

Press Release

CHRISTIE'S

For Immediate Release

September 16

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**FINE AMERICAN WORKS BY IMPORTANT FEMALE ARTISTS
AND PIONEERS OF THE MOST ESTABLISHED
MOVEMENTS OF THE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES**



**Fine American Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture
Thursday 25 September 2008**

New York – On September 25th The American Paintings Department will hold its mid-season sale, offering 230 lots ranging from \$3,000 to \$100,000, giving both new and established collectors the opportunity to begin or build upon their collections.

The sale features an extensive collection of works from the 19th and 20th centuries, including a particularly strong selection of works by esteemed female artists and from important artistic movements. Highlights for this sale include works by Emma Fordyce MacRae, Martha Walter, Priscilla Roberts, Alexander Helwig Wyant, William Harnett, Franz Hölzlhuber and Albert Bierstadt. There is also a strong selection of works by 20th century modernists, including Milton Avery, Charles Demuth, Reginald Marsh, Yasuo Kuniyoshi, George Ault, John Marin and Isabel Bishop, as well as a selection of superb works by Jared French, from the Estate of Paul Cadmus.

Featured in this sale are three exceptional works by New England artist and esteemed member of the “Philadelphia 10,” Emma Fordyce McRae. Renowned for her distinct and singular manner of painting, MacRae created a visually harmonious and striking style that was at once timeless and modern. Christie's is delighted to offer three superb paintings by MacRae, which exemplify the artist's best work in still life and landscape, including *New England, Rock Port Beach* (estimate: \$15,000-25,000).



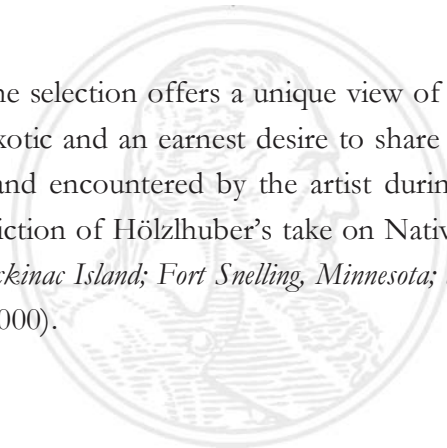
Also featured is celebrated Philadelphia-born artist Martha Walter, who is represented by three captivating works, including the renowned *Pink Umbrella* (estimate: \$70,000-100,000), one of her best works on the market to date.

Priscilla Roberts is known for her contribution to Magic Realism, combining elements of fantasy and imagination in the style of Photographic Realism and Surrealism. Her innovative style can be seen in dream-like *May Morning* (estimate: \$12,000-18,000), whose exquisite detail and visual clarity has placed it among Roberts' most important works.



Also featured in this sale is an array of important works from some of the most renowned American artists of the 19th century. One such example is a rare work by Albert Bierstadt, one of the most revered and collected American artists of his generation. Best known for his depictions of the American West, Bierstadt's fantastical *Butterflies with Riders* (estimate: \$20,000-30,000) relates to the artist's popular butterfly paintings. Another highlight is *River Valley with Cattle* (estimate: \$30,000-50,000) by quintessential Hudson River School artist Alexander Helwig Wyant, executed in 1868.

Franz Hölzlhuber is represented by five lots. The selection offers a unique view of bygone frontier days blending visual journalism, a love of the exotic and an earnest desire to share with the rest of the world the wonders of this untamed new land encountered by the artist during his American Travels. Such works include the captivating depiction of Hölzlhuber's take on Native American life in *Two Indians by a Shore; Chippewa Indians on Mackinac Island; Fort Snelling, Minnesota; and Ball Game of Menominee Indians: Four Works* (estimate:\$6,000-8,000).



Another highlight is *Head of Dante* (estimate: \$30,000-50,000), by William Harnett, a bronze relief created by Harnett in 1873, a year prior to the artist's first known works in oil. This work is extremely rare, being the only known sculptural work by the painter who would become America's preeminent *trompe l'oeil* still life artist.



In addition, the sale will also feature several works by Herman Herzog, including the vibrant and alluring *Sunset, Florida* (estimate: \$20,000-30,000), a sought after locale painted by the artist .

Auction: September 25, 10 a.m.

Viewing: September 20-24

About Christie's

Christie's is the world's leading art business with global art sales in 2007 that totalled £3.1 billion/\$6.3 billion. This marks the highest total in company and in art auction history. For the first half of 2008, art sales totalled £1.8 billion / \$3.5 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's conducted the greatest auctions of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, and today remains a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 600 sales annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$80 million. Christie's has 85 offices in 43 countries and 14 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Tel Aviv, Dubai, Hong Kong and Zurich. Most recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in emerging and new markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

*Estimates do not include buyer's premium

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Images available on request

Visit Christie's Web site at www.christies.com

More information about Christie's sale of Fine American Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture 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.