

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | JANUARY 2015 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ROCKEFELLER CENTER

THE RISE OF MODERNISM IN THE METROPOLIS

CHRISTIE'S INAUGURAL PRIVATE SELLING EXHIBITION IN THE WEST GALLERIES, JAN-FEB 2015

PAINTINGS, SCULPTURE, WORKS ON PAPER, PHOTOGRAPHS AND 20TH CENTURY DESIGN

INCLUDING DIEGO RIVERA, FRIDA KAHLO, GEORGIA O'KEEFFE, STUART DAVIS AND ISAMU NOGUCHI



GASTON LACHAISE (1882-1935), *Three Peacocks*, parcel gilt bronze

New York – Christie's is pleased to introduce the inaugural private selling exhibition in the newly opened West Galleries: ***Rockefeller Center and the Rise of Modernism in the Metropolis***. This exhibition will be a celebration of our Rockefeller Center location and its rich history and will run from **January 17 to February 25, 2015**, coinciding with several major art events in New York including the Winter Antiques Show.

The exhibition, curated by noted American Art scholar William C. Agee and Liz Sterling, takes its focus from a core group of artists who were commissioned to do works for Rockefeller Center including Diego Rivera, Paul Manship, Georgia O'Keeffe and Gaston Lachaise, among others. This group will be augmented with works by these artists' peers including paintings, sculpture, photography and design to explore themes of Jazz, Industry and Design in mid-century American Art as well as the role of murals during this vibrant period. Building on the successful exhibitions of the American Paintings department like

Illustrating America, Andrew Wyeth in China and *The Art of Stephen Scott Young*, this will be first multi-department exhibition for New York and will feature pieces from American Art, Latin American Art, Photography, and 20/21 Design.

"The show and catalogue take a new look at the art within the Living Museum of Rockefeller Center, a special museum hardly understood as such that focuses on the art, decoration, and architecture of the 1930s. By viewing it in the broader contexts of earlier and later American art, the show illuminates the sources of this art and points to its later influences," remarks William Agee.

"Christie's is thrilled to present this private selling exhibition that celebrates the rich artistic heritage of Rockefeller Center, one of the most important building complexes of the 20th Century. Combining paintings, sculpture, works on paper, photographs and 20th century design, Rockefeller Center and the Rise of Modernism in the Metropolis explores themes such as industry, progress and innovation, which were integral to the creation of this national landmark and account for its seminal place in American history," comments Liz Sterling.



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STUART DAVIS (1892-1964)

Egg Beater No. 4

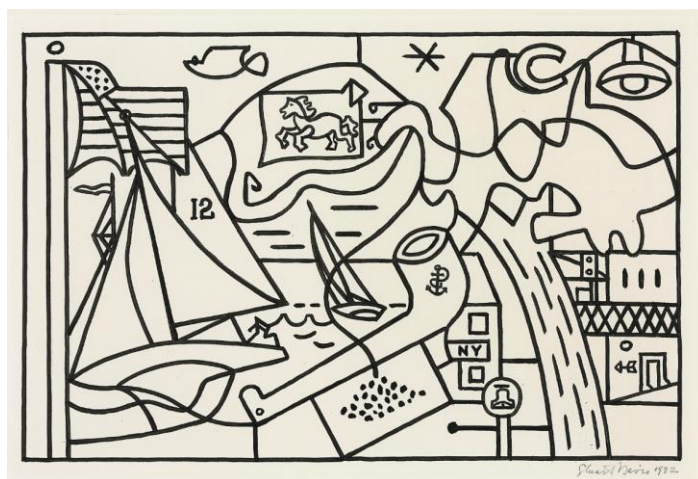
signed 'Stuart Davis' (upper right)

signed again, dated and inscribed with title 'Stuart Davis "Eggbeater No. 4" March 1928' (on the reverse)

gouache on board

13 7/8 x 19 3/8 in. (35.2 x 49.2 cm.)

In 1927, Stuart Davis first mocked the traditional still life by nailing an eggbeater, an electric fan and a rubber glove to a table and painted them repeatedly for a year. The resulting works of the Eggbeater series, including *Egg Beater No. 4*, are among his most abstract and pure works. Innovatively, Davis made shapes and colors the subject of these still lifes, rather than the objects themselves. His use of color clarifies the spatial perception, exaggerating each plane, whether overlapped or separated.



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STUART DAVIS (1892-1964)

Study for "Men Without Women"

signed and dated 'Stuart Davis 1932' (lower right)

ink and pencil on paper

11 x 17 in. (27.9 x 43.2 cm.), image size; 18 1/2 x 24 3/8 in. (47 x 61.9 cm.), sheet size

The present work is a study for Davis's mural for the men's lounge at Radio City Music Hall, commissioned in 1932 to celebrate men's leisure activities, including smoking, gambling, motoring, sailing and barbershops. The technique of the bold linear outline is important and became the bases for his own personal type of Cubism in subsequent years.

ADDITIONAL EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS



DIEGO RIVERA (1886-1957)
In vinum veritas (Portrait of C.Z. Guest)
 Oil on canvas
 Painted in 1945
 43.7 x 107 in. (111.1 x 271.8 cm.)

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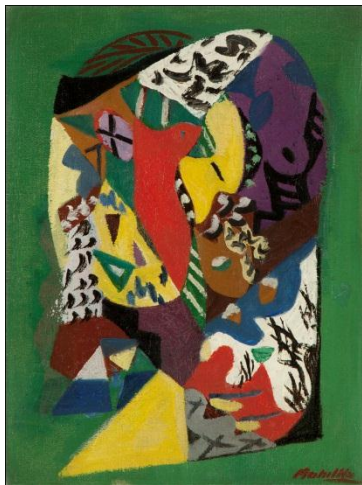


AUGUSTUS SAINT-GAUDENS (1848-1907)
Amor Caritas
 inscribed 'AMOR CARITAS' (upper center)—
 inscribed 'COPYRIGHT BY A SAINT-GAUDENS
 MDCCCXCVIII' (lower right) gilt bronze relief
 bronze: 40 x 17½ in. (101.6 x 44.5 cm.)
 overall: 50¼ x 33 in. (127.6 x 83.8 cm.)



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FRIDA KAHLO (1904-1954)
Diego and Frida, 1929-1944 (also called,
Double Portrait of Diego and Me)
 Oil on wood with painted frame
 10 ¼ x 7 5/16 in. (26 x 19 cm.) (framed)
 Painted in 1944



JAN MATULKA (1892-1972)
Abstraction
 signed 'Matulka' (lower right)
 oil on canvas
 15 3/4 x 11 7/8 in. (40 x 30 cm.)
 Painted circa 1940



MARSDEN HARTLEY (1877-1943)
On the Beach
 oil on masonite
 22 x 28 1/2 in. (55.9 x 71.4 cm.)
 Painted in 1940



GASTON LACHAISE (1882-1935)
Man (Gregory Slader, Athlete)
 inscribed 'G. LACHAIS [sic]/©/1928'
 (on the base)--stamped 'ROMAN
 BRONZE WORKS. N-Y-' (along the
 base) bronze with black patina
 76 in. (193 cm.) high



BORIS LOVET-LORSKI (1894–1973)

Diana

signed 'Boris-Lovet-Lorski' (on the front of the base) and
inscribed with foundry mark GRANDHOMME-

ANDRO/Fondeurs. Paris.' (on the back of the base)

bronze with rich brown patina

26 in. (66 cm.) high; 23 3/8 in. (58.7 cm.) long



PAUL HOWARD MANSHIP (1885-1966)

Baboon

inscribed 'P. MANSHIP' (along the base)

bronze with brown patina

11 5/8 in. (29.5 cm.) high on a 1 1/4 in. (3.2 cm.) base

Executed *circa* 1927

[Click here](#) for more information on *Rockefeller Center and the Rise of Modernism in the Metropolis*.

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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 Shanghai, 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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Images available on request

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