



# CHRISTIE'S

MEDIA ALERT | HONG KONG | 21 September 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Announcing **THE PIONEERS**, A Special Sale

Auction of Works Visionary Legends



**Hong Kong** – Crowning Christie's 250<sup>th</sup> global anniversary, a first-of-its-kind auction in Asia will take place on 26 November in celebration of pioneering modern and contemporary Asian artists who ushered in an era of artistic evolution and innovation.

The sale titled: ***The Pioneers***, will form a standalone chapter of this autumn's evening sale and present to collectors a meticulously curated selection of master works. These artists were the trailblazers of their era, influencing global perspectives on art and shaping the path of 20th and 21st Century Asian art. Avant-garde artists such as **Sanyu, Zhang Daqian, Zao Wou-ki, Wu Guanzhong, Lin Fengmian** and **Kim Whan-ki** made a huge impact not only on the cultural movements contemporary to their times, but also on shifting and framing the social, cultural and artistic narratives for subsequent generations.

Many of these artists of the century lived and studied abroad, immersing themselves with the cultural influences and techniques of the West. It was here in their adopted homes where they forged a new path, blending western and eastern techniques, giving birth to a unique and innovative style. They brought Asian art to the world stage, and inspired a new following of western art in the East.

**Rebecca Wei, President, Christie's Asia, commented,** “Our 250th global anniversary presents the perfect time to host such a sale, with our Hong Kong salesroom providing the ideal platform for these legendary artists. Hong Kong, as a point of confluence between Western and Eastern philosophies, has always resonated with the pioneering spirit of these artists, and guides us in the region to continually innovate and evolve our curatorial offerings”.

**Jonathan Stone, Chairman, Asian Art, commented,** “Straddling cultures, these artists propelled avant-garde art in their respective periods, embracing new techniques and expressions while staying aligned to their cultural identities. Hosting the sale in Hong Kong stays true to our continued belief in championing innovation and presenting on the world stage artists of the highest cultural and artistic accomplishment”.

**NOTES TO EDITORS:**

**THE PIONEERS SALE**

**Auction:** 26 November 2016

**Venue :** James Christie's Room, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, No. 1 Expo Drive, Wanchai

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**About Christie's**

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in the first half of 2016 that totalled £2.1 billion / \$3 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Christie's offers around 350 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.

2016 marks Christie's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. 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. Click [HERE](#) to view a short film about Christie's and the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 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.*

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