

CHRISTIE'S

POST-SALE RELEASE | LONDON
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 2 FEBRUARY 2016

CHRISTIE'S EVENING SALES OF *IMPRESSIONIST, MODERN + SURREALIST ART* TOTAL

£95,917,100 / \$138,024,707 / €126,418,738

Registered bidders from 35 countries across 5 continents



London – Christie's Evening Sales of *Impressionist and Modern Art* and *The Art of the Surreal*, in London on 2 February, realised a combined total of £95,917,100 / \$138,024,707 / €126,418,738, selling 75% by lot and 87% by value. The top price of the evening was achieved by **Max Ernst's** museum-quality work *The Stolen Mirror*, which sold for £7,642,500 / \$10,997,558 / €10,072,815 (estimate: £7-10 million). In total, 27 works of art sold for over £1 million / 34 for over \$1 million. Two artist records were achieved: for Georg Scholz and also for Peter Rose Pulham; a record for a work on paper by Salvador Dalí was also set. This evening marks the start of a week of Impressionist, Modern and Surreal art sales at Christie's King Street and South Kensington with estimates that start at £300; the auctions form part of *20th Century at Christie's* (29 January to 12 February).

Jay Vincze, International Director and Head of The Impressionist and Modern Art Department, Christie's London, and Olivier Camu, Deputy Chairman, Impressionist and Modern Art, Christie's: "We are pleased with the total realised this evening and with the high sell-through rate by value, accompanied by the solid sell-through rate by lot. We had strong interest across price levels and periods, from Paul Cezanne's 1882 work *'Ferme en Normandie, été (Hattenville)'*, through to Joan Miró's 1968 *'Femme et oiseaux dans la nuit'*. With registered bidders from 35 countries across 5 continents demonstrating the continued breadth of interest in the category, we continued to welcome strong participation from Asia, America and Europe."

The top lot of the sale:

The cover lot of the sale, *The Stolen Mirror* by Max Ernst (1891-1976) sold for £7,642,500 / \$10,997,558 / €10,072,815 (estimate: £7-10 million). A surrealist technical *tour-de-force* which is highly autobiographical and one of the artist's finest works, this dream-like landscape was painted in 1941 at the pinnacle of Ernst's oeuvre, when he was using the decalcomania technique of manipulating paint.

Further leading highlights of the evening include:

Selbstbildnis mit gespreizten Fingern (Self-Portrait with Spread Fingers), 1909, by Egon Schiele (1890-1918) sold for £7,250,500 / \$10,433,470 / €9,556,159 (estimate: £6-8 million). An important early work, dating to a breakthrough year when Schiele reached creative maturity this painting reveals the artist already beginning to move beyond the dominant influence of his mentor Klimt towards a new, more existentially aware expressionist art.

Acquired over 30 years ago, *Les mariés de la Tour Eiffel* by Marc Chagall (1887-1985) realised £7,026,500 / \$10,111,134 / €9,260,927 (estimate: £4.8-6.8 million). Painted in 1928, this is one of the artist's most romantic paintings of the 1920s, celebrating the love between the artist and his wife, Bella, as they entered a new phase of security and contentment in their lives.

A major large-scale painting of one of the artist's favourite subjects, *Femme et oiseaux dans la nuit (Woman and Birds in the Night)*, 1968, by Joan Miró (1893-1983) realised £5,794,500 / \$8,338,286 / €7,637,151 (estimate: £3-5 million).

Fishermen in the Sun by Salvador Dalí sold for £1,178,500 / \$1,695,862 / €1,553,263 (estimate: £700,000-£1,000,000). This is the finest of a unique, distinctive and very rare series of six relief-paintings made during this period in which the artist pioneered a completely new stylistic direction in his work; of these six paintings, four now reside in museums including the Fundación Gala-Salvador Dalí, Figueras and the Reina Sofía, Madrid.

For the overall top ten lots please see the separate accompanying document.

An overview press release for the sales of *Impressionist, Modern and Surreal* art sales will be available on 5 February following the *Impressionist & Modern Art & Picasso Ceramics*; a wrap-up press release for '20th Century at Christie's' will be available at the end of the *Post-War and Contemporary Art* auctions.

Notes to Editors:

Artist Records:

Georg Scholz (lot 11), *Badische Kleinstadt bei Tage*, £1,202,500 / \$1,730,398 / €1,584,895 - previous record: \$579,200 in 2003
Peter Rose Pulham (lot 110), *Grisaille Figures I*, £12,500 / \$17,988 / €16,475 - previous record: £6,600 in 2006

Record for the Medium:

Salvador Dalí (lot 132) sold for £1,426,500 / \$2,052,734 / €1,880,127 - previous record: \$1,930,500 in 2011

Pre-sale estimate for the Evening of Impressionist, Modern & Surrealist Art: £83,650,000 - £123,310,000

PRESS CONTACT: Hannah Schweiger | +44 (0)207 389 2964 | hschweiger@christies.com