# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | 5 SEPTEMBER 2014
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## CHRISTIE'S NEW YORK PHOTOGRAPHY SALES CELEBRATE EXCEPTIONAL COLLECTIONS THIS FALL SEASON







Left: Edward Weston, Nautilus Shell, 1927, gelatin silver print, \$300,000-500,000

Center: Sylvie Blum, Venus Project: 1996-2001, 237 unique chromogenic Polaroid prints, \$20,000-30,000

Right: Harry Callahan, Chicago, c. 1947, gelatin silver print, printed later, \$7,000-9,000

New York – On September 29<sup>th</sup> Christie's will present three distinct photograph auctions in New York, including the diverse 'Photographs' sale, and two private collection sales: 'Photographs from the Forbes Collection' and 'Triple XXX: Photographs from the Collection of Don Sanders.' Running concurrently with the September 29<sup>th</sup> sales will be an online only auction titled 'Helmut Newton Photographs for *Playboy*,' that includes 20 photographs from the collection of Don Sanders. The online auction will be open for bidding from September 23<sup>rd</sup> through October 7<sup>th</sup> at www.christies.com/HelmutNewton. With a total of 266 lots, the sales are expected to exceed \$7 million.

### Triple XXX: Photographs from the Collection of Don Sanders

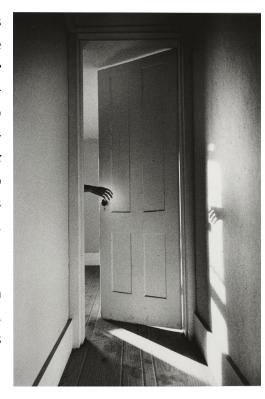




This exceptional collection of photographs comprises one of the most important and comprehensive groupings of nude photographs known to exist. Encompassing 77 lots, the sale features works by Nobuyoshi Araki, Lucien Clergue, Ralph Gibson, Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, David Levinthal, Helmut Newton, Bettina Rheims and Jock Sturges, and is titled for two of its most prominent lots, **Timothy Greenfield-Sanders'** *XXX* (estimate: \$50,000-70,000), a series of portraits of porn stars, and the complete suite of 272 photographs by **David Levinthal** of erotic dolls, *XXX* (estimate: \$250,000-350,000).

The collection also features a number of unique, or virtually unique, bodies of work, many personally commissioned by Don Sanders, including the complete set of 125 master prints for **Ralph Gibson's** 1970s trilogy, **The Somnambulist, Déja-vu,** and **Days at Sea** (pictured right; estimate: \$200,000-300,000). Other highlights include an oversized print, currently believed to be unique, of **Helmut Newton's Bergstrom over Paris** (estimate \$200,000-300,000). Another memorable addition, **Nobuyoshi Araki's For Robert Frank** (estimate \$60,000-80,000), is a unique scrapbook given by the artist to photographer Robert Frank during his visit to Japan for the opening of his retrospective exhibition in Yokohama in 1995. A complete series of 101 prints, this is one of only five sets in existence.

Don Sanders, a Houston-based businessman, is not only a collector, but a friend and active patron of a number of the prominent artists in the sale, including: Clergue, Gibson, Sturges, Greenfield-Sanders and Rheims. Sanders also champions and encourages the talents of younger photographers, including the fashion photography partnership of Ines Van Lamsweerde and



Vinoodh Matadin, as well as the husband and wife team of Gunther and Sylvie Blum whose work is well represented in the sale. This is not the first collection Sanders is selling with Christie's. In 2012, he sold his watch collection in order to fund another passion - his shelter and adoption center for stray cats, Friends for Life.

#### **Photographs from the Forbes Collection**



Assembled by Robert Forbes, the sale of **Photographs** from the Forbes Collection includes 62 lots that extensively represent both Irving Penn and Harry Callahan. Forbes first became captivated by the medium of photography in college. A friend introduced him to Beaumont Newhall's History of Photography, inspiring Forbes to begin scouring antique shops for early daguerreotypes and tintypes. He also took notice of the books that his father, renowned collector Malcolm Forbes, had piled up in his living room exploring photographers such as Robert Frank, Richard Avedon and Irving Penn. When Forbes began collecting fine art photography, works by Penn were among his first acquisitions, creating the foundation for what became a

truly remarkable collection as well as a friendship between the two men. Also included in the sale is a wonderful grouping of photographs by Harry Callahan of his wife Eleanor, and several pieces by important artists such as **Robert Mapplethorpe**, **Henri Cartier-Bresson** and **Richard Avedon**. The collection was regularly featured in exhibitions at the Forbes corporate building in New York.

The auction's top lot is a pristine example of *Harlequin Dress (Lisa Fonssagrives-Penn)*, 1950 by Irving Penn (\$200,000-300,000). Also included is an important albumen portrait by Lewis Carroll of Lorina and Alice Liddell in Chinese Costume, c. 1860 (pictured, page 2; estimate: \$10,000-15,000). *Alice in Wonderland*'s eponymous heroine was inspired by the seated Alice Liddell. The sisters don genuine Chinese costume borrowed from a local museum, reflecting the Victorian passion for all things 'Oriental.' This print was originally in an album belonging to Emma Llewelyn, whose brother John Dillwyn Llewelyn was in Carroll's circle of friends.

#### **Photographs**

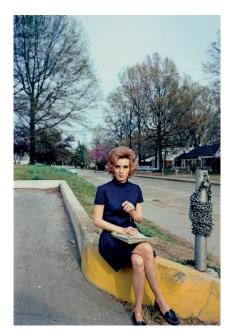
The top lot of the various owners auction is a supremely rare photograph by Edward Weston, Nautilus Shell, 1927

(pictured, page 1; \$300,000-500,000). Weston made this print on velvety matte-surface paper, and on the reverse of the mount he wrote: 'To Clay and Margaret from Edward.' This was a gift to Henry Clay Seaman, Jr. and his wife Margaret. Clay was the brother of Weston's sister Mary's husband, John Seaman. The print has remained in the family to the present, having spent decades tucked away in a drawer, and it has never before been exhibited to the public. This print comes from one of the most important periods in Weston's developing modernist vision when, after visiting the 'International Salon of Photography' in the spring of 1927, he began to turn away from the superficial effects of pictorialism.

Charles Sheeler's *Ford Plant, River Rouge, Steam Hydraulic Shear,* 1927, (\$150,000-250,000), was commissioned by N.W. Ayer & Son as part of a \$1.3 million advertising campaign to garner interest in the upcoming Model A. Sheeler photographed Ford's mammoth manufacturing facility southwest of



Dearborn, Michigan in the fall of 1927. A truly striking image, *Ford Plant, River Rouge, Steam Hydraulic Shear*, is one of twenty-eight original images from the commission. Vintage prints from this seminal series are very rare, and presently only one other print of this image is known, located in The Lane Collection, Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Massachusetts.



Also among the top lots is an incredibly rare fashion portfolio from Richard Avedon, titled *Avedon, Paris* (\$200,000-300,000), from 1978, that contains 11 of his most renowned images from Paris. Additionally, *William Eggleston* will be represented by three photographs, including a dye transfer print, *Untitled, Memphis, 1970* (\$200,000-300,000), one of the artist's most arresting and instantly recognizable works.

#### TRIPLE 'XXX': PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE COLLECTION OF DON SANDERS



DAVID LEVINTHAL (B. 1949)

'XXX': Volumes I, II and III, 1999-2001
a unique suite of 272 Polacolor ER Landfilm prints
Estimate: \$250,000-350,000



NOBUYOSHI ARAKI (B. 1940)
Shiki In Me, 2006
a unique photocollage of 9 gelatin silver prints
with multicolored acrylic paint handwork
Estimate: \$20,000-30,000

#### PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE FORBES COLLECTION



HARRY CALLAHAN (1912-1999) Eleanor, Chicago, 1949 gelatin silver print, printed later Estimate: \$8,000-12,000



LEWIS W. HINE (1874-1940)
Girl Worker in Carolina Cotton Mill, 1907
gelatin silver print
Estimate: \$8,000-12,000

#### **20/21 PHOTOGRAPHS**



JOSEF KOUDELKA (B. 1938) Ireland, 1972 gelatin silver print Estimate: \$15,000-25,000



ERWIN BLUMENFELD (1897-1969) Swastika Legs, c. 1937 gelatin silver print Estimate: \$30,000-50,000



CANDIDA HÖFER (B. 1944)
Schloss St. Emmeram Regensburg XXIV, 2003
chromogenic print
Estimate: \$25,000-35,000

#### About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2014 that totaled £2.69 / \$4.47 billion, making it the highest half year 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 around 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 & Contemporary, Impressionist & Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales in the first half of 2014 totalled £498.9 million (\$828.2 million).

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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