

# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | LONDON | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | 20 DECEMBER 2017

## CLASSIC WEEK

### December Classic Week Totals

£54,197,621 / \$72,571,772 / €61,463,718

With a 57% increase in registered bidders from Classic Week December 2016

The Astor Collection from Tillypronie, Aberdeenshire totalled £3,748,750  
selling 96% by lot and 99% by value



**London** – Christie's London *Classic Week* sales in December 2017 collectively realised £54,197,621/ \$72,571,772/ €61,463,718, selling 86% by value and 76% by lot. With strong online participation throughout, the December Classic Week sales attracted a 57% increase in registered bidders from the 2016 series and witnessed global participation from 63 countries, up 19% on last December. Comprising 17 live auctions and online sales, spanning Japanese works of Art, the Decorative Arts, Antiquities, Old Masters, Books and Manuscripts, Victorian, Pre-Raphaelite and British Impressionist Art, 19<sup>th</sup> Century Works of Art, Australian Art and Topographical Pictures along with The Astor Collection from Tillypronie, Aberdeenshire, the sales were led by El Greco's *Saint Francis and Brother Leo in Meditation*, from the Collection of Stanford Z. Rothschild, Jr., which sold for £6,871,250/ \$9,186,861/ €7,785,126, becoming the second highest price for the artist at auction. Further highlights included *Le 28 juillet – la liberté guidant le peuple, 1830* by Eugène Delacroix which realised £3,128,750 (estimate: £700,000 - 1,000,000) and the long-lost copy of Darwin's sheets of the third edition of *On the Origin of Species* with autograph revisions which sold for £788,750 (estimate: £300,000 - 500,000). The Astor Collection from Tillypronie, Aberdeenshire totalled £3,748,750/ \$5,030,204/ €4,259,903, selling 96% by lot and 99% by value.

## CLASSIC WEEK BY NUMBERS

- Christie's December 2017 Classic Week total: £54,197,621/ \$72,571,772/ €61,463,718
- Strong average sell-through rates: 86% by value and 76% by lot
- 57% increase in registered bidders from Classic Week December 2016
- 1,472 works of art sold during Classic Week
- Registered bidders from 63 countries - a growth of 19% by country on Classic Week December 2016
- Over 18,000 visitors to Christie's King Street
- Christie's first Old Masters Online sale *The Lure of Naples: A Private Collection of Italian Views* achieved strong sell-through rates of 80% by lot and 87% by value
- For individual results of Classic Week, please click [here](#) and for the full list of all sales please click [here](#) to read the pre-sale press release

---

### PRESS CONTACTS

Hannah Schweiger | +44 (0)20 7389 2964 | [hschweiger@christies.com](mailto:hschweiger@christies.com)  
Lauren Clarke | +44 (0)20 7389 2391 | [laurenclarke@christies.com](mailto:laurenclarke@christies.com)

#### About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in first half of 2017 that totalled £2.35 billion / \$3 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Christie's offers around 350 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.

Alongside regular sales online, Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

*\*Please note when quoting estimates above that other fees will apply in addition to the hammer price - see Section D of the Conditions of Sale at the back of the sale catalogue.*

*\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.*

###

*Images available on request*

**FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:**

