

CHRISTIE'S

8 King Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6QT

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[All sold prices include buyer's premium]

Important Russian Pictures Tuesday 30th November 2004

Sold: £ 9,267,990	Lots offered: 339	Lots sold: 202	\$ 1.889 / €1.425
\$17,507,233	Sold by lot: 60%	Sold by £: 75%	Sale code: 7019
€ 13,206,885			

Comment: Alexis de Tiesenhausen, International Director of Russian Works of Art:

Today, Christie's became the first auction house to break the £1 million mark for a 19th century Russian painting, with two works, Aivazovskii's *St Isaac's on a frosty day* (lot 70), which sold for £1,125,250, and Repin's *Study of a family portrait* (lot 155), which realized £1,013,250. Both prices also established new world records at auction for the artists. The price set by the Aivazovskii broke the record established by Christie's in London in November 2003, and set a new record for the most expensive 19th century Russian painting ever sold at auction. Quality rather than quantity was the strongest message of the day. A sale-room packed with international collectors fought against bidders on the telephones, and on many occasions the victor of the battle had to pay far in excess of the pre-sale estimate to secure works of superb quality. Buyer activity in the sale was 30% from Russia, 25% from UK, 28% from Europe excluding the UK, 11% from the Americas and 6% from others.

LOT	PRICE \$	€	ESTIMATE	BUYER	
70	£1,125,250	\$2,125,597	€1,603,481	£1,000,000-1,500,000	Anonymous
Ivan Konstantinovich Aivazovskii (1817-1900), <i>St Isaac's on a frosty day</i> WORLD RECORD AT AUCTION FOR THE ARTIST					
155	£1,013,250	\$1,914,029	€1,443,881	£350,000-450,000	Anonymous
Il'ia Efimovich Repin (1844-1930), <i>Study of a family portrait</i> , 1905 WORLD RECORD AT AUCTION FOR THE ARTIST					
79	£766,850	\$1,448,579	€1,092,761	£450,000-550,000	Anonymous
Ivan Ivanovich Shishkin (1832-1898), <i>Wooded landscape</i> , 1876 WORLD RECORD AT AUCTION FOR THE ARTIST					
127	£733,250	\$1,385,109	€1,044,881	£100,000-120,000	Anonymous
Henrik Ippolipovich Semiradskii (1843-1902), <i>A travelling merchant in ancient Greece</i> WORLD RECORD AT AUCTION FOR THE ARTIST					
154	£430,850	\$813,875	€613,961	£150,000-200,000	Anonymous
Ivan Konstantinovich Aivazovskii (1817-1900), <i>Dawn at Sea</i>					
39	£341,250	\$644,621	€486,281	£200,000-250,000.	Anonymous
Nikolai Egorovich Sverchkov (1817-1898), <i>Emperor Alexander II and Kaiser Willhelm I in a carriage with a view of the Peter-Paul fortress, St Petersburg</i> , 1873 WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR THE ARTIST					
146	£285,250	\$538,837	€406,481	£300,000-400,000	Anonymous
Ivan Ivanovich Shishkin (1832-1898), <i>Sandy coastline</i> , 1879					
125	£251,650	\$475,366	€358,601	£70,000-90,000	Anonymous
Konstantin Andreevich Somov (1869-1939), <i>Promenade</i> , 1918 WORLD RECORD AT AUCTION FOR THE ARTIST					
116	£184,450	\$348,426	€262,841	£90,000-110,000	Anonymous
Konstantin Alekseevich Korovin (1861-1939), <i>A ballerina at her toilette</i> , 1918 WORLD RECORD AT AUCTION FOR THE ARTIST					
191	£184,450	\$348,426	€262,841	£100,000-150,000	American Collector
Kuz'ma Sergeevich Petrov-Vodkin (1878-1939), <i>Early Morning</i> , 1917 WORLD RECORD AT AUCTION FOR THE ARTIST					