

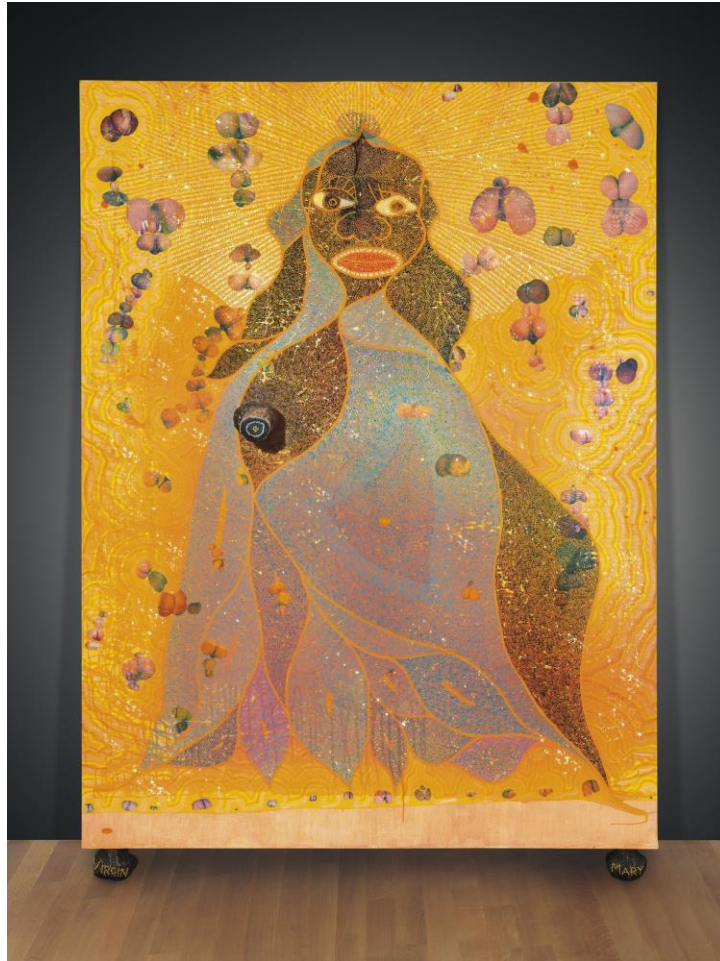
CHRISTIE'S

THE ART PEOPLE

PRESS RELEASE | LONDON | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 8 JULY 2015

CHRISTIE'S POST-WAR AND CONTEMPORARY ART SUMMER AUCTIONS TOTAL

£109,700,850 / \$172,134,688 / €154,090,265



**Artist record for Chris Ofili's *The Holy Virgin Mary*
at £2,882,500 / \$4,522,643 / €4,047,030**

**A total of eight record prices set for artists including
Malcolm Morley, RH Quaytman and Jeff Elrod**

London – Christie's Post-War and Contemporary Art auctions in London resulted in a combined total of £109,700,850 / \$172,134,688 / €154,090,265. A highlight of the week was the record achieved for Chris Ofili's *Holy Virgin Mary* (1996), one of the defining paintings of the 1990s generation. The successes of the Evening and Day Auctions demonstrated an appetite for the highest quality work by the most exciting contemporary artists, alongside the classics of the category, from bidders around the world, and created eight new artist records across the week's auctions.

Francis Outred, Chairman and Head of Post-War & Contemporary Art in Europe, Middle East, Russia and India, said: “Following the huge successes in New York for Christie’s in May, this year’s June auction in London marked the culmination of one for the most remarkable seasons in the contemporary art market. The proliferation of events from Venice to Basel means that the competition is higher than ever in the summer, not only between collectors themselves but also for their attention in a busy market. In this environment, the strong performance of Francis Bacon against estimates, at Christie’s, was notable as were the strong sell-through rates and the world record prices for the major post-war British artists, including the very first Turner Prize winner Malcolm Morley, whose record virtually doubled. There was also a huge amount of interest in the diversity of material from Jean Dubuffet to RH Quaytman. I was particularly proud that we were able to steer Chris Ofili’s *The Holy Virgin Mary* to her new home. This work helped to define a key generation of artists in the 1990s and I am glad that the market responded so positively to its presence in 2015.”

Chris Ofili artist record

Chris Ofili’s generation-defining work *The Holy Virgin Mary* (1996), doubled its presale estimate and sold for an artist record of £2,882,500. Leading a selection of works from the Museum of Old and New Art, Tasmania, the work is the most iconic painting within Ofili’s ground-breaking *oeuvre* and dates from a seminal moment in his career that saw him rise to international fame amidst a frenzy of media activity and public controversy. The work was first exhibited at the generation-defining exhibition, ‘Sensation: Young British Artists from the Saatchi Collection’, at the Royal Academy of Arts, London, in 1997, *The Holy Virgin Mary* found itself the centre of major public debate when the exhibition travelled to New York two years later. It has become the artist’s most notorious work, included in every significant exhibition of Ofili’s work, including museum shows at Tate Britain, London, 2010, and most recently, the acclaimed retrospective, ‘Chris Ofili: Night and Day’, at the New Museum, New York, 2015. The collection saw another artist record for **Jake and Dinos Chapman’s** first major sculpture *Great Deeds Against the Dead*, 1994, which was also part of ‘Sensation’ and sold for £422,500. Bidding was particularly active for the collection overall, achieving a total of £4,630,000.

Post-War and Contemporary Art Evening Auction

The Post-War & Contemporary Art evening auction realised a total of £95,646,500 / \$150,069,359 / €134,287,686, with sell-through rates of 87% by lot and 88% by value, with bidders from 34 countries across three continents. The highest price achieved on the evening was £12,178,500 for **Francis Bacon’s** *Study for Head of Isabel Rawsthorne and George Dyer*, 1967. Commemorating two of the artist’s most intimate relationships - his lover Dyer and life-long confidante Rawsthorne - it is rendered with impassioned brushstrokes and gives a glimpse into the tumult of the artist’s inner circle via one of his most powerful means: the 14 x 12 inch portrait. A further Bacon work, *Two Men in a Field*, 1971 sold for £10,722,500. Further noteworthy sales included **Yves Klein’s** *Peinture de feu couleur sans titre*, (FC 27), 1962 which realised a price of £5,906,500, foregrounding the creative potential of destruction the work is one of the largest of his explosive series of fire paintings that were executed the year of his untimely death, **Sigmar Polke’s** *Mondlandschaft mit Schilf* (*Moonlit landscape with reeds*), 1969 selling for £3,890,500, and **Malcolm Morley’s** *SS Amsterdam in Front of Rotterdam*, 1966 which made a record price of £1,202,500. The contemporary profile of the sale was also very strong, with records for living artists including: **Jeff Elrod** (£218,500), **Brent Wadden** (£122,500) and **RH Quaytman** (£578,500).

Jacobs Collection

The Jacobs Collection, which is made up of an impressive selection of works from the collection of Lord Anthony and Lady Evelyn Jacobs that pay particular focus on the shifting relationships between abstraction and Pop Art on both sides of the Atlantic, achieved a total of £6,993,000, with demonstrable enthusiasm for works by **Jean Dubuffet**, **Richard Hamilton**, **Morris Louis** and **Robert Rauschenburg** all of which made more than double their pre-sale estimates.

Post-War and Contemporary Art Day Auction

The Post-War & Contemporary Art day auction realised a total of £14,054,350 / \$22,065,329 / €19,802,579, with sell-through rates of 77% by lot and 85% by value, and saw bidders registered from 45 countries across five continents. The highest price achieved on the day was £650,000 for **Robert Longo's** photorealist *Untitled (Last Tiger)*, 2013. A marked interest in Chinese material was witnessed in results for **Chu Teh-Chun** (£290,000) and **Zeng Fanzhi** (£266,500). Collections were, once again, centres of attention with both the Peeters and Jacobs collections exceeding their pre-sale estimates. Other highlights included **Sean Scully's** *Mariana*, 1991, sold for £458,500; *Kalla (Arum Lily/Calla)*, 1969-1970, by **Sigmar Polke**, £434,500; and **Andy Warhol's** *Ladies and Gentlemen (Alphonso Panell)*, 1975, which realised £362,500. Two further artist records were set in the Day Auction: **Stefan Brüggenmann**, *Stuck or Puddle Painting 3* (2013), which sold for four times its high estimate at £40,000, and **Marcello Lo Giudice**, whose *Eden Blu* sold for £68,500.

Rosanna Widen and Leonie Grainger, Co-Heads of the Day Auction for Post War and Contemporary Art at Christie's, added: "Led by Robert Longo's majestic *Untitled (Last Tiger)*, which achieved a figure of £650,000, this July auction proved Christie's ability to offer the highest quality at all levels of the market. We saw a strong response from Chinese buyers and, in a correlating trend, an outstanding performance for selected works by Chinese artists, with a particular highlight being Chu Teh-Chun's *Composition Untitled* which achieved over three times its low estimate. It was also gratifying to see the strong response to the two renowned private collections offered as part of the Day auction: the Hubert Peeters collection and the Lord and Lady Jacobs collection, which continued its success from the night before, with Dubuffet's *Portrait d'Homme II* proving to be a major draw. The Day Sale has once again affirmed itself as an accessible platform for both experienced collectors and the ever growing new audiences for contemporary art."

EIGHT POST-WAR & CONTEMPORARY ARTIST RECORDS:

Previous record

Lot 1, Jeff Elrod, £218,500 / \$342,827 / €306,774	\$305,000, Nov 2014
Lot 3, Brent Wadden, £122,500 / \$192,203 / €171,990	£74,500, Oct 2014
Lot 25, Malcolm Morley, £1,202,500 / \$1,886,723 / €1,688,310	£502,100 Feb 2008
Lot 37, Chris Ofili, £2,882,500 / \$4,522,643 / €4,047,030	£1,889,250 June 2010
Lot 38, Jake and Dinos Chapman, £422,500 / \$662,903 / €593,190	£241,250 June 2010
Lot 52, R.H. Quaytman, £578,500 / \$907,667 / €812,214	\$485,000 May 2014
Lot 133, Stefan Brüggenmann, £40,000 / \$62,800 / €56,306	\$34,375, Nov 2014
Lot 311, Marcello Lo Giudice, £68,500 / \$107,545 / €96,517	£63,700, Feb 2015

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2013 that totaled £4.5 billion/ \$7.1 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 totaled £760.5 million (\$1.19 billion) in 2013, an increase of 20% on the previous year.

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.