

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Avant-Garde Asian Contemporary Art to be presented at Christie's Spring Sales in May

Asian Contemporary & Chinese 20th Century Art Evening Sale

Saturday, 29 May 2010, 7:30pm

Asian Contemporary Art Day Sale

Sunday, 30 May 2010, 4:30pm

Hong Kong – Christie's Evening and Day sales of *Asian Contemporary Art* on 29 May and 30 May in Hong Kong will bring together the dynamic worlds of contemporary art from China, Japan, Korea and India. Christie's continues to offer a platform showcasing the best in contemporary and Chinese 20th Century art from these countries, and this season will present over 480 works with a pre-sale estimate in excess of HK\$260 million (US\$30 million). Diverse in subject matter, styles and techniques, and yet distinctly Asian in artistic temperament, these works present a regional view of contemporary Asia. With the careful and expert selection of Christie's global specialists, the works in this sale cater to the broad tastes of collectors from around the world.

An Iconic Work from Andy Warhol A first for Christie's in Hong Kong



© 2010 The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York




Andy Warhol's *Mao* series is considered his most important statement of the 1970s. After years of a self-imposed hiatus from art-making, Warhol read in the press that Chairman Mao was the most famous living person, inspiring him to return to his studio and add the Great Helmsman to his pantheon of "superstars", alongside his then already famous portraits of Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Presley, and Elizabeth Taylor. Warhol's choice of Mao as a subject had nothing to do with any great political intention, but because of the larger-than-life status Mao

held in his own country and abroad. Christie's is proud to include this rare, complete set of 10 screenprints, complete with the original cardboard box, in this season's Evening Sale, marking the first time a work of Western contemporary art will be offered at Christie's Hong Kong. The arrival of Warhol signals not only the enormous influence Warhol has had on contemporary art, but suggests the multiplicity of visions and voices that have brought us to a truly global contemporary art, reaffirming the ways in which the innovation and creativity of Asian artists have brought them to the forefront of the contemporary art world. (estimate: HK\$3,000,000 – 5,000,000 / US\$384,600 – 641,000) **Please [click here](#) for further details of this lot.**

Contemporary Chinese Avant-Garde

Contemporary Chinese avant-garde art emerged from an extraordinary set of historical and cultural circumstances, leading to one of the most radical breaks with art history and tradition in recent memory. After three decades under Chairman Mao's rule, by the 1980s, large volumes of Western publications were translated into Chinese, bringing an influx of new ideas on modern art and giving birth to the 1985 'New Wave' art movement. Young artists, stirred by the influence of various schools in Western art, began to adopt new creative ideas to revitalize Chinese contemporary art and culture, sparking intense intellectual debates, particularly with respect to the issue of establishing new artistic vocabularies, styles, and techniques that were reflective of contemporary Chinese experience. Liberated from the politicized strictures of Socialist Realism and academic art, their investigations into art-making, history, and identity were deepened not only by the Tian'anmen Square Incident in 1989, but by China's rapid path of modernization and the emergence of a flourishing consumer culture, and the related transformation of everyday life. The powerful artistic expressions that emerged were familiar and yet strange, humorous and poetic, ironically dispassionate and ideologically strident. This furious outpouring of creativity and innovation established Chinese contemporary art as one of the most compelling areas of art-making in the contemporary art world.




Highlights of Chinese Contemporary Art:

	<p>Among this season's highlights are over 33 works of Chinese contemporary art from <i>The Collection of Kathy & Lawrence Schiller</i> of Southern California. Mr. Schiller is an award-winning photographer, Emmy-award winning motion picture producer and director, and best-selling author. Mrs. Schiller has been a Hollywood studio photographer for over 30 years. Their relationship with China spans four decades, and Mr. and Mrs. Schiller will be donating a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the collection to a charity organisation, the Animals Asia Foundation (http://www.animalsasia.org).</p> <p>ZENG FANZHI (B. 1964) Mask Series signed in Chinese; signed 'Zeng Fanzhi' in Pinyin; dated '2000' (lower right) oil on canvas Painted in 2000 Estimate: HK\$7,000,000 – 10,000,000 / US\$897,400 – 1,282,100 <i>* Christie's currently holds the World Auction Record for Zeng Fanzhi.</i> Please click here for further details of this lot.</p>
	<p>WANG GUANGYI (B. 1957) Great Criticism - Art and Power dated '2005-2006'; signed in Chinese; signed 'Wang Guang Yi' in Pinyin (on the reverse) oil on canvas, triptych Painted in 2005-2006 Estimate: HK\$3,000,000 – 5,000,000 / US\$384,600 – 641,000 Please click here for further details of this lot.</p>
	<p>ZHANG XIAOGANG (B. 1958) The Big Family No. 6 signed in Chinese; signed 'Zhang Xiaogang' in Pinyin; dated '1997' (lower right) oil on canvas Painted in 1997 Estimate: HK\$2,400,000 - 3,200,000 - USD\$307,700 - 410,300 Please click here for further details of this lot.</p>

Japanese Contemporary Art

Japanese contemporary art emerged as a result of cultural and political changes in the post World War II era, where rapid social changes ensued and probed the nation to seek a new sense of identity in a time of revolution. Through an examination of contemporary Japanese art, we find a deeply personal exploration that often results in surreal and deeply imaginative works of provocative themes, executed with bold colours and diverse mediums. They are also equally infused with elements of classical calligraphy and *nibonga* (Japanese ink painting) in the delicate use of line and spatial perspective, a unique expressive and visual demonstration of their acceptance of Japan's modernization and an effort of smoothly integrate Western, contemporary and historic ideals.

Highlights of Japanese Contemporary Art:




 <p>©KONOIKE Tomoko/ Courtesy Mizuma Art Gallery</p>	<p>TOMOKO KONOIKE (B. 1960) Chapter Three "Wreck" signed 'Tomoko Konoike' in English (on the reverse of each panel) a set of seven acrylic and sumi ink on Japanese paper, mounted on wood panel Painted in 2005 Estimate: HK\$800,000 – 1,200,000 / US\$102,600 – 153,800 Please click here for further details of this lot.</p>
 <p>©YAMAGUCHI Akira/ Courtesy Mizuma Art Gallery</p>	<p>AKIRA YAMAGUCHI (B. 1969) Shintenko (Jikokuten, Zochoten, Tamonten, Komokuten) signed and dated in Japanese (on a label on the reverse of each work) four oil, watercolour and ink on canvas, mounted on wood panel Painted in 2006 Estimate: HK\$ 1,500,000 – 2,500,000 / US\$ 192,300 – 320,500 Please click here for further details of this lot.</p>
	<p>KEI HIRAGA (KEY HIRAGA, 1936-2000) Room with an Ocean View Signed 'Key Hiraga' in English; dated '92' (lower right); signed and inscribed in Japanese (on the reverse) acrylic on canvas Estimate: HKD180,000 - 260,000 / USD\$23,100 - 33,300 Please click here for further details of this lot.</p>

Korean Contemporary Art

A country that underwent rapid progression since the Japanese colonialism, Korea's receptivity to globalization is what bred the diversity seen in Korean contemporary art. The increasingly hybrid culture of contemporary society seeking to balance and preserve their valuable past and traditions, while advocating for rapid modernization to find economical and national independence, is what distinguishes the Korean cultural identity and forms a core theme explored by its contemporary artists.

Korean artists are celebrated for their exceptional technical abilities, experimentation with materials and hyper-realistic paintings. While Korean artists explore traditional principles, their subject matter remains simply modern in outlook, as they respond to current issues such as globalization, existentialism, alienation and the everyday experience. Kang's persuasive illustrations simulate a sense of reality and presence parallel to technology's ability to provide an illusion of reality through its televised and electronic images, both Paik Nam June and Kim Dong Yoo recognizes this historical significance and exploits its implications for the changing media environment and technological development.

Highlights of Korean Contemporary Art:

	<p>PAIK NAM JUNE (1932-2006) <i>Rocketship to Virtual Venus</i> aluminium framework, 36 Samsung 13 in. TVs (model TL31 46M), neon tubes, 3 laserdiscs, 3 laserdisc players, 3 master tapes, wooden ornaments, wire, 4 multiple socket boards, 5 x 220/110 V transformers and 19th Century stone sculpture Executed in 1991 Estimate: HK\$2,500,000 – 4,500,000 / US\$ 320,500 – 576,900 Please click here for further details of this lot.</p>
	<p>KIM DONG YOO (B. 1965) <i>Marilyn Monroe VS Marilyn Monroe</i> oil on canvas Painted in 2008 Estimate: HK\$800,000 – 1,200,000 / US\$102,600 – 153,800 Please click here for further details of this lot.</p>
	<p>KANG HYUNG KOO (B. 1954) <i>Warhol's Gaze</i> oil on canvas Painted in 2009-2010 Estimate: HKD\$550,000 - 750,000 / USD\$70,500 - 96,200 Please click here for further details of this lot.</p>

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Beginning 11 May 2010, log on to www.christies.com/hongkong to view a special online video seminar on ASIAN CONTEMPORARY ART and CHINESE 20TH CENTURY ART, presented by our specialists in the field. The site will also include artist biographies, related essays and much more.

Click here for image:

<http://cshk.myftp.org/Spring%202010%20Christie's%20Hong%20Kong%20Auctions/AsianContemp20CCArt/Images/ACA/>

Auction

Asian Contemporary Art & Chinese 20th Century Art Evening Sale

Saturday, 29 May 2010, 7 pm

Asian Contemporary Art Day Sale

Sunday, 30 May 2010, 4:30pm

Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre

Public Previews:

Taipei

Fubon Life Assurance Building, Taiwan

Saturday, 22 May – Sunday, 23 May 2010

10:30am – 6:30pm

Hong Kong

Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre

Wednesday, 26 May – Sunday, 30 May 2010

10:30am – 6:00pm

For more information about Christie's Hong Kong Spring 2010 Season Highlights go to www.christies.com/chinese

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business had global auction and private sales in 2009 that totalled £2.1 billion/\$3.3 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's conducted the greatest auctions of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, and today remains a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 450 sales annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$80 million. Christie's has 53 offices in 30 countries and 10 salesrooms around the world including London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai and Hong Kong. More recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in emerging and new markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai. For more information, please visit www.christies.com

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium*