

For Immediate Release

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CHRISTIE'S FALL PHOTOGRAPHS SALE OFFERS THE CLASSIC TO THE CONTEMPORARY

Photographs

October 15, 2004

New York – Christie's fall sale of Photographs takes place on October 15 at Rockefeller Center and features over 400 lots, with estimates ranging from \$2,000 to \$200,000. The sale includes a broad selection of 19th century to contemporary photographs, offering collectors the perfect opportunity to strengthen and develop their own collections.

Early Photographs

Seventeen orotone images by the early American photographer Edward S. Curtis lead the selection of early American photographs. Famous for his images of North American Indians, his orotones are highly sought after and *Cañon de Chelly, 1904*, estimated at \$18,000-22,000, is a particular highlight.

Twentieth Century Masters

Works by Ansel Adams, Man Ray, Edward Weston, Robert Frank, Manuel Alvarez Bravo, Irving Penn, Paul Strand and Henri Cartier-Bresson are all strongly featured.

Edward Weston highlights include *The Fiftieth Anniversary Portfolio: 1902-1952*, comprising 12 gelatin silver prints of some of his most important images (estimate: \$40,000-60,000). *Nude, 1925* is a rare backview of writer Anita Brenner (estimate: \$180,000-220,000) and is by far the most powerful of the 12 versions that survive. Anita's body is radically decontextualised and Weston referred to it as 'one of my most perfect photographs' (*Daybooks*, January 15, 1926).

Well-known for his work in the 1950s and particularly for his project *The Americans*, Robert Frank is well-represented in the sale, with *Beaufort, South Carolina, 1955-56* a highlight (estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000). Paul Strand's *The Family, Luzzara, Italy, 1953*, is considered his most important post-war work (estimate: \$100,000-150,000) and represents his theme of photographing people in their natural habitat. The intensity of the subject coupled with his technical virtuosity has resulted in a print with a richness and complexity that testifies to Strand's power as an artist.

Early Contemporary Pioneers

Among the leading lots is William Eggleston's iconic image *Memphis, circa 1970* (estimate: \$90,000-\$120,000). Of the strong selection of Helmut Newton works on offer is his important portfolio of ten prints *Arielle, Monte Carlo, 1982* (estimate: \$100,000-150,000). A fine early example of Garry Winogrand's work is *Los Angeles, California, 1964* (estimate: \$9,000-12,000).

Other notable photographs include a selection of vintage and modern prints by Diane Arbus and two beautiful examples, one believed to be unique, of Robert Mapplethorpe's *Calla Lily* series from the 1980s.

Contemporary

Photographs by Hiroshi Sugimoto, Adam Fuss, Andres Serrano, Michal Rovner, Vik Muniz and Andreas Gursky are highlighted in an unusually strong offering of contemporary images – including Gursky's important early work *Scheisser (Diptych), 1991* (estimate: \$60,000-80,000).

Auction: Photographs
October 15, 2004 at 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Viewing: Christie's Galleries at Rockefeller Center
October 9 – 14

More information about Christie's sale of *Photographs* can be found on www.christies.com. All lots from the sale can be viewed online along with full catalogue descriptions on Lotfinder®, which also allows clients to leave absentee bids. www.christies.com provides information on more than 80 sale categories, buying and selling at auction, complete auction results, and Christie's international auction calendar.

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Images available on request
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