

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 26 AUGUST 2022

CHRISTIE'S ANNOUNCES VISIONARY: THE PAUL G. ALLEN COLLECTION

Christie's to Lead Unprecedented \$1 Billion Philanthropic Masterpiece Sale
on behalf of Paul G. Allen Estate
Poised To Be Largest and Most Exceptional Sale in Auction History



PAUL CÉZANNE (1839-1906)
La montagne Sainte-Victoire
oil on canvas
25 5/8 x 31 7/8 in. (65.1 x 81 cm.)
Painted in 1888-1890
Estimate on request; in excess of \$100 million USD

NEW YORK – Christie's and the estate of philanthropist Paul G. Allen, co-founder of Microsoft, are proud to announce an historic auction of more than 150 masterpieces spanning 500 years of art history. ***Visionary: The Paul G. Allen Collection*** reflects the depth and range of Mr. Allen's collecting, which is unlike anything that has come before, connecting a visionary innovator and the ground-breaking artists he collected. Valued in excess of \$1 billion, the sale of the Collection will be the largest and most

exceptional art auction in history when it is sold at Christie's Rockefeller Center in November 2022. All sale proceeds will be dedicated to philanthropy, pursuant to Mr. Allen's wishes.

Jody Allen, Executor of the Paul G. Allen Estate, commented, *"To Paul, art was both analytical and emotional. He believed that art expressed a unique view of reality – combining the artist's inner state and inner eye – in a way that can inspire us all. His collection reflects the diversity of his interests, with their own mystique and beauty. These works mean so much to so many, and I know that Christie's will ensure their respectful dispersal to generate tremendous value for philanthropic pursuits in accordance with Paul's wishes."*

Guillaume Cerutti, Christie's Chief Executive Officer, commented, *"The inspirational figure of Paul Allen, the extraordinary quality and diversity of works, and the dedication of all proceeds to philanthropy, create a unique combination that will make the sale of the Paul G. Allen Collection an event of unprecedented magnitude. Paul's life was guided by his desire to make this world a better place. We believe that presenting his collection at auction and giving the opportunity to wider audiences to discover it will be a fitting tribute to celebrate Paul Allen's vision and legacy. We are honoured and privileged and extend our gratitude to the Paul G. Allen Estate for having chosen Christie's as its partner for this project."*

Philanthropist and Innovator Paul G. Allen (1953 – 2018)

From co-founding Microsoft in 1975 to starting his first charitable foundation in 1986, from creating the acclaimed Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP) in 2000 to launching the Allen Institute in 2003 with its game-changing scientific breakthroughs across brain science, cell science, and immunology, Paul G. Allen lived a life motivated by a love of ideas and making the world a better place.

An avid art collector for decades, Allen began publicly sharing pieces from his collection in the late 1990s through dozens of often anonymous loans to museums around the world. In addition, he mounted exhibitions that shared highlights of his collection with the public, including the renowned *Seeing Nature* exhibit in 2016 that toured nationally. It showcased 39 iconic landscape paintings that demonstrated the natural world and highlighted key moments in the development of the landscape genre.

"You have to be doing it because you just love the works... and you know that all these works are going to outlast you," Allen reflected in an interview for *Seeing Nature*. "You're only a temporary custodian of them."

In 2010, Allen was an early signer of the Giving Pledge, a commitment to contribute the majority of one's wealth to charitable causes, and in 2015, he was awarded the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy for dedicating his private wealth to public good. He remarked "...one of my core goals is to accelerate discovery and provide some of the world's brightest minds with the resources to solve some of the world's thorniest challenges."

His philanthropic contributions of more than \$2.65 billion during his lifetime deepened our understanding of bioscience, shared art, music, and film with the world, tackled epidemics, helped save endangered species, explored the ocean floor, and invested in more vibrant and resilient communities. Many called Allen a polymath, whose knowledge and skills spanned a wide range of disciplines.

Allen passed away in October 2018, but the breadth and depth of his generosity, and his desire to continue improving the lives of people around the world even after his death, will create impact for generations to come.

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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.
- Christie's [Private Sales](#) offers a seamless service for buying and selling art, jewellery and watches outside of the auction calendar, working exclusively with Christie's specialists at a client's individual pace.
- 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.
- Browse, bid, [discover](#), and join us for the best of art and luxury at: www.christies.com or by downloading Christie's apps.

*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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