

CHRISTIE'S

THE ART PEOPLE

PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | 22 MAY 2015 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RESTITUTED PAINTINGS FROM THE COLLECTION OF JACQUES GOUDSTIKKER

HIGHLIGHT CHRISTIE'S OLD MASTER PAINTINGS SALE IN NEW YORK

New York – Christie's announces its spring sale of Old Master Paintings in New York on June 3, which is highlighted by 26 paintings restituted to the heir of the famous Dutch dealer and art collector Jacques Goudstikker. Christie's is honored to present this selection, which exemplifies Goudstikker's sensitive appreciation of art from across the Netherlands, France, and Italy, and showcases his wide-ranging and sophisticated taste. The sale will also offer a major rediscovery, *Noli me tangere*, by Francesco Solimena, as well as a fragment of the second version of El Greco's famous composition of the *Martyrdom of St. Maurice*.

PROPERTY FROM THE COLLECTION OF JACQUES GOUDSTIKKER

A renowned tastemaker of astounding range and accomplishments, Jacques Goudstikker was the preeminent dealer and art collector in the Netherlands before the Second World War. Today, paintings that passed through his gallery hang on the walls of the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna, the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, to name a few. He was known as an extraordinarily vital and generous person, an entrepreneur, and a deeply thoughtful intellectual, whose lavish catalogues and sumptuous exhibitions were essential in shaping the Dutch experience of European paintings in the first decades after the turn of the 20th century. After fleeing the Nazi invasion of the Netherlands in 1940, Goudstikker tragically perished during the passage to Dover. In 2006, in a landmark decision, over 200 of Goudstikker's paintings which had been looted by Nazi officials were returned to Goudstikker's heir, Marei von Saher. Not long after, a celebratory exhibition was mounted in Greenwich, New York, Texas, Florida and California to pay tribute to both this decision and Goudstikker's legacy.



Studio of Bartholomäus Bruyn I
(Wesel or Cologne 1493-1555 Cologne)
Portrait of a lady
oil on panel, shaped top
each 18 1/8 x 13.1/2 inches (46.5 x 34.5 cm.)
one of a pair offered, illustrated above
Estimate: \$30,000-50,000



Ferdinand Bol
(Dordrecht 1616-1680 Amsterdam)
Portrait of a lady, traditionally identified as Maria Louisa Gonzaga (1611-1667), Queen of Poland, half-length, in a red dress and gold-embroidered shawl
oil on canvas
49 3/4 x 40 1/8 in. (126.5 x 102 cm.)
Estimate: \$150,000 – 250,000



Workshop of Jacob Cornelisz. van Oostsanen, called Jacob van Amsterdam
(Oostsanen c. 1472/7-c. 1533 Amsterdam)
Jacob and Esau
oil on panel
16 1/2 x 12 3/8 in. (41.9 x 31.3 cm.)
Estimate: \$30,000-50,000

THE CUNNINGHAM COLLECTION

After a brilliant career in the Navy, where he spent two decades and served as Commander, Philip Tracy Cunningham retired from the military and turned to business. Together with his wife, the Cunninghams managed to amass in less than a decade a collection of pictures – from the 17th century and beyond – which exemplify Mr. Cunningham's keen appreciation for condition and quality, as evident in the works offered. The June sale will offer three lots from the collection, and nine lots that will be offered in Christie's Old Masters Paintings sale in July in London have been on view at the National Gallery in Washington, D.C. for the past fifteen years.



Charles-François Grenier de Lacroix, called Lacroix de Marseille
(Marseille c. 1700-1782 Berlin?)

A Mediterranean port at dawn with shipping and fisherfolk
signed and dated 'G. De Lacroix / 1763' (lower right, on the rock)
oil on canvas
19 x 25 in. (48.2 x 63.5 cm.)
Estimate: \$80,000-120,000



Jan Frans van Dael (Antwerp 1764-1840 Paris)
Peonies, roses, tulips, an iris and other flowers in an alabaster vase on a stone ledge with fruit
signed and dated 'I. VANDAEI. / 1814' (lower right, on the ledge)
oil on canvas
41 3/4 x 32 3/8 in. (106 x 82.2 cm.)
Estimate: \$350,000-550,000

ADDITIONAL SALE HIGHLIGHTS



Francesco Solimena (Canale di Serino 1657-1747 Barra)

Noli me tangere
oil on copper, unframed
13.3/4 x 18 in. (35 x 45.7 cm.)
Estimate: \$150,000 – 250,000

This exquisite masterpiece is a major rediscovery and an important addition to the large corpus of works by Francesco Solimena, the leading Neapolitan painter of the first half of the 18th century. A prolific artist who was esteemed throughout Europe, Solimena created hundreds of altarpieces, large-scale fresco decorations, mythological paintings and portraits, but also executed a few small, highly refined mythological and allegorical paintings on copper. *Noli me tangere* comes from a private collection and has never been offered at auction before.



Doménikos Theotokópoulos, called El Greco (Crete 1541-1614 Toledo)

Saint Maurice

oil on canvas, a fragment
10 x 7 ¼ in. (25.4 x 18.4 cm.)
Estimate: \$300,000-500,000

This small yet powerful painting offers a moving portrayal of Saint Maurice, the legendary commander of the Theban legion who was martyred for his Christian beliefs in the 3rd century. In an unpublished study of this painting written for the owner in 1993, the scholar William B. Jordan identified it as the only surviving fragment of a lost but documented second version of El Greco's famous composition of the *Martyrdom of St. Maurice* that was recorded in El Greco's inventory at the time of his death in 1614, and which was subsequently installed by his son, Jorge Manuel, above the artist's tomb in the Theotokópoulos family chapel in the church of San Torcuato, Toledo. The artist's bold, expressive handling of paint combined with his choice of color, characterized by a marriage of intense, dissonant hues, all contribute to the image's strikingly modern aesthetic.

PRESS CONTACT: Sara Fox | +1 212 636 2680 | sfox@christies.com
Elizabeth Van Bergen | +1 212 636 2680 | evanbergen@christies.com

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2014 that totalled £5.1 billion / \$8.4 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 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 totalled £916.1 million (\$1.5 billion).

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, New Delhi, 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.*

###

Images available on request

FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:

