



CHRISTIE'S

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Un souhait a traversé Paris *A wish swept through Paris*

Collection of Marie-Laure Bonnaud-Vautrin
- Chosen works of art by Line Vautrin

Paris - 20 May 2015

Paris - Christie's is delighted to announce the sale of Marie-Laure Bonnaud-Vautrin's collection, the daughter of renowned artist Line Vautrin (1913-1997), on the upcoming 20 May in Paris. Nearly 250 jewels, boxes, compacts, pillboxes, sculptures and mirrors will be offered for approximately 650,000 euros.

Marie - Laure Bonnaud - Vautrin says: « The works of my mother have inhabited my life until today. Time has come to discover new artists, to change scenery. The lots featured in this sale feature all the themes that my mother liked exploring in her work. Every jewel, every box, every object has a story of its own, and I am thrilled to be able to share these stories through an auction at Christie's ».

« We are honored that Marie-Laure Bonnaud-Vautrin has entrusted Christie's with the sale of her collection. Every piece that Line Vautrin has created carries a message of love, poetry or fantasy. Connoisseurs or amateurs will all have the opportunity to acquire an iconic, unique or unexpected piece, for estimates ranging from 200 to 100,000 euros » added **Emmanuelle Karsenti, specialist at the 20/21 Design department.**

Line Vautrin
detail of 1935 *If all the guys of the world* mirror
Estimate: €80,000-120,000



Line Vautrin was born in 1913. Her father had taken over his parents' foundry, and Line Vautrin grew up in the workshop, surrounded by parts of bronze which used to adorn pieces of furniture. As a little girl, Line used to play with these metal bits, and was soon forced to survive out of it as her father passed when she was only 14 years old. Line wandered through Parisian streets with a small suitcase filled with her very first creations and tried selling them to women waiting for their bus. At first, she mostly made jewels which she modeled out of bronze drawer handles or other pieces of furniture. In 1937, she presented her necklaces, bracelets, brooches, powder boxes, ear clips and buckles during the *Exposition Universelle* and received a great success.



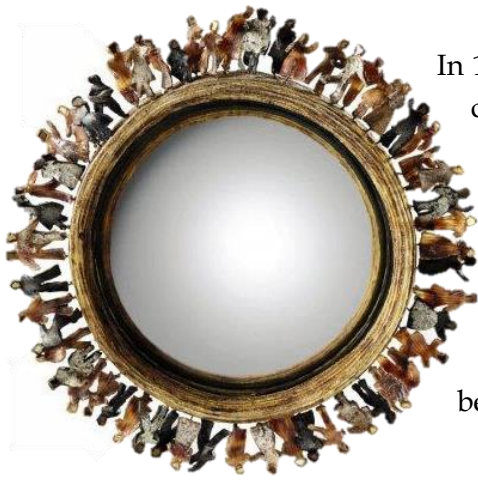
The artist experimented and started producing the object which settled her reputation: the box. Either cigarettes boxes, compacts, pillboxes, Line expressed her joy through these objects. She quickly enriched them with poems and riddles which became her signature. The auction offers a wonderful panel of the writers who's work has inspired her: Rimbaud (*L'étoile a pleuré rose au cœur de tes oreilles [...]*, €1,800-2,200), Jean Passerat (*La Tourterelle envolée [...]*, €1,500-2,000),

Guillaume Apollinaire (*L'Anémone et l'Ancolie*, €1,000-1,500), Jacques Prévert (*Pour toi mon amour*, €1,000-1,500) or even Paul Verlaine (*Voici des fruits, des fleurs et des branches*, €800-1,200).

To words, Line Vautrin added symbols to create riddles; some discrete and decorative messages of love. As so, a rare enamel and silver bronze box estimated between 8,000 and 12,000 euros can read: "*Je t'aime aujourd'hui plus qu'hier et moins que demain* [Today I love you more than yesterday and less than tomorrow] (illustrated right).



A part from love, Line Vautrin explored various themes such as life, happiness and nature –including the sea– under numerous shapes (illustrations below). These themes were always treated in a childish tone, ever-present in her work. The tales of *Berthe au Grand Pied*, *Le Petit Poucet* or *Barbe Bleue* and the characters of *Arlequin* and *Pinocchio* contrasted with daily life, especially during World War II. This context encouraged Line Vautrin to broach themes like the Opposition, liberty and fraternity in many works, including her famous compact *Un souhait a traversé Paris* (A wish swept through Paris) estimated between 800 and 1,200 euros.



In 1960, Vautrin invented the talosel which she used for making her celebrated mirrors. The auction will feature several emblematic or unique mirrors. Among these are the *Charlemagne* (estimated between 25,000 and 30,000 euros), the *Perruque* (€25,000-30,000) or even the *Florence* (€40,000-60,000) models will be offered (*illustrated below*). In the 1970's, Line Vautrin made herself a mirror titled *If all the guys in the world*, a unique piece she had always kept into her home. This major mirror is estimated between 80,000 and 120,000 euros.

Other highlights of the sale include:



A *Charlemagne* convex mirror, unique piece, 1958-1960
Estimate: €25,000-30,000



A *One should not confuse a heart with bells* necklace, c. 1970
Estimate: €1,000-1,500



A *Florence* mirror c.1960
Estimate: €40,000-60,000



A *rolling stone gathers no moss* box, c. 1945
Estimate: €1,800-2,200



The three ages of life sculpture, unique piece, 1960-1965
Estimate: €3,000-4,000



A *Fishing box and integrated pillbox*, c. 1970
Estimate: €2,500-3,000



A wish swept through Paris
compact c. 1945
Estimate: €800-1,200



A Starry faces box,
c. 1945
Estimate: €5,000-7,000



A For you my love compact
c. 1945
Estimate: €1,200-1,800



AUCTION: Wednesday 20 May 2015 at 4pm.

PUBLIC VIEWING: Friday 15, Saturday 16, Monday 18 May from 10am. to 6pm.,
and Thursday 19 May from 10am. to 12pm.

CHRISTIE'S : 9, avenue Matignon – 75008 – Paris

CONTACT PRESS:

Mathilde Fennebresque | 01 40 76 85 88 | mfennebresque@christies.com

About Christie's

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, the company has since provided a celebrated 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. Christie's has a global presence with 54 offices in 32 countries and 12 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong and the latest additions 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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