

CHRISTIE'S

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CLASSIC WEEK

Illustrations by Sir Quentin Blake

Sold to Benefit Comic Relief in the

Christie's Valuable Books and Manuscripts Auction

13 July 2022



Left: Quentin Blake (b.1932). *Balancing*. Executed in 2021. Estimate: £600-900

Centre: Quentin Blake (b.1932). *Beauty and the Beast: opening banner*. Executed in 2021. Estimate: £3,000-5,000

Right: Quentin Blake (b. 1932). Design for a tote bag. Executed in 2021, Estimate: £1,000-1,500

LONDON: Christie's [Valuable Books and Manuscripts](#) auction on 13 July will present a collection of 15 drawings by Sir Quentin Blake, sold to benefit Comic Relief. The individual drawings will comprise 10 original illustrations completed for a virtual production of *Beauty and the Beast: A Pantomime for Comic Relief*, which aired on BBC Two for Christmas 2021. A further 5 drawings, including a design for a Red Nose Day charity tote bag, will also be offered. The illustrations will be on view and open to the public at Christie's London from 9 to 12 July.

Money raised through the auction will help Comic Relief support vital life changing work, tackling issues including homelessness, domestic abuse, poverty and mental health problems in the UK and around the world.

Sophie Hopkins, Specialist, Christie's Valuable Books and Manuscripts: "We are thrilled to present collectors with 15 new illustrations by one of Britain's best-loved illustrators, sold to benefit Comic Relief. The works include newly-imagined scenes from a literary classic, *Beauty*

and the Beast, alongside one-of-a-kind designs sure to appeal to all Quentin Blake enthusiasts.”

Samir Patel, CEO, Comic Relief: *“This truly special collection of drawings are filled with Sir Quentin’s unmistakable charm, wit, and playfulness that we’ve all become so familiar with over the years. We’re incredibly grateful to have this fantastic opportunity to work with both Quentin and Christie’s to raise money to help people struggling in the UK and around the world.”*

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About Comic Relief

Comic Relief raises money to support people living incredibly tough lives in the UK and around the world. Through humour and stories of hope, we have shown that people can make a massive difference.

Comic Relief believes that those who are closest to the issues have the best solutions, and so works with organisations and people with direct experience of these challenges. We fund hundreds of amazing organisations who support the most vulnerable people and communities in society.

This includes vulnerable children and young people, people who are homeless or who have been forced to flee their homes, women and families at risk of domestic abuse and those struggling with mental health problems.

For information about Comic Relief and the work it carries out, please visit www.comicrelief.com

Comic Relief, which is the operating name of Charity Projects, is a registered charity 326568 (England/Wales); SC039730 (Scotland)

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 *Salvator Mundi*](#), 2017), for a 20th century artwork ([Andy Warhol’s *Shot Sage Blue Marilyn*](#), 2022) and for a work by a living artist ([Jeff Koons’ *Rabbit*](#), 2019). Christie’s is also recognised as a reference for prestigious single owner collections, having auctioned 8 of the 10 most important collections in history.

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Recent innovations at Christie’s include groundbreaking sale of the first NFT for a digital work of art ever offered at a major auction house ([Beeple’s *Everydays, March 2021*](#)), with the unprecedented acceptance of cryptocurrency as a means of payment. As an industry leader in digital innovation, Christie’s also continues to pioneer new technologies that are redefining the business of art, including the use of hologram technology to tour life-size 3D objects around the world, and the creation of viewing and bidding experiences that integrate augmented reality, global livestreaming, buy-now channels, and hybrid sales formats.

Christie’s is dedicated to advancing [responsible culture](#) throughout its business and communities worldwide, including achieving sustainability through net zero carbon emissions by 2030, and actively using its platform in the art world to amplify under-represented voices and support positive change.

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**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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Images available on request

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