

Press Release

CHRISTIE'S

佳士得香港有限公司

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**CHRISTIE'S HONG KONG AUTUMN SALES ACHIEVE HK\$1.08 BILLION/
US\$139 MILLION –
A RECORD TOTAL FOR ANY SERIES OF AUCTIONS IN ASIA**

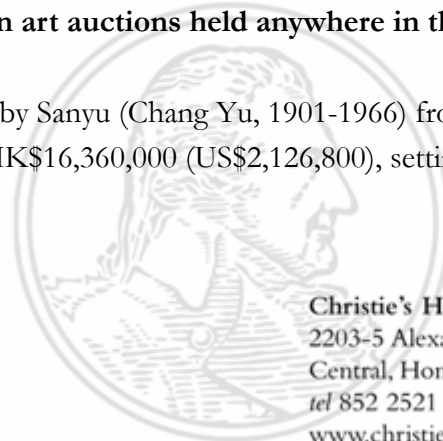
Hong Kong – Christie's Asian Art, Jewellery and Watches Autumn Auctions held in Hong Kong from 27 to 30 November realized a spectacular total of **over HK\$1.08 billion (US\$139 million), establishing a record high sale total for any series of auctions in Asia.** World records in numerous categories were set.

In a packed saleroom, bidders from around the world competed furiously for the exceptional pieces offered in the sales, driving the prices of many lots well above their pre-sale estimates.

"I am very proud of the achievements of Christie's Hong Kong this autumn. We have surpassed the HK\$1 billion mark - the first time any auction house in Asia has achieved this for a series of sales," said Mr. Edward Dolman, Chief Executive Officer of Christie's International. "Our decision to move to the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre has allowed for a more expansive, state-of-the-art exhibition of Asian art, jewellery and watches and was both appreciated by our growing number of clients and richly rewarded by record prices and sales totals. The market in Asia, and specifically Hong Kong, remains extremely strong and I am delighted that Christie's extend their position as the auction house of choice in Asia and the clear market leader in the global art market."

The Asian art sales held from 27-29 November totalled over HK\$782.6 million (US\$100.6 million), **setting a record total for any series of Asian art auctions held anywhere in the world.**

In the *20th Century Chinese Art* sale, *Four Nudes* by Sanyu (Chang Yu, 1901-1966) from the Collection of the Yageo Foundation in Taiwan sold for HK\$16,360,000 (US\$2,126,800), setting a new world auction record for the artist.



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The inaugural *Asian Contemporary Art* sale featured superb works by contemporary Chinese, Korean and Japanese artists. It was the first time that an international auction house held a sale devoted entirely to Asian contemporary art. The top lot was *Gweong-Gweong* by Yue Minjun (Born in 1962) which realized HK\$4,936,000 (US\$641,680), establishing a world auction record for the artist.

Taking the centre-stage in the *Fine Modern and Contemporary Chinese Paintings* sale was *Water Bamboo Village* by Zhang Daqian (1899-1983), achieving HK\$4,712,000 (US\$612,560) after spirited bidding.

Xiaoxue in Small Standard Script Calligraphy by Xia Chang (1388-1470) sold for HK\$15,240,000 (US\$1,981,200) in the *Fine Classical Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy* sale, setting a world auction record for the artist.

In the *Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Art* sale, *Rojak seller* by Lee Man Fong (Indonesia 1913-1988) achieved HK\$3,928,000 (US\$510,640).

In the *Important Chinese Ceramics* sale, an exceptionally rare and important blue and white jar, *guan*, Yuan Dynasty (mid-14th Century) sold for a staggering HK\$47,160,000 (US\$6,130,800), establishing the second highest price for a Yuan vessel. It is one of only eight Yuan period jars decorated with narrative scenes known to exist.

A magnificent Imperial embellished cloisonné enamel butter-tea jar, cover and stand, from the Qianlong period (1736-1795) fetched HK\$10,760,000 (US\$1,398,800) in the *Important Chinese Works of Art* sale, establishing a world auction record for a Qing dynasty cloisonné enamelled ware.

The *Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery* sale realized in excess of HK\$239 million (US\$31 million). The top lot was a Harry Winston rectangular-cut fancy intense yellow, VVS2 clarity diamond ring of 83.48 carats which achieved HK\$17,368,000 (US\$2,257,840).

The sale of *Important Watches including the Fine Collection of a Gentleman* totalled over HK\$61 million (US\$7.9 million). A very exceptional Franck Muller platinum tonneau-shaped dual axis tourbillon retrograde wristwatch sold for HK\$3,144,000 (US\$408,720), establishing a world auction record for a Franck Muller wristwatch.

Christie's Hong Kong achieved a grand total of over HK\$2.07 billion (US\$267 million) for their 2005 Spring and Autumn auctions, the **highest annual sales total set by any auction house in Asia.**

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