

CHRISTIE'S

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHRISTIE'S JAPAN UNVEILS NEW TOKYO OFFICE DESIGNED BY INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY ARTIST HIROSHI SUGIMOTO

HIGHLIGHTED BY AN OPENING EXHIBITION FEATURING A SELECTION OF WORKS
BY THE ARTIST INCLUDING WORKS FROM HIS PERSONAL COLLECTION



**Standing Figure of Juichimen Kannon
(Eleven-Headed Kannon)**
Heian Period (10th - 11th century)
Wood
©Hiroshi Sugimoto
Courtesy of Gallery Koyanagi

TOKYO – This winter, Christie's Japan will present an exhibition of works by world-renowned artist Hiroshi Sugimoto. On view from December 7-8, 2012, the exhibition is being held to recognize the artist for his design of the new Christie's Tokyo office.

An internationally acclaimed Japanese artist with a celebrated body of work, Hiroshi Sugimoto produces art in a variety of mediums. Recognized for his accomplishments in contemporary art and architecture, Sugimoto is also known as an avid collector, passionate for a wide range of art, from ancient artifacts to contemporary works. Comprising a series of his photography presented alongside a selection of works of art from his personal collection, the exhibition will be held in the gallery of the Christie's Tokyo office, designed by the artist himself.

The year 2013 marks the 40th anniversary of Christie's Japan, and to coincide with this auspicious achievement, Christie's Japan has relocated to a pre-war stone building designated as Important Cultural Property in Marunouchi, one of Japan's most prestigious business districts, and located between Tokyo station and the Imperial Palace. Sugimoto oversaw the design of the entire Tokyo office, with special emphasis placed on the aesthetics of the entrance area, gallery space, and the main meeting room facing the outer garden of the Imperial Palace.

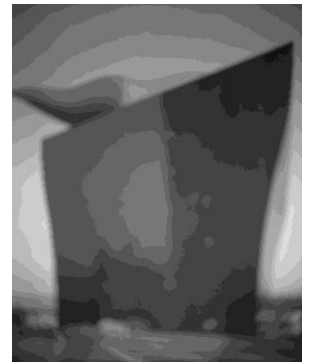
Hiroshi Sugimoto comments: *"In harmony and respect...What manner of design might befit the Tokyo office of Christie's, to best reflect its leading role in the booming world art market?"*



Gyodomen (Gyodo Mask)
Heian Period (10th - 11th century)
Wood and gold leaf over lacquer
©Hiroshi Sugimoto
Courtesy of Gallery Koyanagi

I posed this question to myself as an architect. Artworks both soothe and enrich the human spirit. No matter how opposed we as people might be politically, the artworks gathered here under one roof from so many different countries will surely please our eyes. Accordingly, I based my design for the entrance area in keeping with Prince Shotoku's injunction to "uphold harmony as to act with respect" that appears at the very beginning of the Seventeen Article Constitution of Empress Suiko's reign."

Ryutaro Katayama, Managing Director of Christie's Japan, comments: *"Mr. Sugimoto, a globally renowned artist, successfully created a space where the East and the West harmonize, and the past and the present blend together seamlessly. This interior marks the artist's latest aesthetic achievement and one with which Christie's is proud to be associated."*



Asahi Breweries
(Architect: Philippe Starck)
1997
Gelatin silver print
©Hiroshi Sugimoto
Courtesy of Gallery Koyanagi

***MEDIA NOTE**

Exhibition

Title: “Sugimoto Collection and his artwork”

Date: December 7 - 8, 2012

Time: 11:00 – 19:00

Venue: Christie’s Japan Ltd. Meiji Seimei Kan 4F, 2-1-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0005 JAPAN

**(By invitation or appointment)*

Please RSVP to: infojapan@christies.com

Press Viewing with Hiroshi Sugimoto

Date: December 6, 2012

Time: 15:00 - 16:00

Venue: Christie’s Japan Ltd. Meiji Seimei Kan 4F, 2-1-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0005 JAPAN

Please RSVP to: infojapan@christies.com

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ABOUT CHRISTIE’S

Christie’s, the world’s leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2011 that totaled £3.6 billion/\$5.7 billion. For the first half of 2012, sales totaled £2.2 billion / \$3.5 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 has since conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie’s offers over 450 auctions 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 \$100 million. Christie’s also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War and Contemporary, Impressionist and Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales totaled £502 million / \$808.6m in 2011, an increase of 44% on the previous year.

Christie’s has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, and Hong Kong. More recently, Christie’s has led the market with expanded initiatives in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.