

CHRISTIE'S

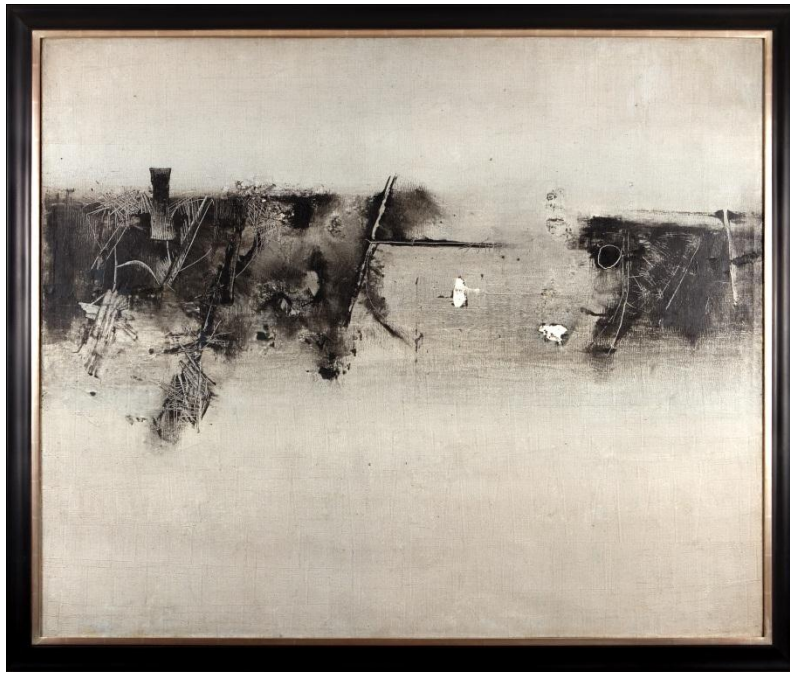
PRESS RELEASE | LONDON
For Immediate Release | 9 May 2013

MASTERPIECE BY VASUDEO S. GAITONDE

SUPERB WORKS BY M. F. HUSAIN ON THE CENTENARY YEAR OF HIS BIRTH
HIGHLIGHTED BY WORKS FROM THE BHOWNAGARY FAMILY COLLECTION

COLLECTION OF WORKS BY SRI LANKAN MASTER GEORGE KEYT

CONTEMPORARY WORKS BY SUBODH GUPTA,
JITISH KALLAT, FARIDA BATOOL, & YAMINI NAYAR



Vasudeo S. Gaitonde (1974-2001), *Untitled*. Estimate: £500,000-700,000

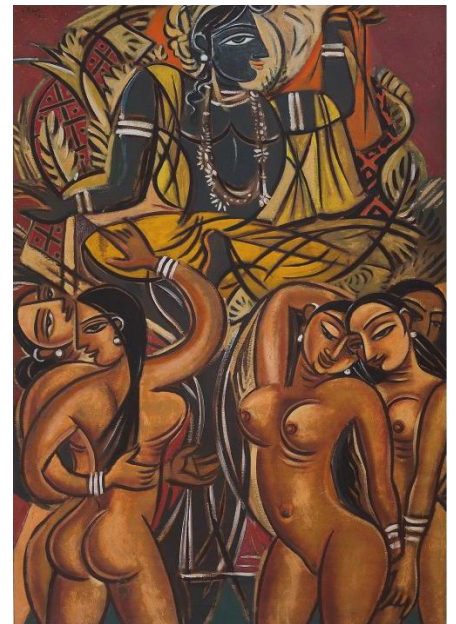
London – At Christie's on June 11 cutting edge contemporary artists from across the subcontinent will see their works sold at auction alongside those of the great modern masters in a sale of South Asian Modern + Contemporary Art. The sale will be part of 'Indian Art Week' at Christie's in London and will build on the success of our New York sales in March.

The sale is led by a pivotal work by Vasudeo S. Gaitonde (1974-2001), *Untitled*, which is also the largest canvas by the artist to be offered at auction and dates from the mid-1960s, recognised as the artist's prime period. From an important private collection, and offered a year before an exhibition of works by the artist at the Guggenheim Museum in New York., it is estimated at £500,000-700,000 (shown above).



The sale also includes a rich selection of works by the modern master Maqbool Fida Husain (1913-2011). A fitting tribute to the centenary of his birth, the works celebrate the key periods of Husain's oeuvre and show the evolution of his career. From the Bhowmagary Family Collection comes Husain's *Ganga Jamuna* of 1971 estimated at £400,000-600,000 (shown here). Jehangir 'Jean' Bhowmagary was the Indian government's film advisor and producer of Husain's award-winning 1967 film *Through the Eyes of a Painter*.

Six works by the great Sri Lankan modern master, George Keyt (1901-1993), are among the most outstanding masterpieces by the artist and leading works in the sale. Highlights include *Courtship* (1973), illustrated on the cover of Keyt's essential monograph (estimate: £25,000-35,000), and *Gopika Vastra Paharana* (1952) expected to sell for £40,000-60,000 (shown here). This beautifully documented selection is offered for sale by European collectors Rene Margies and Matthias Servais who were close friends of the artist while they were living in Sri Lanka.



A jewel in the sale is Francis Newton Souza's *Rome* (1960) acquired from Gallery One, the dealership that first represented the artist in London in the early 1950s, and thus much sought after by serious collectors. It is estimated at £40,000-60,000.



Exciting contemporary photography includes a lenticular print by Farida Batool (b. 1970) and a pair of photographs by Yamini Nayar, whose work is being offered for the first time at Christie's. Batool's lenticular works (similar to a hologram in effect) depict nostalgic scenes from everyday life in Pakistan (shown here). Showing an innocent child skipping on a dilapidated street in Lahore, it is estimated at £3,000-4,000. A pair of photographs by Yamini Nayar (b.

1975) is typical of her work which documents the miniature installations built in her studio from raw and found materials, (estimate: £2,500-3,500 sold as a pair). A rare example of photography by renowned artist Subodh Gupta captures a crowded train station—a quintessential element of Indian culture (estimate: £2,000-3,000).

Generations of Indians have grown up on the comic-book images of the *Amar Chitra Katha* and the New York-based artist Chitra Ganesh has created a complete series, in an edition of five, based on these stories which take mythological scenes from Indian legend as their inspiration. These witty, highly coloured, pop-art images are estimated at £8,000-12,000 (for all 21 works). The sale will feature additional contemporary works by internationally acclaimed artists including Subodh Gupta, mentioned above, represented by his iconic airport trollies (estimate: £70,000-90,000), Jitish Kallat *Rickshawpolis* (estimate: £60,000-90,000), Ravinder Reddy with a beautiful golded head of a woman (estimate: £25,000-35,000 – shown here), and Rina Banerjee.



Sale: June 11, 2013 at 11am

Public Viewing: June 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 – check website for exact details

Christie's, 8 King Street, London, SW1

For regularly updated news on the category, visit: <http://www.christies.com/sales/christies-global-asian-art/>

PRESS CONTACT:

Alexandra Kindermann | Telephone +41 44 268 1019 | akindermann@christies.com
Emma Cunningham | Telephone +44 207 389 2664 / +44 7881 843447 | ecunningham@christies.com

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2012 that totalled £3.92 billion/\$6.27 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 totalled £631.3 million/\$1 billion in 2012, an increase of 26% on the same period last 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 in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and the Middle East, with successful sales, exhibitions and initiatives in Moscow, Baku, Beijing, Mumbai, Delhi, Jeddah, Abu Dhabi, Doha and Dubai.

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and do not reflect costs, financing fees or application of buyer's or seller's credits.*

#

Images available on request
Visit Christie's Website at www.christies.com

