

## For Immediate Release

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# CHRISTIE'S IN TEL AVIV

Christie's Annual Sale of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Art

1 May 2005

The Tel Aviv Hilton Hotel

**Tel Aviv** – Christie's returns to Tel Aviv to offer a broad and exciting selection of works of art ranging from classic paintings to contemporary examples and with estimates ranging from US\$5,000 to US\$300,000. *"We have enjoyed compiling a really delightful selection of paintings and works of art to offer in Tel Aviv on 1 May and we hope that both established collectors and people looking to start a collection will join us and take part in the auction"*, said Roni Gilat-Baharaff, Head of Christie's Tel Aviv Office.

Paintings and sculpture by School of Paris artists will be offered for sale including a selection of works on paper by Marc Chagall. The artist's nostalgic *Couple sur le village* (estimate: US\$300,000-400,000) is a colourful gouache depicting many of the elements from Chagall's rich pictorial language including the images of the lovers, the artist by his easel, farm animals and the Shtetel, ever present in the background.

A further gouache by Chagall, *Le fiancé Volant* of 1966 (estimate: US\$100,000-150,000), is a colourful sheet that also returns to many of Chagall's favourite characters. Three works on paper by the artist addressing Biblical subjects will also be offered. These drawings were preparatory works for prints prepared by Chagall in the 1950s for Verve. A gouache titled *Le juif en priere*, depicting a traditional orthodox man deep in prayer in the foreground is estimated between US\$225,000-275,000.

Other works by School of Paris artists will be offered at Christie's sale, among them is a 1917 portrait of *Mrs. Renee Kisling*, by Moise Kisling. Two colourful paintings of bouquets of flowers by Kisling *Bouquet variee* and *Bouquet de fleurs dans un vase peint* are also included in the sale, estimated at US\$90,000-120,000 and US\$120,000-160,000 respectively. Further highlights are paintings and sculpture by Ossip Zadkine, Chana Orloff and Mané-Katz as well as paintings by European artists such as Jozef Israels, Lesser Ury and Jankel Adler.

An important painting by Felix Nussbaum, *Surrealistisches Stilleben*, dates from 1938-1939, from the short, and very rare, period in Nussbaum's work when he was preoccupied by Surrealist imagery and issues. Nussbaum is perhaps best known for his paintings depicting the horrors of the Holocaust. He had escaped from Belgium but perished in Auschwitz in 1944. The present painting relates to Nussbaum's plight and depicts limbless mannequins mounting a ladder set perilously on a globe, surrounded by brick walls. This historic painting is estimated between US\$35,000-45,000.

Paintings by the founding fathers of Israeli art will be represented in the auction, including several works by Reuven Rubin. Rubin's *Portrait of Yehuda Goor* (estimate: US\$50,000-70,000), an early 1920s depiction of the famous linguist will be offered in the sale. Goor was a close friend of Rubin and is depicted in an interior in the early naïve style associated with Rubin's work of the period. Other paintings by Rubin in the sale are a large colourful bouquet of flowers *Bouquet from Rehovoth* (estimate: US\$60,000-80,000) and a painting on a Biblical subject *David was a Shepherd* (estimate: US\$60,000-80,000).

Three important works by Mordecai Ardon are led by *Outlook* of 1971. This painting as well as *The Road to Abdad* will be offered in the sale from the Estate of the late Mrs. Gitta Sherover. The paintings will be sold to benefit the Gabriel Sherover Foundation, Jerusalem. *Outlook* is a large intricate landscape painted from within an open window (estimate: US\$150,000-200,000). *The Road to Abdad*, depicts the desert sky and is estimated between US\$80,000-120,000. Other paintings from the Sherover Estate to be offered include a magnificent interior by the contemporary artist Liliane Klapisch, *Airmail Letter* (estimate: US\$15,000-20,000). Three works by the Israeli colourist artist Lea Nickel will also be offered from this collection, estimates range between US\$6,000-12,000.

Paintings by members of the New Horizons group of modernist Israeli artists will be profiled in this sale. Joseph Zaritsky's *Grey and Pink*, a large abstract painting of 1960, formally from the Sam Dubiner collection leads this group (estimate: US\$40,000-60,000). Other members of this movement represented in the sale are Yehezkel Streichman and Avigdor Stematsky. In addition, works by established contemporary Israeli artists will be offered including paintings and sculpture by Yaacov Agam, Avidgor Arikha, Aviva Uri, Michael Gross, Moshe Kupfermann, Moshe Gershuni. Paintings and photographs by young contemporary Israeli artists will be offered including works by David Reeb, Tsibi Geva, Yehudit Levin and Sigalit Landau.

### **Public Exhibition & Viewing Times:**

Thursday 28 April 12 noon – 6 pm. Saturday 30 April 11 am - 9 pm.  
Friday 29 April 10 am - 3 pm. Sunday 1 May 10 am - 3 pm.

**The sale will take place on Sunday 1 May 2005 at 8:30 pm.**