

CHRISTIE'S

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CHRISTIE'S TO OFFER EXCEPTIONAL WORKS OF JAPANESE AND KOREAN ART ON SEPTEMBER 18



Lot 690
Shibata Zeshin (1807-1891)
Album of twelve lacquer paintings [one illustrated]
7 ⁵/₈ x 6. ⁵/₈ in. (19.5 x 16.8cm.) each
Estimate: \$120,000-180,000



Lot 825
A Blue and White Porcelain Brush Holder
Joseon dynasty (late 18th -19th century)
4 ³/₈ in. (10.7cm.) high; 4 ⁷/₈ in. (12.4cm.) diameter
Estimate: \$150,000-180,000

New York – On 18 September, Christie's will present the fall sale of *Japanese and Korean Art*, which will feature over 300 lots of exceptional craftsmanship and provenance. An exquisite 16th-17th century six-panel Nanban screen depicting a Portuguese trading ship will highlight the Japanese portion of the sale, while the Korean portion offers a selection of blue and white porcelain and modern master Kim Whanki's *Island Sketches*.

JAPANESE ART



Highlighting the Japanese portion of the sale is a six-panel Nanban screen from the late 16th to early 17th century, titled *A Portuguese Ship Comes to Trade* (Lot 633; pictured above, estimate: \$700,000-900,000). The screen depicts a Portuguese nau, which was known to the Japanese as the *kurofune* (black ship) or *nanban bune* (ship of the Nanban). The subject matter of foreigners who arrived from the south, or “Southern Barbarians” fascinated the Japanese, and numerous versions were created by professional paintings ateliers in Kyoto. Nanban screens such as this one were so popular that they were ranked second only to screens depicting *Scenes In and Around the Capital*. Two similar screens can be found in Japan’s Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture.

Also among the Japanese highlights are twelve newly discovered paintings for an accordion album, which are made of lacquer on paper and lacquer and gold leaf on paper (Lot 690; one of twelve pictured page 1, estimate: \$120,000-180,000). Each painting is signed *Zeshin*, sealed *Koma*, *Zeshin*, *Shin*, or *Tairyukyo*. The box is signed, sealed and authenticated by Umezawa Ryushin (1874-1952), the youngest of Zeshin’s three sons, and by Ayaoka Yushin (1846-1910), one of Zeshin’s students. These paintings feature landscapes, plant, and animal studies and it is possible that they correspond to the twelve months. Considering date, quality, and style, the album for which these paintings were made closely resembles the album with lacquer paintings in the Imperial Household Collection, which was purchased in 1881 at the National Industrial Exposition.

Two square earthenware dishes (Lot 523; one of two pictured right, estimate: \$100,000-150,000) featuring pine tree designs were created during the 18th century Edo period, one of which is painted with a grove of pines beneath a poem. Signed *Kenzan sei sho* and sealed *Kenzan* and *Sei sho*, this dish is likely by Kenzan’s hand, or by that of his brother, Korin. The second dish, featuring a moss-covered pine tree, is inscribed with a date in the spring of 1711, marking the end of the period during which Ogata Kenzan operated his kiln in the hills in the northwestern suburbs of Kyoto. Dated Kenzan ware are very rare and there is only one other square dish with a similar date, which resides in a private collection in Japan.



ADDITIONAL JAPANESE HIGHLIGHTS



Lot 688
A Magnificent Lacquer Book Cabinet (Shodana)
Meiji Period (Late 19th century)
41 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 38 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. (106 x 96.8 x 40cm.)
Estimate: \$180,000-220,000



Lot 620
Toshusai Sharaku
Tanikaze and Daidozan
Ink and light color on paper; mounted on paper board
13 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 9 $\frac{1}{8}$ in. (33.2 x 23.2 cm)
Estimate: \$300,000-400,000



Lot 649
A Shinto Wood Figure of a Male Deity
Heian Period (11th – 12th Century)
18 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (46.4 cm.) high
Estimate: \$60,000-80,000



Lot 759
A large inlaid-iron dish
Meiji period (late 19th century)
15 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. (40cm.) diameter
Estimate: \$70,000-90,000

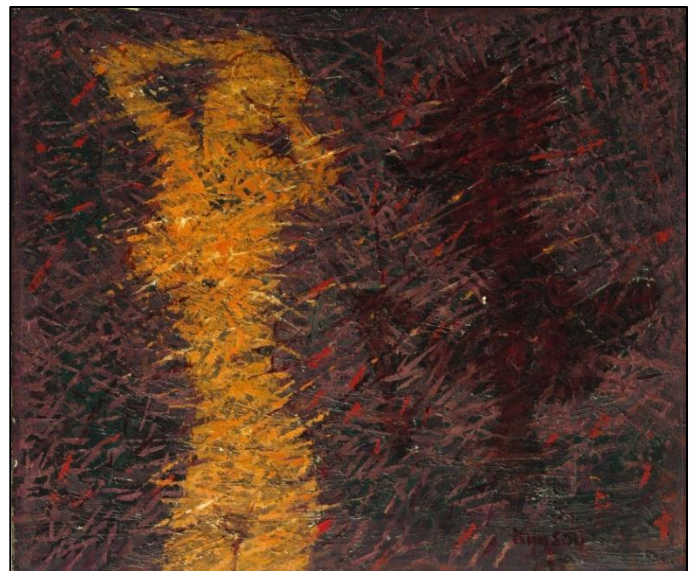
KOREAN ART

Leading a selection of Korean porcelain is a blue and white porcelain brush holder from the 18th – 19th century Joseon dynasty (Lot 825; *pictured page 1 and right*, estimate: \$150,000-180,000). This brush holder painted in cobalt blue with budding and blossoming plum boughs, bamboo and orchids is an elegant example of Korean artistic mastery. Also among the Korean porcelain highlights is a vividly painted ovoid-shaped jar, which depicts two animated tigers beneath a gnarled pine tree (Lot 818; *pictured page 5, upper right*; estimate: \$40,000-60,000).



Kim Whanki's *Island Sketches* (Lot 851; *pictured below, left*; estimate: \$600,000-800,000) evokes the figures, vivid colors, and imagery of the artist's birthplace – the island of Anjado, off the southernmost coast of Korea. Similar in composition to the artist's *Island Story*, the oil on canvas repeats the forms of village women carrying jars of precious fresh water on their heads and the semicircles surrounding the scene symbolize the waves of the sea. *Island Sketches* was executed earlier in the artist's career, around 1940, after Kim had begun experimenting with abstraction and approximately three years following his first solo show, which was held at the Amagi gallery in Japan. Over the past 70 years, Kim's reputation as a modern master has been cemented, with his work having been shown continuously in the Americas, Europe and East Asia, including two special exhibitions at the São Paulo Biennale in 1965 and 1977 and retrospectives on the tenth, fifteenth, twentieth, twenty-fifth and thirtieth anniversaries of his death in 1974.

Also among the modern Korean highlights of the sale is *Two Figures* by Kim Sou (Lot 839; *pictured below, right*; estimate: \$8,000-12,000), one of a small number of Korean artists who were able to travel to Paris in the 1950s. It was here that he broke from realism and began to gain traction is abstractionism. The resulting style is exemplified in *Two Figures* and was dubbed by Kim as *Harmonism*, likening it to the dualities of existence and aesthetics.



ADDITIONAL KOREAN HIGHLIGHTS



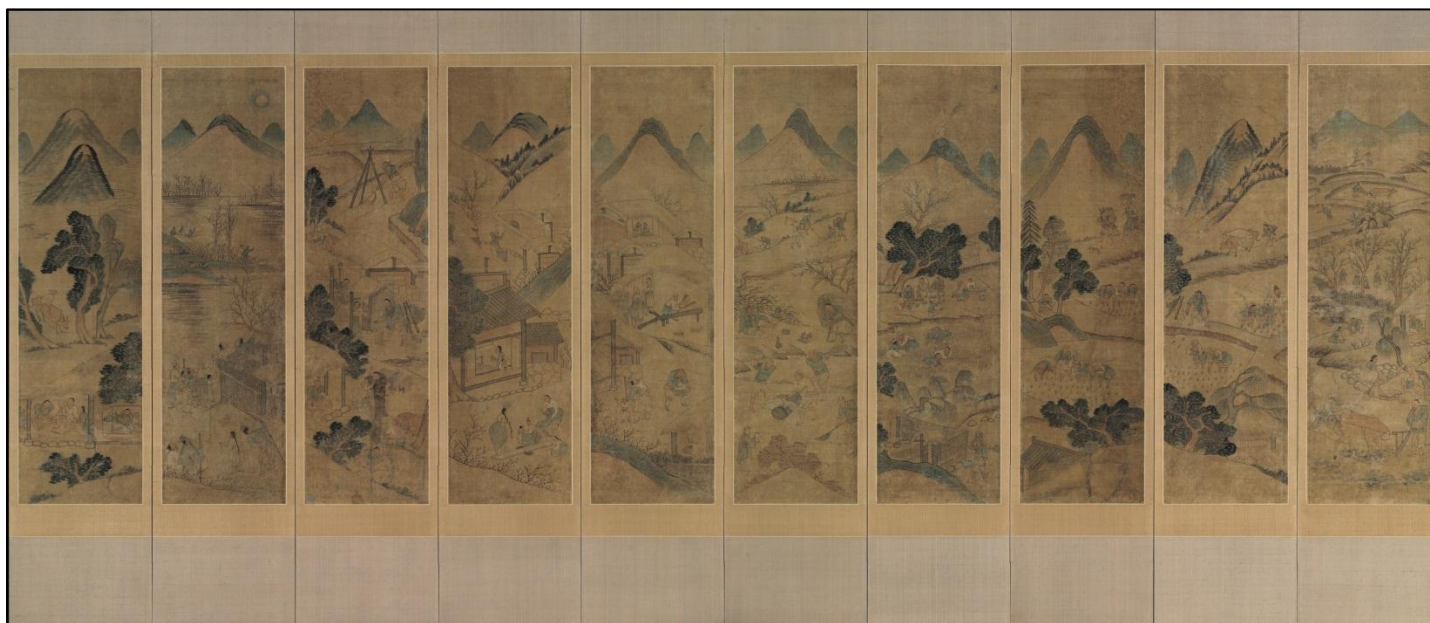
Lot 821

A Large Blue And White Hexagonal Porcelain Waterdropper
Joseon Dynasty (19th century)
2 ⁷/₈in. (7.3cm.) high; 4 ⁷/₈in. (12.5cm.) diameter
Estimate: \$80,000-100,000



Lot 818

A Blue And White Jar With Tigers
Joseon Dynasty (19th century)
12in. (30.5cm.) high
Estimate: \$40,000-60,000



Lot 799

Anonymous (Late 19th century), Scenes of rice planting and harvesting
Ten-panel screen; ink and color on silk
42 ¹/₈ x 12in. (107 x 30.5cm.) each
Estimate: \$12,000-18,000

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[The complete eCatalogue will be available on Christies.com.](http://christies.com)

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2013 that totaled £2.4 billion/\$3.68 billion. In 2012, Christie's had global auction and private sales that totaled £3.92 billion/\$6.27 billion making it the highest annual total in Christie's history. 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 £465.2 million (\$711.8 million) in the first half of 2013, an increase of 13% on the previous year, and for the third successive year represents the highest total for the period in both company and art market history.

Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 12 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Mumbai. 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.

**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.*

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