

Press Release

CHRISTIE'S

For Immediate Release

23 June 2009

Contact: Matthew Paton

+44 (0)207 389 2965

mpaton@christies.com

**CHRISTIE'S AUCTION OF
IMPRESSIONIST AND MODERN ART
REALISES
£37.1 MILLION / \$60.4 MILLION / €43.4 MILLION**

**Claude Monet's *Au Parc Monceau*
sells for £6.3 million / \$10.3 million / €7.4 million**

London – Christie's *Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale* took place this evening and realized £37,095,100 / \$60,427,917 / €43,438,362 selling 84% by value and 68% by lot.

Giovanna Bertazzoni, Director and Head of Impressionist and Modern Art, Christie's

London: *"During the last 6 months, our auctions of Impressionist and Modern Art in London, Paris and New York have produced consistently solid results and this evening's sale confirms that collectors, both new and established, have confidence buying works by established artists in this category. We see consistent demand throughout and overall the prices of individual works remain stable. At the top end of the market we continue to see strong interest and bidding as collectors seize opportunities to acquire rare and beautiful works of art."*

The top price was paid for *Au Parc Monceau*, 1878, by **Claude Monet** (1840-1926), an important painting from the vintage years of Impressionism which realised £6,313,250 / \$10,284,284 / €7,392,816. It had been sold at auction only once before when it realised £3.7 million in June 2001 in London. At this evening's auction, 2 works of art sold for over £5 million / 9 for over £1 million. Buyers (by lot / by origin) were 83% UK and Europe, 14% Americas and 3% Asia.

Further leading highlights of the sale included:

- *Painting*, 1949, by **Joan Miró** (1893-1983), one of an outstanding group of pictures described as being among the most important of the artist's career which sold for £3,961,250 / \$6,452,876 / €4,638,624 against a pre-sale estimate of £2.2 million to £2.8 million.

- Two large, bold works from the 1960s by **Pablo Picasso** (1881-1973); *Homme à l'épée*, 1969, which was last sold at Christie's London in February 2005 for £2.7 million, and which realised £5,753,250 / \$9,372,044 / €6,737,056 at this evening's auction (estimate: £5 million to £7 million), and *Nu assis et joueur de flûte*, 1967, which realised £3,401,250 / \$5,540,636 / €3,982,864 (estimate: £3 million to £4 million).
- *Springende Pferde*, 1910, by **Franz Marc** (1880-1916), an exciting breakthrough painting in which the artist embraces the influences of the avant gardes of the period, which was offered at auction for the first time and which sold for £3,737,250 / \$6,087,980 / €4,376,320 (estimate: £3 million to £4 million).

Elsewhere in the sale, *Hélène* by **Alexej von Jawlensky** (1864-1941) sold for £1,721,250 / \$2,803,916 / €2,015,584; *Mohn* by **Emil Nolde** (1867-1956) realized £1,273,250 / \$2,074,124 / €1,490,976, and *Composition* by **Fernand Léger** (1881-1955) sold for £1,217,250 / \$1,982,900 / €1,425,400.

Further highlights included *Buste de Diego sur tige*, a bronze by **Alberto Giacometti** (1901-1966) which sold for £1,026,850 / \$1,672,739 / €1,202,441 (estimate: £750,000 to £950,000) and *Mont-roig, le pont*, an important early landscape by **Joan Miró** (1893-1983) which was painted in 1917 near his family home in Catalonia and which sold for £541,250 / \$881,696 / €633,804 (estimate: £400,000 to £600,000).

###

Images available on request
Visit Christie's Web site at www.christies.com