

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE - PARIS – WEDNESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2022 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCULPTING PARADISE THE COLLECTION OF MARIE LALANNE

**WORLD PREMIERE IN PARIS
AT HISTORIC FORMER LAENNEC HOSPITAL: HEADQUARTERS OF KERING
EXHIBITION OF HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NEW YORK AUCTION**

19 – 23 OCTOBER 2022



FRANÇOIS-XAVIER LALANNE (1927-2008), *Les Trois Grands Moutons de Peter*, 2008, gilt bronze
Bélier de Peter III: 32 x 39 1/2 x 17 1/2 in., *Bélier de Peter II*: 32 1/4 x 40 1/2 x 16 1/2 in.
Mouton de Peter I: 32 x 39 1/2 x 17 1/2 in., © David William Baum

Paris – On 19 October 2022, Christie's unveils in Paris a first look at 15 exceptional works by **Claude and François-Xavier Lalanne** from the collection of the artists' daughter, **Madame Marie Lalanne**, that will lead Christie's ***Sculpting Paradise*** sale taking place in New York on December 7, 2022. For this world premiere of the sale's highlights, Christie's is honored to partner with Kering to host a specially curated exhibition at its Paris headquarters at 40, rue de Sèvres. This exhibition, which will run concurrently with the inaugural edition of *Paris+ par Art Basel*, comes exactly two years after a public exhibition of sculptural highlights from Christie's sale *The Secret Garden of Paul Haim* held at Kering in October 2020.

On view to collectors from around the world from 19 – 23 October 2022, the preview will feature a selection of the artists' most important works, drawn from the approximately 200 lots that will be sold at Christie's New York in Rockefeller Center— the first sale of this scale for the artists ever held in the United States.

Staged outdoors in Kering's landmark central courtyard, the preview in Paris will vividly bring to life the enchanting power of the legendary Lalanne, who are recognized as among the most talented and original artists of the 20th and 21st centuries. The unique architecture of this historical building will become the ephemeral setting for this fabulous collection.



CLAUDE LALANNE (1925-2019)
Pomme de Jardin, 2014
 patinated bronze, gilt bronze
 40 3/4 in. (103.5 cm) high, 33 in. (83.8 cm) diameter
Los Angeles and New York Exhibition
 © David William Baum



FRANÇOIS-XAVIER LALANNE (1927-2008)
La Grande Ourse, 2007
 patinated bronze
 83 x 38 3/8 x 38 3/4 in.
 © David William Baum

Among the highlights on view are works featured in major exhibitions including *Les Lalanne* at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris in 2010, *Claude & François-Xavier Lalanne: Nature Transformed* at the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown and *Les Lalanne à Trianon* last year at the Château de Versailles.

Alex Heminway, Christie's International Head of Design, remarks: "*Christie's has had the privilege of presenting works by Les Lalanne across the past three decades; despite that long commitment to the artists' market, their preternatural work, which stands outside of nature, continues to startle with its ingenuity and profound poetry. It is an honor to be working on behalf of Madame Marie Lalanne to bring her historic collection to the public.*"

Selected Works on View at Kering's HQ in Paris

François-Xavier and Claude Lalanne both believed art should be part of everyday life, an ideal reflected in both the sculptural and functional aspects of their creations. *Poisson Paysage V* perfectly embodies this conviction, opening a window onto the world, both symbolically and literally.

Notable for their grandeur, the highlights in the exhibition explore the artists' signature themes and creatures, from sharks to sheep, bears to birds. Juxtaposing a *Grand Requin* beside *Trois Grands Moutons de Peter*, *La Grande Ourse* alongside a *Grand Mouflon de Ram Island*, and even an *Oiseau de Jardin*, François-Xavier Lalanne's creations demonstrate his virtuosic skill as architect of an imaginary world, combining powerful creativity with a mastery of gesture.

The poetic work of Claude Lalanne harmonizes the realms of animal and plant, illustrated perfectly by a *Grand Choupatte*, one of her most emblematic creations. Exemplary of the artist's oeuvre; it employs notions of whimsy and Surrealism, and the delicacy in the carving of the cabbage leaves evokes the intricate shapes found in her *Williamsburg* series of chairs and benches. Through pieces such as *L'Enlèvement d'Europe* and the patinated bronze '*Petite Olympe*' Fountain, the exhibition also reveals the couple's shared fascination with mythology.

International Tour

Following Paris, highlights from *Sculpting Paradise: The Collection of Marie Lalanne* will tour to Los Angeles and Dubai. Holograms of the sculptures will be presented in Hong Kong prior to the sale in New York on 7 December.

Paris Exhibition Location
Kering – Former Laennec Hospital
40, rue de Sèvres, 75007 Paris

Paris Highlights Press Preview
19 October – from 2.30pm to 4 pm
RSVP requested:
pressparis@christies.com

Paris Public View
22-23 October

International Tour Dates
Los Angeles | 19-22 October
Dubai | 8-15 November

New York Sale
7 December



KERING, PARIS

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- 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.
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