

CHRISTIE'S

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EXCEPTIONAL WORKS ON PAPER FROM



THE TRITON COLLECTION FOUNDATION

The Triton Collection Foundation releases a selection of works on paper representing the most important avant-garde movements of the 19th and 20th Century.

Paris/London - Christie's is honored to be entrusted with the sale of a unique selection of rare works on paper from the renowned Triton Collection Foundation, spanning over three centuries of art history and representing the most important avant-garde movements of the 19th and 20th Century, including works by Pablo Picasso, Camille Pissarro, Paul Cézanne, Fernand Léger, Francis Picabia, Gino Severini, Odilon Redon, André Derain and Salvador Dalí, many of which will be offered at auction for the first time. Forty nine of the works will be sold in the single owner evening sale *Exceptional Works on Paper from the Triton Collection Foundation* on 25 March 2015 in Paris during the *Salon du Dessin*. A further selection of works will be offered across auctions in Paris and London throughout 2015 and early 2016.



View in 2005 of the dedicated Triton room at the Gemeentemuseum, The Hague

The privately owned Triton Collection Foundation holds one of the most important collections of the 19th and 20th Century avant-garde art in private hands worldwide. It comprises a few hundred works from three centuries of global art from Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso, Georges Braque and Vincent Van Gogh to Yves Klein, Gerhard Richter, Ellsworth Kelly, Marina Abramovich, and Ai Weiwei.

The founders of the Triton Collection Foundation make their collection accessible to the public by lending works to public institutions. A continuing programme of loans to over seventy museums worldwide as diverse as the Museum of Modern Art, New York, the Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum in Madrid, the Seoul Museum of Art and the Cleveland Museum of Art have ensured that a global audience has the

chance to enjoy outstanding works from the collection.

“The Triton Collection Foundation is a leading example of private collecting supporting public purposes. The Cordia family has generously shared its collection with others for many years. They are famed for the care they take to only invest in the very finest examples of an artist’s work. The selection of works on paper which form the Paris single owner sale represents one of the most outstanding groups of drawings from the European avant-garde art to come to market for very many years. To emphasise this once in a lifetime opportunity for international collectors and the unique provenance, buyers will be able to have works marked with a stamp, registered with the Lugt Foundation that certifies The Triton Collection Foundation’s previous ownership” commented **Tudor Davies, Head of Impressionist and Modern Art at Christie’s Paris.**



Gino Severini (1883-1966)
La modiste, 1915
Estimate: €400,000-600,000

“Although the core of the Triton Collection Foundation’s collection will remain intact, we don’t part easily from these carefully selected works. However, no living art collection is ever static, moreover it needs to be able to adapt to on-going artistic development and innovation. Triton intends to use its new acquisitions to remain at the forefront of European collections and a home for the avant-garde, which we shall continue to share with the public in its widest form” explained **the Cordia Family, the founders of the Triton Collection Foundation.**

The Paris single owner evening sale *Exceptional Works on Paper from the Triton Collection Foundation* on 25 March 2015 will be led by Gino Severini’s (1883-1966) *La modiste*. Drawn in 1915 - the current year now marking the centennial of its creation – *La modiste* reflects aspects of the transcendent futurist style, virtually abstract, which Severini achieved concurrent to the outbreak of the First World War. At the same time, by re-introducing one of his pre-war

belle époque subjects, likely a response to the tragedy of the conflict and in contrast to his cold steel treatment of such military themes as the famous *Train blindé en action* of The Museum of Modern Art, New York, Severini was about to move into a cubist phase, more in the manner of Picasso, Gris and other painters in Paris during the war. Among all the avant-garde artists at that time who called themselves either cubists or futurists, each faction often denigrating and even dismissing

the other, Severini alone was magnanimously bipartisan in his outlook and affinities. *La modiste*, formerly owned by British art and music critic Sir Sacherverell Resesby Sitwell (1897-1988), a distinguished figure on the British literary scene between the two World Wars known for his books on Mozart and Liszt, will be offered at an estimate €400,000-600,000.

Another highlight of the 25 March sale is the widely exhibited *La boija* (1900, estimate €300,000-500,000) by Pablo Picasso (1881-1973). The drawing in ink, gouache and pastel – a haunting image of a solitary woman by the seashore, her face elongated, mannerist mask of pain – is the most powerful and inspired of a group of magazine illustrations that Picasso created during spring and summer 1900, in the months leading up to his first trip to Paris and shortly after the very first solo exhibition of his career. The senior members of the Catalan modernista movement - Santiago Rusiñol, Ramon Casas and Miquel Utrillo – had offered Picasso to show in the Sala Gran of El Quatre Gats. Shortly after the closure the exhibition Picasso was ready for a bigger stage and left for Paris. To raise additional funds for the trip, he took on a range of commercial work including posters and magazine illustrations. *La boija* embodies this moment of youthful ambition: “Unlike the other illustrations”, John Richardson has proclaimed “this one hints at the greatness to come”. By the next fall Picasso had embarked upon the earliest major canvases of his celebrated Blue Period, whose destitute outcasts are heralded in *La boija* with its pervasive blue tonality and its compelling depiction of female suffering.



Pablo Picasso (1881-1973)
La boija, 1900
Estimate: €300,000-500,000



Fernand Léger (1881-1955)
Danseuse au tambourin, 1954
Estimate: €250,000-350,000

Half way into the century, which began with *La boija*, the cover lot of *Exceptional Works on Paper from the Triton Collection Foundation* was executed: *Danseuse au tambourin* (1954, estimate €250,000-350,000) by Fernand Léger (1881-1955), which was acquired by the Triton Foundation 15 years ago. Fernand Léger painted *Danseuse au tambourin* as he was working on the *état définitif* of his final mural *La grande parade*, the crowning masterwork of his career, which he completed in 1954. Standing in front of the movable circus organ and flourishing a tambourine over her head, this modishly short haired young woman is present in both the *1er état* of *La grande parade*, 1952 and the ultimate version of more than a year later, as well as in many studies done in the interim. *La grande parade* is the culmination of a long line of circus scenes that Léger executed over a period of nearly four decades; indeed, the circus was in Léger’s view a genuine art of the people, a fabled way of life with estimable traditions of its own. He closely identified with circus performers; each was an artist skilled in his or her act, often defying danger, just as the modern artist, in his avant-garde calling, risked the peril of failure.

A selection of seven works from the Collection will also be included in the Impressionist/Modern Works on Paper sale in London on June 24th. Highlights of this group will include works by Edouard Manet and Marc Chagall.

FURTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Exceptional Works on Paper from the Triton Collection Foundation

Lot 20
Odilon Redon (1840-1916)

Réverie
pastel et fusain sur papier
Exécuté vers 1900
Estimation :
€300.000-500.000
US\$350.000-590.000
£230.000-392.500



Lot 16
Camille Pissarro (1830-1903)

Paysannes travaillant dans les champs, Pontoise
gouache et pierre noire sur papier
Exécuté en 1881
Estimation :
€250.000-350.000 / US\$295.000-413.000 / £195.000-275.000



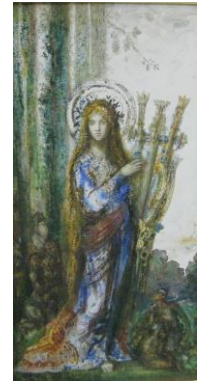
Lot 17
André Derain (1880-1954)

Étude pour "L'Âge d'Or"
gouache et pierre noire sur papier
Exécuté vers 1905
Estimation :
€200.000-300.000
US\$240.000-355.000
£155.000-235.000



Lot 31
Gustave Moreau (1826-1898)

Les satyres
aquarelle et gouache sur papier
Estimation :
€250.000-350.000
US\$295.000-413.000
£195.000-275.000



Lot 8
Fernand Léger (1881-1955)

Femme nue couchée
fusain sur papier
Exécuté en 1912
Estimation :
€250.000-350.000
US\$295.000-413.000
£195.000-275.000



Lot 23
Salvador Dalí (1904-1989)

La reine Salomé
fusain et craie blanche sur papier marouflé sur toile
Exécuté en 1937
Estimation : €300.000-500.000 / US\$350.000-590.000 / £230.000-392.500



Lot 24
Francis Picabia (1878-1953)

Cyclope

huile et ripolin sur papier marouflé sur toile
Peint vers 1924-26

Estimation :

€350.000-550.000

US\$415.000-650.000

£275.000-430.000



Lot 14
Paul Cézanne (1839-1906)

Pot de géraniums

aquarelle et graphite sur papier
Exécuté vers 1885

Estimation :

€300.000-500.000

US\$350.000-590.000

£230.000-392.500



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TOUR OF HIGHLIGHTS:

30 January – 4 February 2015, Christie's
London

AUCTION VIEWING:

20 – 25 March 2015, Christie's Paris

SINGLE OWNER SALE IN PARIS:

Exceptional Works on Paper from the Triton Collection
Foundation

Christie's Paris

25 March 2015

FURTHER AUCTIONS:

Paris, March 2015, Impressionist & Modern Art

London, June 2015, Impressionist & Modern Works on Paper

London, June 2015, Modern British Art

London, July 2015, Victorian, Pre-Raphaelite & British Impressionist Sale

London, February 2016, The Art of the Surreal

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Images available upon request

Visit Christie's Website at www.christies.com

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.*