

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | LONDON | 20 SEPTEMBER 2021

CHRISTIE'S WILL PARTNER WITH RADIOHEAD'S THOM YORKE TO PRESENT ARTWORKS BY STANLEY DONWOOD, CREATED FOR THE ALBUM *KID A* (2000) THE WORKS BY DONWOOD WILL ALSO BE OFFERED IN CHRISTIE'S *FIRST OPEN* ONLINE-ONLY SALE FROM 5 TO 19 OCTOBER 2021

- Stanley Donwood has collaborated with Radiohead to create cover art since their 1996 album *The Bends*
- Six works by Donwood, from the period 1999-2001, closely relating to the cover and sleeve art of *Kid A*, will be displayed at Christie's headquarters in London from 9 to 15 October 2021. Drawings, lyrics and digital art by both Stanley Donwood and Thom Yorke will be presented alongside the paintings
- The paintings by Donwood will be offered in *First Open: Post-War and Contemporary Art*, online for global bidding from 5 to 19 October 2021, with estimates beginning at £10,000



Stanley Donwood, *Residential Nemesis* (1999, estimate: £10,000-15,000)

LONDON – Christie's will present work by the artist Stanley Donwood, who has created the cover art for Radiohead's ground-breaking albums since *The Bends* in 1996. The six paintings will be on display at Christie's Headquarters in London from 9 to 15 October 2021, alongside drawings, lyrics and digital art curated by Stanley Donwood and Thom Yorke, who initially met at Exeter University. The paintings by Donwood will be offered in *First Open: Post-War and Contemporary Art*, online for global bidding from 5 to 19 October 2021. The series of dystopian landscapes were made in the period 1999-2001, and closely related to the final cover and sleeve art for *Kid A*, originally released by the band on 2 October 2000, marking its 21st anniversary. Donwood's series continued with the release of *Amnesiac* (2001). While

working on each album sleeve, Donwood immersed himself in Radiohead's music constantly: *"It gets under your skin and becomes like oxygen. I listen to it a lot, almost to the extent I need a breather by the time it comes out."* The resulting body of work produced by Donwood provides a bold visual accompaniment to Radiohead's music, a band who are renowned for their technical innovation and pioneering vision. Donwood has exhibited internationally, including a solo exhibition at Bonnefantenmuseum, Maastricht in 2017, and estimates for the paintings begin at £10,000.

Stanley Donwood: *"Very late one night Thom and I were alone in the vast wastes of Oxfordshire, surrounded by darkness and trying to finish the artwork. It was impossible – we had made too much, too many pictures, and it was like being in a storm of ideas and drawings, paintings and texts. We were exhausted and could no longer think clearly. We had lots of versions of the front cover, all with different pictures and different titles in different typefaces. We couldn't work out which was the right one so we took them all downstairs and used tape to stick them to the cupboards and the fridge in the kitchen, hoping that in the morning the right cover and the right title would be obvious. And it was, and it was called Kid A."*

Victoria Gramm, Specialist, Post-War and Contemporary Art, Christie's: *"London's Frieze Week highlights the revolutionary spirit of those at the cutting edge of contemporary culture. It is therefore a fitting moment for Christie's to partner with Thom Yorke and Stanley Donwood to showcase their collaboration, and the inspiring visual, digital and musical material that was produced in this period. Visitors to our galleries will have the opportunity to glimpse the ethereal world that encapsulates the sounds of Kid A."*

James Elwes, Founder T I N M A N A R T, representing Stanley Donwood: *"Kid A is among a very small number of seminal musical masterpieces that are about so much more than ground-breaking music. Like Sgt. Pepper with Peter Blake and Sticky Fingers with Andy Warhol, it's a disc encased in art. It presents a rare audio-visual experience, a broody and forbidding world of mountains and blood; the CD case had to be broken apart to reveal hidden artwork. It's hugely exciting that now, for the first time, the collaborative story of this multidisciplinary masterpiece is being told. Stanley always viewed the record shop as an art gallery for the masses and he and Thom undertook an Odyssean feat in developing Kid A's art, utilising drawing, collage and ground-breaking new media to doctor their source material. At the centre of this process is Stanley's extraordinary series of paintings - pieces that speak of enlightenment and discord in an uncertain new millennium under a government falling apart. While the paintings' tone recalls YBA sensibilities, their skill ensures a certain timelessness. These are works whose meaning continues to quietly ripple - pieces of history with an evocative soundtrack."*

First Open: Post-War and Contemporary Art brings together iconic works by contemporary artists, presented within the context of those artists working in the 20th century whose influence has been far reaching. Estimates begin at £600, providing opportunities for collectors at every level to acquire works.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About Stanley Donwood

Stanley Donwood (b. 1968) is an artist best known for his work made for the band Radiohead, for whom he has created almost all album covers and promotional materials. Born in Essex, England, he studied Fine Art at the University of Exeter where he first met Radiohead frontman Thom Yorke. The lifelong collaboration between band and artist was initiated when Yorke asked Donwood to contribute art for Radiohead's original *My Iron Lung* EP (1994).

Donwood's paintings, drawings and prints address socio-political issues, often employing satire that draws comparisons to Hogarth, Insa and Banksy. He has been the official artist of the Glastonbury music festival since 2002 and has won two Grammys for his artwork for Radiohead's albums *Amnesiac* and *In Rainbows*. Donwood's art has been the subject of a book, *There Will Be No Quiet* (2019), published by Thames & Hudson. He has written and illustrated several books of short stories, including *Humor* (Faber, 2014). He has exhibited at galleries in the UK, USA, Australia, Italy, Spain, Japan and the Netherlands, as well as at the Bonnefantenmuseum in Maastricht. He lives and works in Brighton, England.

About Christie's

Founded in 1766, Christie's is a world-leading art and luxury business. Renowned and trusted for its expert live and online auctions, as well as its bespoke private sales, Christie's offers a full portfolio of [global services](#) to its clients, including art appraisal, art financing, international real estate and education. Christie's has a physical presence in 46 countries, throughout the Americas, Europe, Middle East, and Asia Pacific, with flagship [international sales hubs](#) in New York, London, Hong Kong, Paris and Geneva. It also is the only international auction house authorized to hold sales in mainland China (Shanghai).

Christie's [auctions](#) span more than [80 art and luxury categories](#), at price points ranging from \$200 to over \$100 million. In recent years, Christie's has achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction (Leonardo da Vinci's *Salvador Mundi*, 2017), for a single collection sale (the Collection of Peggy and David Rockefeller, 2018), and for a work by a living artist (Jeff Koons' *Rabbit*, 2019).

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