

For Immediate Release

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CHRISTIE'S LONDON IMPRESSIONIST AND MODERN & POST-WAR AND CONTEMPORARY ART SALES TOTAL £78 MILLION / \$140 MILLION

28 Works of Art Sell for over \$1 Million

15 Record Prices Achieved

London – After an intense week of evening and day sales in London, Christie's auctions of Impressionist and Modern Art & Post-War and Contemporary Art auctions have totaled £78.2 million (\$142.1 million / €117.3 million). Christie's broke 15 world auction records and 28 works of art sold for over \$1 million. 475 works of art were successfully sold in the series of sale in London this week.

Jussi Pylkkanen, President of Christie's Europe and auctioneer of the evening sales commented: *"This has been an extraordinary summer for the European art market. The Venice Biennale was extremely well attended, Basel Art fair was a great success and this week's international sales were stronger than ever. Christie's evening sales recorded 11 world records and buying came from every corner of the world. American buying and bidding was considerably stronger than in our February sales here in London and the leading works continue to be sold to private collectors who have great confidence in the strength of the market. Christie's is confident that in the coming year more superb works of art will come to the market and we will see further museum quality pieces appearing at Christie's in New York and London".*

On June 21, the sale of Impressionist and Modern Art totaled £31.6 million (\$57.5 million). The star lot of the evening sale was **Amedeo Modigliani's** *Portrait de Jeanne Hébuterne*, 1919, (estimate: £1,500,000-2,500,000) which sold for £3,256,000 (\$5,932,432). It had never been offered on the open market, and exhibited rarely in the 85 years since it was painted. Another prime example of fresh material being rewarded with strong prices was the private collection of five works by

Alexander Archipenko, offered by the heirs of Erich Goeritz, which realised £2.2 million with *Woman*, 1918, achieving £1,464,000 (\$2,667,408), a new auction world record price for the artist.

The sales of Post-War and Contemporary Art which took place on June 23 and 24 totalled £24.5 million (\$44.5 million) and was led by **Francis Bacon's** *Portrait of George Dyer Staring into a Mirror*, 1967, a powerful painting in which Francis Bacon depicts his greatest model and 'Muse' George Dyer. It was acquired after intense bidding for £4,936,000 (\$8,983,520). The large-scale portraits that Bacon painted of Dyer in the 1960s and early 1970s rank as some of his greatest pictures.

Further highlights included **Georg Baselitz's** *Partisan*, 1965, that sold for £904,000 (\$1,645,280) a new world record for the artist. **Eduardo Chillida's** striking sculpture, *Deep is the Air-Stele XIII*, executed in granite in 1990, also established a new world record price for the artist when it sold for £814,400 (\$1,482,208). As well as the records for Francis Bacon, Georg Baselitz and Eduardo Chillida, further record prices were established for Thomas Hirschorn, Gabriel Orozco, Alighiero Boetti, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Rosemarie Trockel and Doris Salcedo.

Coinciding with the renaissance of contemporary painting, the sale offered an extremely strong selection of important artists who are bringing the traditional medium of painting to the fore of contemporary collecting, and strong prices were realised in the field. Marlene Dumas was represented by two paintings, *The Broken Mirror* which fetched £90,000 and *Handy*, which achieved £243,200. Other strong prices included Peter Doig's *Buffalo Station* that sold for £192,800, and Luc Tuymans' *Lamproom*, painted in 1992, that sold for £232,000. Other highlights of this evening's sale included *Hanging Heads # 1 (Blue Andrew, Mouth Open/Red Julie with Cap)*, executed in 1989 by Bruce Nauman that sold for £680,000 (\$1,237,600) and Miquel Barcelo's *El Segundo*, 1990, that realised £702,400 (\$1,278,368).

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Please see sales results breakdown and separate top tens for further information.