estimate: \$1.7-2.2 million

Collection total: \$4.6 million

MIDDLE MARKET STRENGTH

Post-War and Contemporary Art Day Sales:

Combined sale total: \$88,837,375

79% sold by lot and 84% by value

Impressionist and Modern Art Day and Works on Paper Sales:

Combined sale total: \$52,616,500

81% sold by lot and 87% sold by value

Conservative estimates build collector confidence

55% of works were offered this week with a starting estimate under \$1 million

Clients participated online from Asia, Australia, Europe, the Middle East, Russia, and all over the US

MASTERPIECE MARKET

New artist records for established artists, including Balthus, Bourgeois, Courbet, Fontana, Gauguin, Gonzales-Torres, Hélión, Kirchner, Lichtenstein, Modigliani, Oldenburg

New auction records for contemporary artists Bradley, Kelley, Nara

22 LOTS ABOVE \$10 MILLION

10 LOTS ABOVE \$20 MILLION

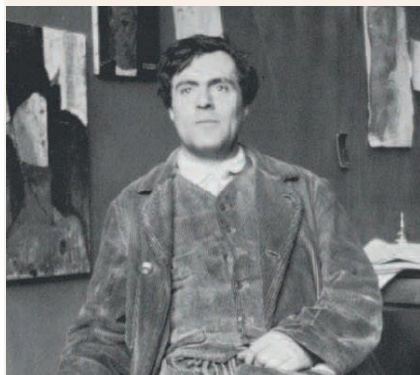
2 LOTS ABOVE \$50 MILLION

1 LOT ABOVE \$100 MILLION: **SOLD TO THE LONG MUSEUM, SHANGHAI**

THE \$100 MILLION+ CIRCLE AT CHRISTIE'S

Christie's is the home of modern masterpieces, having sold five works of art at the \$100 million-plus level over the last five years.

On 9 November 2015, the Italian painter and sculptor **AMEDEO MODIGLIANI** joined an elite circle of artists whose work(s) has sold for more than \$100 million at auction, alongside Picasso, Bacon, and Giacometti, when Christie's sold his 1917-18 painting **NU COUCHÉ** for **\$170.4M**, the second-highest price for any work ever sold at auction.



ABOUT MODIGLIANI:

- Born in **TUSCANY**, 1884.
- Painted in **PARIS**.
- Artistic Circle: Chaim Soutine, Pablo Picasso, Diego Rivera.
- Known For: a wild **BOHEMIAN LIFESTYLE**, artworks devoted to **ELONGATED FIGURES** and **MASK-LIKE FACES**.
- Nickname: **MODI** (a play on 'maudit' meaning 'doomed')
- Quote: **"I want to live a short, intense life."**
- Tragic end: **DIED OF SICKNESS AT AGE 35**, his pregnant lover committed suicide the next day.
- Legacy: the **MASTER OF THE MODERN NUDE**.

MORE \$100M+ WORKS AT CHRISTIE'S



Pablo Picasso
Les Femmes d'Alger (Version 'O')
\$179.4 million
May 2015

© 2015 Estate of Pablo Picasso / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York



Francis Bacon
Three Studies of Lucian Freud
\$142.4 million
November 2013

© The Estate of Francis Bacon. All rights reserved / DACS, London / ARS, NY 2015.



Alberto Giacometti
Pointing Man
\$141.3 million
May 2015

© 2015 Alberto Giacometti Estate/Licensed by VAGA and ARS, New York



Pablo Picasso
Nude, Green Leaves and Bust
\$106.5 million
May 2010

© 2015 Estate of Pablo Picasso / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

Press Contact: communicationsamericas@christies.com + 1 212 636 2680

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2015 that totalled £2.9 billion / \$4.5 billion. In 2014, Christie's had global auction and private sales that totalled £5.1 billion/\$8.4 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 around 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 & Contemporary, Impressionist & Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery.

Christie's has a global presence with 54 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, third-party financing fees or application of buyer's or seller's credits.*

###

Images available on request

FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:

