



CHRISTIE'S

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FROM ANCIENT TO MODERN A DISTINGUISHED PRIVATE COLLECTION

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A LARGE GREEK TERRACOTTA
STATUE OF A GIRL
Hellenistic period, c. 3rd century B.C.
102.2 cm high
Estimate: £80,000–120,000



BARTOLOMÉ ESTEBAN MURILLO (1618–1682)
Saint Joseph and the Christ Child
oil on canvas
222.5 x 165 cm
Estimate: £3,000,000–5,000,000



PABLO GARGALLO (1881–1934)
Espagnole à la mantille (Version I)
cut and shaped iron with dark brown patina
46 cm, Executed in 1930; this work is unique
Estimate: £150,000–200,000

London – This December as part of Classic Week, Christie's will present the sale '[From Ancient to Modern: A Distinguished Private Collection](#)', which includes paintings and decorative arts spanning a broad range of cultures and periods. This diverse group of works epitomises a contemporary approach to collecting: not purely driven by category but embracing interconnecting cultural relationships and beliefs. Taken together, these eclectic acquisitions complement one another: the statue of a girl dating from the Hellenistic period (£80,000 – 120,000; *illustrated above left*) is an elegant contrast to Pablo Gargallo's *Espagnole à la mantille* (Version I) (£150,000 – 200,000, *illustrated above right*). Beautiful examples of early Spanish religious art are offered alongside works by Giambattista Tiepolo, Juan de Arellano and Bernard Buffet. The selection of outstanding decorative arts, spanning over 1,000 years is testament to the collector's knowledge and discerning eye.

The auction is led by Bartolomé Esteban Murillo's tender masterpiece *Saint Joseph and the Christ Child* (estimate £3,000,000 – 5,000,000, *illustrated above centre*), which will be on view in Mexico City from 11 October and in New York from 21 October.

Renowned as one of the greatest artists of 17th century Spain, Murillo's greatest contribution to Baroque art was a shift from the strict interpretation of Catholic religious themes to an infinitely more sympathetic and human approach. With superb provenance this present painting demonstrates the artist's excellent sense of composition and application of paint, echoing the flawless techniques of Titian and Rubens.

Another highlight is Fernando Botero's *Mujer Sentada (Seated Woman)*, (estimate: £120,000 – 150,000, *illustrated left*). This work perfectly demonstrates Botero's ability for his sensual nudes to transcend the two-dimensional limitations of the canvas, as the monumentality of his figures is nowhere more fully appreciated than in his sculptural works. The voluptuous female form remains one of the artist's most emblematic and once again Botero has created a playful visual reality that surpasses representational convention.



Spanish artists and craftsmen are well represented and highlights include not only an exquisite oil on copper by Luis Paret Y Alcázar and a striking early still life by Alejandro de Loarte (*illustrated below*) but also a 17th-century Cuenca Carpet (*illustrated below*). Juxtaposed in the collector's house was the Cubist-inspired Gargallo bronze masque of Kiki de Montparnasse which was a modern counterpoint to an elaborate gilt-decorated 17th-century Vargueño (*illustrated below*), on which it stood.



A LARGE CUENCA CARPET
Spain, 17th century
687 x 328 cm
Estimate: £30,000–50,000



A SPANISH GILT-IRON-MOUNTED
POLYCHROME-DECORATED AND
BONE-INLAID WALNUT VARGUEÑO
AND TAQUILLON
17th century
Estimate: £30,000–50,000



A BRONZE EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF FRANCISCO DE
MONCADA, MARQUIS OF AYTONA
Attributed to Francesco and Virgilio Fanelli,
c. 1635, 56.2 cm
Estimate: £60,000–90,000



JUAN DE ARELLANO (1614–1676)
Rose, irises, morning glory and other flowers
in a porcelain vase; and Parrot tulips, roses,
lilies, lilacs and other flowers in a glass vase
oil on canvas, 83.8 x 62.9 cm
Estimate: £400,000–600,000 (pair)



ALEJANDRO DE LOARTE (1595/1600–1626)
*A chicken, sausages and other cuts of meat
hanging from hooks*
oil on canvas, 81.7 x 107.9 cm
Estimate: £250,000–350,000

