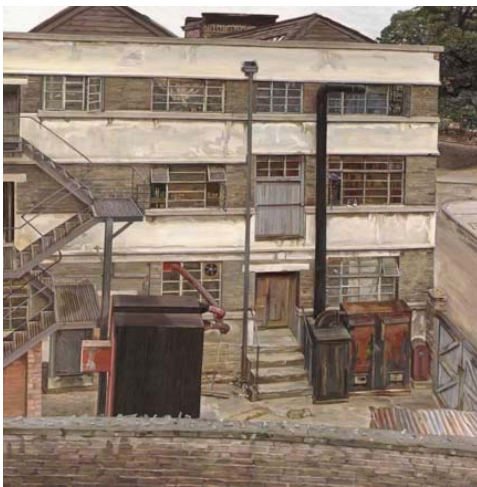


*For Immediate Release*

*7 January 2004*

Contact: Clare Roberts 020 7389 2117 [croberts@christies.com](mailto:croberts@christies.com)

**RARE LONDON VIEW BY FREUD TO BE OFFERED AT CHRISTIE'S**



*Lucian Freud, Factory in North London (estimate: £800,000–1,200,000)*

**Post-War and Contemporary Art Evening Sale**

*4 February 2004*

*London – A very rare canvas of a London scene by Lucian Freud will lead Christie's evening sale of Post-War and Contemporary Art on 4 February 2004. Factory in North London (estimate: £800,000–1,200,000) is one of a highly important group of urban landscape paintings that Freud painted between 1970 and 1972. These intensely observed and dispassionately objective portraits of the cold reality of the London landscape are among the most memorable and powerful of all Freud's works.*

*Factory in North London is the view from the flat of a friend of Freud's in Barnsbury Terrace, Islington. The seeming ordinariness of the scene is a vital part of what makes it so striking; from the detritus of an urban wasteland, to the carefully locked doors and half-open windows and the subtly observed empty milk bottles on the window ledge, the viewer is unnerved by the piercing realism of*

*this everyday London scene. Painted between 1970 and 1972 this work, along with two other known works depicting similar subjects, have come to define a period of transition in Freud's work, one that, arguably, was instigated by the death of his father, Ernst, in 1970. It is interesting to note that architecture was central to Freud's father, it was both his trade and a life long passion.*

*A seminal work by the celebrated American photographer Richard Prince will feature in the evening sale. Cowboy (estimate: £90,000–120,000), executed in 1980–84 and from an edition of two, measures a metre wide and belongs to the highly sought after series of photographs of the Marlboro Man made by Prince between 1980 and 1992. These images of the American cowboy, drawn from a highly visible advertising campaign, question the mythology of the American dream and the exploitation of the virile male. Also offered by Prince is Untitled (Girlfriend), executed in 1993 (number one from an edition of two, plus one artist's proof) (estimate: £35,000–45,000) from the 1993 series of Girlfriends which depict girls on bikes, often bare-breasted, looking either uncertainly or defiantly into the camera.*

*The sale will feature eight works from collection of Frank and Nancy Porter, from Cleveland, Ohio. They began collecting in the field of modern art in 1960s and travelled extensively throughout Europe, developing a strong affinity towards Spanish and French contemporary art. The works to be offered in the evening sale demonstrate the breadth of range and strongly European character of the collection, as well as an interest in nature. Jean Dubuffet, Paysage eclectique, 1957 (estimate: £100,000–150,000) depicts the earth as a magnificent assemblage of myriad natural forms. Two works by the Catalan artist Antoni Tàpies feature; L'atropell (El accidente), an oil on canvas from 1951 (estimate: £60,000–80,000) and Materia Sobre Lienzo y papel collage, an oil, sand and newspaper collage on canvas executed in 1964 (estimate: £60,000–70,000) are further highlights. The collection also boasts El Personaje, an oil and metal sheet on three burlap canvases executed in 1966 by Manolo Millares (estimate: £90,000–120,000), as well as works by Antoni Saura and Josef Albers.*

*Jean-Michel Basquiat's 2 ½ Hours of Chinese Food (estimate: £350,000–500,000) was painted in 1984. This work, executed in oils, pencil and collage, was one of the first to be handled by the Mary Boone Gallery, who were highly instrumental in widening his standing as one of the most acclaimed young artists of his time. Like many works he produced during this period, the painting reflects his erratic lifestyle and love of take-away Chinese food and is constructed from the wealth of imagery and information all around him.*

*Buckingham Palace with First Prize (estimate: £300,000–400,000) is by Malcolm Morley, the US based English artist and, in 1984, the first ever recipient of the Turner Prize administered through the Tate Gallery in London. The most important and best known of his paintings, Buckingham Palace with First Prize was executed in 1970. This photo-realist painting is adorned with a rosette and*

*water pistol, dramatically eluding to the one of Morley's celebrated 'actions' for 'Social Sculpture'; he attempted to spray the painting with purple paint from the water pistol when it appeared at auction in Paris four years after he painted it. The underlying purpose of this, and other actions by Morley on his own work, was to demonstrate that 'society makes art, not artists'. However, the auction house had heard rumours that something might 'happen' during the sale and had taken the precaution of covering the painting with transparent plastic sheeting. Although his sabotage was foiled, Morley nailed the water pistol onto the canvas. Minutes later it was sold to the present owners.*

*Three superb works by Eduardo Chillida (1924–2002) to be offered include the unique cor-ten steel piece *Elogio del Vacío IV* (estimate: £150,000–200,000), a bronze, *Yunque de Sueños III*, 1958 (estimate: £100,000–150,000) and *Yunque de Sueños I*, 1957 (estimate: £60,000–80,000). An important early work, *Femme peintre et mannequin*, 1951, by Antoni Clavè (estimate: £90,000–120,000) and *Les Livres* by Nicolas de Staël, an oil on canvas signed and dated 1954 (estimate: £120,000–160,000) are further notable works. *Economía Fluvial*, 1990, by Miquel Barceló (estimate: £150,000–300,000) is an interesting work filled with white and very light blue paint, inspired by the glacial landscape of the Swiss Alps is also offered. Barceló often adds objects to his canvases and the present canvas includes rocks and coins incorporated into the paint surface.*

*Two works by Damien Hirst also feature in the evening sale; *Beautiful, four cheese, spicy quattro, staggioni, fiorentine, michelangelo, venetian glass, pamploña painting*, a work from his spin painting series executed in 1997 (estimate: £100,000–150,000) and *Naje Melanoleuca*, a 'spot' painting executed in 2000 (estimate: £280,000–350,000).*

#### **Post-War and Contemporary Day Sale**

**5 February**

*The highlights of this sale include several works offered from two separate Swedish private collections that are fresh to the market. Lucio Fontana's *Concetto spaziale, Attese*, 1962–63 (estimate: £100,000–150,000) has been in the same collection since the 1970s while Andy Warhol's *Flowers* (estimate: £70,000–90,000), executed in 1964, was acquired by the present owner in 1965, since which time it has hung in a dental surgery in Stockholm. A Gerhard Richter canvas entitled *Abstraktes Bild*, 1990, is offered from a private German collection (estimate: £70,000–90,000) and Nicolas de Staël's *Composition*, painted in 1946 (estimate: £50,000–70,000), also features.*

*The sale also boasts a group of five works by Luc Tuymans, the highly sought-after artist whose work is rarely seen at auction, from the property of a private Swiss collection. The group beautifully illustrates the artist's diverse working techniques and the ephemeral aesthetic quality of his pieces. Characterised by shadowy depictions of subjects, usually small images of landscapes, interiors, objects and masked people, his work addresses the idea of memory, or the absence of it, as the images appear*

*to the viewer to be out of reach and fading away. The highlight of the group is Untitled, an oil on canvas painted in 1986 which was acquired by the present owner in the same year (estimate: £30,000-40,000).*

*Further contemporary highlights include a Damien Hirst, Untitled #2 (Spot Painting), 1992 (estimate: £90,000-120,000), a Peter Doig canvas from 1999, Untitled (Figure in a Mountain Landscape) (estimate: £6,000-8,000) and Lying by Marlene Dumas, painted in 1987 (estimate: £35,000-50,000). A work on paper by Yoshitomo Nara, A Girl, offered from a private Japanese collection (estimate: £6,000-8,000) and Francis Alys, Study for The Blue Ship, painted in 1993 (estimate: £15,000-20,000) will also be offered. Two photographs by Cindy Sherman feature; Untitled (Murder Mystery People #7), conceived in 1976 and executed in 2000, number twelve from an edition of twenty, (estimate: £7,000-9,000) and Untitled (Bus Riders #11), conceived in 1976 and executed in 2000, number four from an edition of twenty (estimate: £7,000-9,000).*

*The work of Muntean & Rosenblum will feature at auction for the first time ever. Two works on paper, the first entitled Untitled (Being in and out of love too many times itself makes you harder to love), and the second, Untitled (Language allows us to hide under an illusory permanence and fixity while the world changes minute by minute) (estimate: £3,000-4,000 for the pair) will be offered.*

#### *Notes to Editors*

*Viewing at Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, SW7, from Friday 30 January until Wednesday 4 February 2004*

*Auction at Christie's King Street, 8 King Street, SW1 at 7pm*

*\*\*\*Separate press releases are available for the Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale and The Art of the Surreal on 2 February\*\*\**

###

*Images available on request*

*Visit Christie's on the web at [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com)*