# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | SEOUL | 24 AUGUST 2023 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Christie's and Hyundai Card Proudly Present**



Masterpieces by Two 20<sup>th</sup> Century Art Titans Reunite in Seoul After Three Decades
Over US\$150 Million Spectacle to Unveil at STORAGE by Hyundai Card

Featuring Jean-Michel Basquiat's "Warrior" – The Most Valuable Western Artwork
Ever Sold at Auction in Asia for US\$41.9 Million

5 - 7 September 2023

**South Korea** – Christie's and Hyundai Card are delighted to unveil "Heads On: Basquiat & Warhol", marking the first joint exhibition of these two art legends in Seoul in over three decades. Opening in September at STORAGE by Hyundai Card, this exhibition will present a meticulously curated selection of exceptional masterpieces by Jean-Michel Basquiat and Andy Warhol, who became great friends and prolific collaborators in the 1980s. The exhibition contributes to a major international moment for art in South Korea, coinciding with Frieze Seoul and Kiaf art fair, and serves as a testament to Christie's continued commitment and enthusiasm for empowering and propelling the country's dynamic art scene forward.

"Heads On: Basquiat & Warhol" leads a dance between the revelations of two of America's greatest artists, whose visual philosophies remain as relevant today as ever before. The exhibition brings together a selected group of important works executed by Basquiat from 1981 – 1984, arguably his most creative years, alongside iconic Warhol motifs including his self-portrait, seamlessly uniting their distinct artistic expressions. This unique collection of works resounds with the artists' engagement with the world around them, and it pulses with the unparalleled creative energy that fueled the meteoric rise and fall of these 20<sup>th</sup> century art legends.



JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT (1960-1988)

Warrior

acrylic, oilstick and spray paint on wood panel 183 x 122 cm. (72 x 48 in.) Painted in 1982



#### ANDY WARHOL (1928-1987) Self-Portrait

acrylic and silkscreen ink on canvas 56.5 x 56.1 cm. (22 5/8 x 22 1/4 in.) Executed in 1967



### JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT (1960-1988) Untitled (Self Portrait)

oilstick and ink on paper 75.9 x 55.9 cm. (29 7/8 x 22 in.) Executed in 1982

Achieved £8 Million / US\$9.7 Million at Christie's London on 28 June 2022

## CHRISTIE'S

Francis Belin, President, Christie's Asia Pacific, commented, "Following the phenomenal success of last year's 'Flesh and Soul: Bacon/Ghenie' exhibition, we are pleased to continue our contribution to the Korean art scene with an exhibition of works by Basquiat and Warhol, two of the most influential artists of the 20th century. This event is a reflection of our commitment to sharing art of international significance with South Korea. As we look forward to the upcoming Frieze Week in Seoul, we invite art enthusiasts to join us in exploring this unique exhibition, a meeting point of global art and local appreciation."

Hak Jun Lee, General Manager, Christie's Korea, added, "We are very honoured to work with Hyundai Card to stage this remarkable display of Basquiat and Warhol's seminal works at STORAGE, nestled in one of the most dynamic art hotspots in Seoul. This collaborative initiative will provide an unparalleled opportunity for our discerning collectors and the broader public to immerse themselves in the magnificent oeuvres of these two revolutionary artists."

Cristian Albu, Deputy Chairman, Co-Head of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Art Department, Christie's Asia Pacific, shared, "The curatorial vision of this exhibition emphasizes the lively interplay and the unique camaraderie between Basquiat and Warhol, a friendship marked by mutual inspiration and artistic innovation. Their masterful creations, which transcend time and space, speak a universal language of creativity that resonates across cultural boundaries. As we bring these extraordinary works to Seoul during such a vibrant and international week for art in the city, we are thrilled to offer art aficionados an opportunity to appreciate the profound influence of these iconic artists on contemporary aesthetics."

A Hyundai Card spokesperson commented, "Hyundai Card has previously collaborated with MoMA and Tate to exhibit world-renowned works of art in Korea. With the upcoming Frieze week attracting art lovers to Seoul, we are delighted to collaborate with Christie's to present this meaningful and special exhibition."

### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

Media Preview: 4 September Private Viewing: 5 – 6 September

Public Preview: 7 September – Please register at Christie's website here

Location: STORAGE by Hyundai Card (B2 248 Itaewon-ro, Yongsan-gu, Seoul)

Please follow us on Instagram: @christiesasia, @christieskorea

### **Press Contact:**

Christie's – Gigi Ho | +852 2978 6719 | gigiho@christies.com AP Communications – Alex Paik | +82 10-5042-1337 | alex@apcomm.co.kr

Image Download Link: please click here

**About Andy Warhol**: Born to Slovakian immigrants in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Andy Warhol's career as the foremost proponent of Pop Art began during his days as a commercial artist for newspapers and magazines. Over the 1950s and '60s he rose to become the king of the New York avant-garde, and one of the most important and iconic artists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Works such as *Campbell's Soup Cans* (1962) and his screen prints of Marilyn Monroe have come to define our notions of 20<sup>th</sup> century art. Warhol's <u>Shot Sage Blue Marilyn</u> made auction history at Christie's New York in 2022. It sold for US\$195 million, making it the most expensive 20th-century work of art to sell at auction. Full artist bio can be found here.

**About Jean-Michel Basquiat**: King of the 1980s New York art scene, Jean-Michel Basquiat defined a generation. The rhythms of the street, the ghosts of art history and the vibrations of pop culture collided in his work. He sampled words and images with the flair of a poet, fusing drawing, painting, printing, writing and collage. Basquiat also produced a number of works in collaboration with Pop Art veteran Andy Warhol, with whom he became close friends. Though his meteoric career was cut short by his tragic death at the age of 27, he left behind an extraordinary body of art whose influence continues to resound today. Basquiat's *Warrior* achieved US\$41.9 million at Christie's Hong Kong in 2021, becoming the most expensive Western artwork ever sold at auction in Asia. Full artist bio can be found here.

About Hyundai Card: Hyundai Card is a leading credit card issuer headquartered in Seoul, South Korea. Based on its' capabilities in data science, Hyundai Card is writing a new page in the history of the Korean PLCCs (Private Label Credit Card) partnering with leading champion brands from different industries. Simultaneously, Hyundai Card is expanding the boundaries of finance by transforming into a financial technology company. The company has been leading the Korean technology business with 'Doman Galaxy', a data alliance with its PLCC partners, exporting it's IT system 'H-ALIS' and introducing Apple Pay to South Korea in 2023. From the beginning Hyundai Card has stood out among local credit card issuers for its unique branding and marketing. The company also operates four libraries in Seoul's trendiest areas, each themed on design, music, cooking and contemporary art, to inspire customers and provide products and services tailored to customers' lifestyles. For more information about Hyundai Card, please visit <a href="https://example.com/hyundaiCard.co

**About Christie's:** Founded in 1766, Christie's is a world-leading art and luxury business with a physical presence in 46 countries throughout the Americas, Europe, Middle East, and Asia Pacific, and flagship international sales hubs in New York, London, Hong Kong, Paris and Geneva. Renowned and trusted for our expert live and online-only auctions, as well as bespoke Private Sales, Christie's unparalleled network of specialists offers our clients a full portfolio of global services, including art appraisal, art financing, international real estate and education. Christie's auctions span more than 80 art and luxury categories, at price points ranging from \$500 to over \$100 million. Christie's has sold 8 of the 10 most important single-owner collections in history, achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction, launched the first fully

# CHRISTIE'S

on-chain auction platform dedicated to exceptional NFT art and manages <u>an investment fund</u> to support innovative startups in the art market. Christie's is also committed to advancing responsible culture throughout its business and communities worldwide. To learn more, browse, bid, discover, and join us for the best of art and luxury at <u>christies.com</u> 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:







