# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | LONDON | 21 FEBRUARY 2023

### CHRISTIE'S UNVEILS 20/21 LONDON VIEW

20<sup>TH</sup> / 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY: LONDON EVENING SALE
THE ART OF THE SURREAL EVENING SALE
28 February Live Auctions

### **DEFINED BY ARTWORKS THAT SPAN 1879 TO 2021**





Remedios Varo, Retrato del Doctor Ignacio Chávez (1957, estimate: £2,500,000-3,500,000) Cecily Brown, Make it Rain (2014, estimate: £3,500,000-5,500,000)

## Public Exhibition Open at King Street 22 to 28 February

Giovanna Bertazzoni, Vice Chairman, 20th / 21st Century Art Department, Christie's: "Our dynamic London 20/21 sale series responds to and amplifies the defining themes of the market today. Offering exquisite collections, iconic works, and a strong representation of pioneering female artists who powerfully shaped the Surrealist movement, we have assembled a vibrant, diverse and celebratory group of works, the majority never seen at auction before, that exemplify the purpose of Christie's signature 20/21 category: to unite contemporary names with their artistic forebears."

- Christie's 20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> Century: London Evening Sale will offer works by artists that defined the artistic movements of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, while showcasing their artistic legacy in those artists shaping the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- 66% of the 20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> Century: London Evening Sale has never before been offered at auction. Exquisite paintings by Paul Cezanne and Vincent van Gogh have been treasured in two distinct collections, each for more than 100 years, while Alexander Calder's *The Ghost* has remained in the same family collection since 1947
- The Art of the Surreal Evening Sale presents Memory of a Surreal Journey: Property from an Important San Francisco Bay Area Collection, a collection of 25 works showcases the magical interpretations of the world by

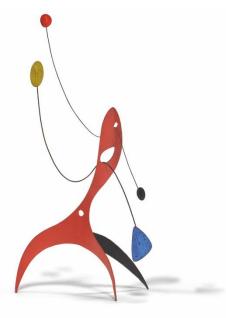
artists including **Leonora Carrington**, **Remedios Varo**, **Dorothea Tanning** and **Leonor Fini**. Presented through Christie's unique sale platform exclusively devoted to Surrealist art, the collection was built over more than two decades around a formative trip to Mexico and highlights the dialogues across Latin and Northern America as well as Europe. With an emphasis on revolutionary female artists, this singular collection encapsulates a zeitgeist perceived across the art world, repositioning discussions on Surrealism and the artists who came to represent the movement.

- René Magritte's lyrical gouache *Le retour* (1957, estimate: £4,000,000-6,000,000) presents a dream-like variation on one of the artist's most poetic motifs: the *oiseau de ciel*, or 'sky-bird'
- Christie's, as the leading auction house for works by Picasso, joins the art world in a global commemoration of the artist and his legacy, on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death. Pablo Picasso's Femme dans un rocking-chair (Jacqueline) (1956, estimate: £15,000,000-20,000,000) will lead the sale alongside four additional works by the artist
- **Cecily Brown**'s magnificent painting *Make it Rain* (2014, estimate: £3,500,000-5,500,000) was first shown in Paris in 2014 and has remained in the same collection
- Presented by Christie's for the first time, Michaela Yearwood Dan's Love me nots (2021, estimate: £40,000-60,000) highlights the dynamism of 21<sup>st</sup> century painters her work draws on her personal experience while the central voids in her compositions seem to reference the sky ceilings of Renaissance Italy

# CHRISTIE'S 20<sup>TH</sup> / 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY: LONDON EVENING SALE AND THE ART OF THE SURREAL EVENING SALE SELECTED STORIES

- How the women of Surrealism defied a male-dominated world to 'carve out their own space'
- Two Freud paintings revealing a love of nature that led his father to call him a 'wild animal'
- René Magritte's Le retour will be a leading highlight of Christie's The Art of the Surreal Evening Sale
- Georg Baselitz: 'I was forced to question everything'
- Wifredo Lam: the Cuban artist who merged African spirituality with European modernism
- The Alberto Giacometti chandelier discovered by chance in a London antiques shop





René Magritte, *Le retour* (*circa* 1950, estimate: £4,000,000-6,000,000) Alexander Calder, *The Ghost* (1945, estimate; £800,000-1,200,000)

#### PRESS CONTACT:

Sara Macdonald | +44 (0)20 7752 3136 | saramacdonald@christies.com

#### **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 <a href="mailto:global-services">global-services</a> 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 <a href="mailto:international-sales-hubs">international-sales-hubs</a> 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 <u>auctions</u> span more than <u>80 art and luxury categories</u>, at price points ranging from \$200 to over \$100 million. Christie's has sold 8 of the 10 most important single-owner collections in history, including the <u>Paul G. Allen Collection</u>—the most valuable collection ever offered at auction (November 2022). In recent years, Christie's also achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction (<u>Leonardo da Vinci's Salvator Mundi</u>, 2017), for a 20th century artwork (<u>Andy Warhol's Shot Sage Blue Marilyn</u>, 2022) and for a work by a living artist (<u>Jeff Koons' Rabbit</u>, 2019). Christie's <u>Private Sales</u> 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.
- Following the groundbreaking 2021 sale of the first digital art NFT ever offered by a global auction house (<u>Beeple's Everydays</u>), Christie's recently launched the first <u>fully on-chain auction platform</u> dedicated to exceptional NFT art. 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.

###
FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:







