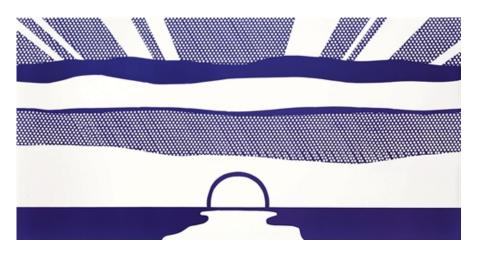


## For Immediate Release

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## CHRISTIE'S POST-WAR AND CONTEMPORARY ART DAY SALES TO OFFER STUNNING ARRAY OF WORKS



**New York** – Christie's New York will hold the Morning and Afternoon Sessions of the *Post-War and Contemporary Art Day Sales* on November 11, following its *Post-War and Contemporary Art Evening Sale.* The sales will be preceded by a public view at Christie's Rockefeller Center Galleries from November 6-10. Offering a stunning selection of works by leading Post-War and Contemporary artists including Alexander Calder, Richard Diebenkorn, Andreas Gursky, Keith Haring, Jasper Johns, Roy Lichtenstein, Sean Scully, Cindy Sherman, and Frank Stella, that range from \$1,000 to \$1.2 million, the sales present an exciting opportunity for those looking to either begin or expand collections.

Morning Session – This auction will include a group of 27 lots of Property from the Collection of John Cage and Merce Cunningham and John Cage sold to benefit the Merce Cunningham Trust. Two of the most important figures to emerge in the American Post-War era, Cunningham and Cage collaborated and forged friendships with some of the most influential artists of their generation. Their shared investment in moving the American avant-garde forward, forever changed the landscape of contemporary art.





Leading this section is a rare set of ten lithographs in colors by Jasper Johns, 0-9 (ULAE 19), 1963 (pictured above, right. estimate: \$300,000-400,000), one of Johns earliest and most ambitious print projects, in which each work corresponds to numeral that was produced from the same lithographic stone that was erased and reworked for every number. As the numbers progress, each individual number retains the vestiges of the previous images. Several other works on paper by artists Robert Rauschenberg, Dove Bradshaw, Sonja Sekula, and William Anastasi also formed part of the collection, including a double sided drawing on music sheet by Sonja Sekula, Untitled, (estimate \$3,500-4,500). Among the

notable highlights is a stunning pictorial weaving by Anni Albers, *Untitled*, 1950 (pictured left, estimate: \$25,000-35,000), a group of over fifty drawings of animals, *Untitled (Assorted Animals)* by Merce Cunningham (estimate: \$8,000-12,000), and a sublime work on paper by Morris Graves, *Onion* (estimate: \$4,000-6,000), with a personal inscription to John Cage.

Exquisite, rare works by Alexander Calder are among the top lots of the sale, including an early hanging mobile, *La Tige rouge* (estimate: \$500,000-700,000), *Ten Black*, 1960 (estimate: \$500,000-700,000) and delightful kinetic sculpture, *Toadstool with Hovering Excrescences*, 1948 (pictured right, estimate: \$300,000-400,000) from the Estate of Norma Solway Erlich, which graces the catalogue cover.



An evocative drawing by Richard Diebenkorn, *Untitled #32*, 1981 (pictured left, estimate: \$500,000-700,000), exemplifies the artist's use of abstraction, geometry and washes of color on paper. Pierre Soulages, *Peinture 146x97cm*, *3 juin 1957*, (estimate: \$600,000-800,000), is a captivating, bold and successful example of the artist's early painterly style.

From the Estate of Bill Bass, Chicago, is an exceptional work by Frank Stella, *For Picabia*, (estimate: \$200,000-300,000), a powerful example of Stella's innovative, geometric style. An extraordinary and rare work by

Roy Lichtenstein, *Setting Sun and Sea* (pictured pg 1 center, estimate: \$800,000-1,200,000) exhibited in his third solo show, rounds out the selection of works by Post-War masters being offered. By using a seductive palette of navy blue and white, and converting a sea-side sunset into a solid, reproducible shape, Lichtenstein reduces nature to stylized geometry, creating a tongue in cheek art-deco reference and a precursor to his "Modern" paintings.

The Morning Session will also include a *Portrait of Rachel Zurer* by Alice Neel, (estimate: \$150,000-200,000); a captivating painting by Helen Frankenthaler, *Springscape* (estimate: \$200,000-300,000); and sculptures by Yayoi Kusama, Claes Oldenberg, David Smith, and John Chamberlain, among others.

Afternoon Session – The Afternoon Session is comprised of a selection of contemporary works by some of the most coveted contemporary artists in today's market. Among the highlights is a rare and exceptional *Untitled Film Still #15* by Cindy Sherman, from 1978 (pictured, right, estimate: \$300,000-400,000). The present work belongs to Sherman's internationally renown series of photographs of herself posing in different stereotypical female roles, and is from an edition of one with one artist's proof. Sherman began the series in 1977, when she was twenty-three, creating an elaborate network of sixty-nine different roles played by the contemporary woman.





Inspired by the ancient ruins of the Yucatan, in Mexico, Sean Scully's, *Wall of Light, Temozon*, (pictured left, estimate: \$600,000-800,000), reflects the artist's interest in the effects of light on crumbling stone. In the present meditative work, Scully creates tonal and chromatic intensity by thickly layering paint in vertical and horizontal bands.

The sale offers an elegant, minimalist masterwork by Robert Mangold, 1/4 W Series, from 1968 (estimate: \$500,000-700,000)

and a Keith Haring Untitled 'tarp painting' from 1983 (estimate: \$350,000-500,000).

Executed in epic scale in 1999, Andreas Gursky's *Toys* "R" *Us*, (estimate: \$300,000-400,000) exudes the cool, minimalist aesthetic and abstract beauty present in Gursky's best work. The image is restrained, pared down to horizontal bands of gray, and punctuated by bursts of saturated color. Korean artist Do Ho Suh's work *Seoul Home/La Home: Bathroom*, (estimate: 100,000-150,000) is a

clever refabrication of the artist's bathroom out of silk, which addresses the issue of cultural displacement and homesickness.

Among the notable highlights is a rare, early work by Chuck Close, *Self-Portrait Maquette*, executed in 1968 (estimate: \$150,000-200,000), which provides the source imagery for one of Close's earliest self-portraits. Additional highlights include Sterling Ruby's, *SP32*, 2008 (pictured right, estimate: \$80,000-120,000), On Kawara's, *February 10, 1982* (estimate: \$250,000-350,000), and John Baldassari's *Cruelty and Cowardice* 

(with Malice), 1988-1989, (estimate: \$200,000-300,000). Works by Maurizio Cattelan, George Condo, Marlene Dumas, Damien Hirst, Jenny Holzer, Yoshimoto Nara, and Jeff Wall, among others will be offered.



Auction: November 11, 2009 at 10am and 2pm

E-catalogues for the Post-War and Contemporary Art Evening and Day Sales now available online at www.christies.com

Viewing: November 6-10, 2009 -

Christie's Galleries at 20 Rockefeller Center

Yoshimoto Nara, *Runaway Baby*, 1995 Estimate: \$200,000-300,000

## **About Christie's**

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\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium

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