

CHRISTIE'S

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CHRISTIE'S INAUGURAL 21st CENTURY EVENING SALE ACHIEVES USD \$210.5 MILLION

95% Sold by Lot

**BASQUIAT'S STRIKING SKULL PAINTING *IN THIS CASE*
FETCHES USD \$93.1 MILLION**

**9 CRYPTOPUNKS – THE FIRST NFTS TO BE FEATURED IN A
MAJOR EVENING AUCTION – SOAR TO USD \$17 MILLION**



***VIEWERS TUNED IN WORLDWIDE FOR CHRISTIE'S LIVESTREAMED
AUCTION AT THE START OF SPRING AUCTION WEEK IN NEW YORK***

Buyer Breakdown for the Sale: 57% North America / 24% APAC / 19% EMEA

11 New Artist Records Established

DA CORTE | CASTEEL | WOOD | ABNEY | YIADOM-BOAKYE | LARVA LABS |
JOHNSON | ANATSUI | MESLER | THOMAS | KIPPENBERGER

NEW YORK - On May 11, Christie's inaugural 21st Century Evening Sale opened a highly-anticipated 20/21 Marquee Week in New York, and achieved **USD \$210,471,500**, selling **95% by**

lot and **123% hammer above low estimate**. The auction was headlined by the sale of **Jean-Michel Basquiat's** spectacular skull painting, ***In This Case*** from 1983, achieving **USD \$93,105,000** at the conclusion of a six-minute bidding battle between collectors from the U.S. and Asia.

Ana Maria Celis, Head of the 21st Century Evening Sale, Christie's: "Tonight was an exciting night. After a year filled with disruption, we were able to put together an extraordinary group of artworks that represented the last 40 years. Out of the 35 artists represented, 11 records were set. These records showcase an extremely diverse group of artists in race and nationality, and is a true representation of the art world today."

Christie's new 21st Century Evening Sale concept was carefully designed as a high-profile presentation that gives greater visibility to a diversity of artists, and engages a broader group of collectors at a range of price points. Representing a wide range of artistic styles and movements, the sale attracted participation from bidders in 29 countries across the U.S., Europe and Asia.

Christie's further established its position as a leader in the world of NFTs tonight following the sale of nine **Cryptopunks** from **Larva Labs (USD \$16,962,500)**. In March, Christie's sale of Beeple's *EVERYDAYS—THE FIRST 5000 DAYS* was the first NFT based purely on a digital work of art ever offered by a major auction house. Realizing nearly \$70 million, the Beeple sale was a landmark for the NFT industry.

The 21st Century Evening Sale realized exceptional results for women artists, recalibrating records for a number of artists, including **Lynette Yiadom-Boakye's** *Diplomacy III* (USD \$1,950,000), **Mickalene Thomas' Racquel Reclining Wearing Purple Jumpsuit** (USD \$1,830,000), **Nina Chanel Abney's Untitled (XXXXXX)** (USD \$990,000) and **Jordan Casteel's Jiréh** (USD \$687,500).

An artist record for medium was set by **Martin Kippenberger's** *Martin, ab in die Ecke und schäm dich (Martin, Into the Corner, You Should Be Ashamed of Yourself)*, realizing USD \$9,520,000. A new artist record was set for **Rashid Johnson's Anxious Red Painting December 18th** (USD \$1,950,000) with proceeds going to [CORE \(Community Organized Relief Effort\)](#), an emergency relief nonprofit co-founded by Sean Penn and Ann Lee dedicated to raising critical funds for to support COVID-19 mobile vaccination programs and relief efforts for marginalized communities. The total contribution to CORE is USD \$2.7 million, including funds coming from the sale of donated works by **Urs Fisher** and **Joel Mesler**.

Dana Schutz's *The Fishermen* realized **USD \$2,970,000** to benefit **Art for Acres**, an organization that supports land conservation. The Indigenous-led conservation projects sustain wildlife habitat and migration on landscapes with high levels of biodiversity. Proceeds from Schutz's painting will contribute 300% in matching funds from partner organizations including Andes Amazon Fund, Global Wildlife Conservation and the Wyss Foundation. In total, the sale raised USD \$9.8 million.

21st Century Evening Sale records:

ARTIST RECORD: Alex Da Corte, *Night Vision*, \$187,500

ARTIST RECORD: Jordan Casteel, *Jiréh*, \$687,500

ARTIST RECORD: Jonas Wood, *Two Tables with Floral Pattern*, \$6,510,000

ARTIST RECORD: Nina Chanel Abney, *Untitled (XXXXXX)*, \$990,000

ARTIST RECORD: Lynette Yiadom-Boakye, *Diplomacy III*, \$1,950,000

ARTIST RECORD: Larva Labs, 9 *Cryptopunks* : 2, 532, 58, 30, 635, 602, 768, 603 and 757, \$16,962,500

ARTIST RECORD: Rashid Johnson, *Anxious Red Painting December 18th*, \$1,950,000

ARTIST RECORD: El Anatsui, *New Layout*, \$1,950,000

ARTIST RECORD: Joel Mesler, *New York, New York*, \$275,000

ARTIST RECORD: Mickalene Thomas, *Racquel Reclining Wearing Purple Jumpsuit*, \$1,830,000

RECORD FOR A SCULPTURE BY THE ARTIST: Martin Kippenberger, *Martin, ab in die Ecke und schäm dich (Martin, Into the Corner, You Should Be Ashamed of Yourself)*, \$9,520,000

The spring 20/21 series in New York continues on Thursday at Christie's with the Evening Sale of 20th Century Art, featuring masterpieces by Monet, Picasso, Mondrian, Rothko, and Van Gogh, among others. Day Sales of Post-War and Contemporary Art, Impressionist and Modern Art and Works on Paper will continue in New York on Friday.

FURTHER MATERIALS

- [Dropbox of Sale Images](#)

About Christie's

Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and international expertise. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's has conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers around 350 auctions 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 \$100 million. Christie's also has a long and successful history conducting Private Sales for clients and online sales are offered year-round across all categories. Christie's global presence is spread across a network of international salerooms and 61 representatives and offices. Christies.com provides detailed articles and videos on the objects offered for sale alongside the latest advances in digital viewing tools to make Christie's accessible to all.

**Please note when quoting estimates above that other fees will apply in addition to the hammer price - see Section D of the Conditions of Sale at the back of the sale catalogue.*

** Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.*

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