



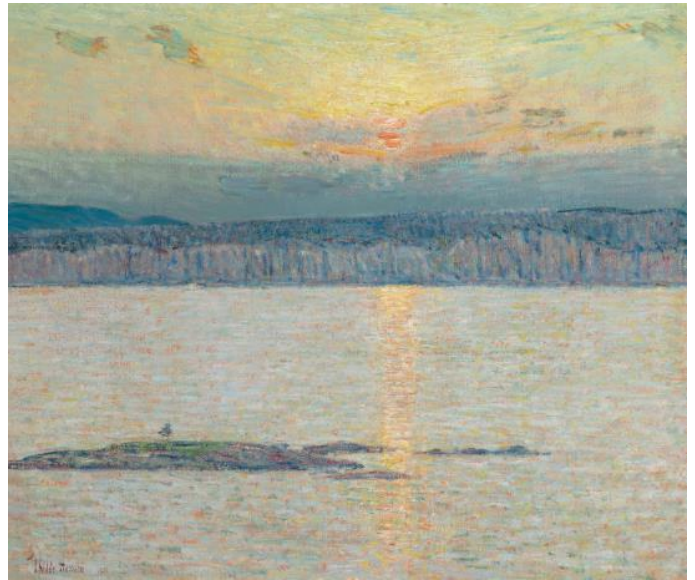
# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | 11 NOVEMBER 2016 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## AMERICAN IMPRESSIONIST COLLECTION LEADS CHRISTIE'S NOVEMBER AUCTION



Frank Weston Benson (1862-1951)  
*The Reader*  
oil on canvas  
Painted in 1906.  
Estimate: \$2,500,000 – 3,500,000



Childe Hassam (1859-1935)  
*Sunset: Ironbound, Mt. Desert, Maine*  
oil on canvas  
Painted in 1896.  
Estimate: \$1,500,000 - 2,500,000

**New York** – Christie's announces the fall sale of American Art on November 22 will offer 101 lots encompassing a range of styles and artists of 19<sup>th</sup> century, Impressionism, Modernism, Regionalism, Western and Illustration art. The sale features one of the strongest selections of American Impressionist paintings to appear on the auction market, including pioneers of the genre such as Childe Hassam, Frank Weston Benson, Frederick Carl Frieseke and John Leslie Breck, among others. Other sale highlights include works by Georgia O'Keeffe, Andrew Wyeth, Newell Convers (N.C.) Wyeth and Stuart Davis.

The sale is led by Frank Weston Benton's dazzling work, *The Reader*, which depicts an iconic Impressionist subject; the artist's eldest daughter is enjoying a beautiful summer day reading outside while perched under a parasol (estimate: \$2,500,000-3,500,000). *The Reader* is a prime example of the Maine summer paintings that embody the pinnacle of Benson's career-long play with light, and the work has been in a private collection for 40 years.

Twenty-four American Impressionist paintings from a private New York collection highlight the sale, and include works by Childe Hassam, John Leslie Breck and John Singer Sargent that depict Ironbound, Maine, a privately owned island once home to fellow American Impressionist, Dwight Blaney, who hosted these artists to visit and paint *en plein air*. Hassam's *Sunset: Ironbound, Mt. Desert, Maine* (estimate: \$1,500,000 - 2,500,000) has the distinguished provenance of being hung in the Yellow Oval Room of the White House from 1977 to 1989, and Sargent's watercolor *The Piazza; On the Verandah*, which depicts Blaney and his family, is inscribed "For my friend Dwight Blaney" (estimate: \$700,000-1,000,000).

Another sale highlight is Edward Moran's *Commerce of Nations Rendering Homage to Liberty*, which was executed in 1876, ten years before the Statue of Liberty was completed, as a means to raise funds and inspire patriotic enthusiasm for sculptor Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi's undertaking (estimate: \$700,000-1,000,000).

The sale also includes Andrew Wyeth's *The Sexton*, which not only demonstrates the artist's technical mastery of the tempera medium and represents his enduring motifs of isolation and mortality, but appears at auction for the first time, having descended in the family from the Oak Ridge Collection of J.J. Ryan (estimate: \$2,000,000 – 3,000,000). The cover-lot of the sale is N.C. Wyeth's "*Hands Up!*", which epitomizes the artist's compositional skills and unmatched sense of visual narrative that garnered his reputation as one of America's foremost illustrators (estimate: \$1,500,000 – 2,500,000).

**SELECT HIGHLIGHTS | AMERICAN ART | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2016**



John Singer Sargent (1856-1925)  
*The Piazza; On the Verandah*  
watercolor and charcoal on paper  
15 ½ x 21 in. (39.4 x 53.3 cm.)  
Executed circa 1921-22.  
Estimate: \$700,000-1,000,000



John Leslie Breck (1860-1899)  
*Garden, Ironbound Island, Maine*  
oil on canvas  
Painted circa 1896.  
Estimate: \$700,000 – 1,000,000



Edward Moran (1829-1901)  
*Commerce of Nations Rendering Homage to Liberty*  
oil on canvas  
Painted in 1876.  
Estimate: \$700,000-1,000,000



Stuart Davis (1892-1964)  
*Twilight in Turkey*  
oil on canvas  
Painted in 1961.  
Estimate: \$600,000 - 900,000



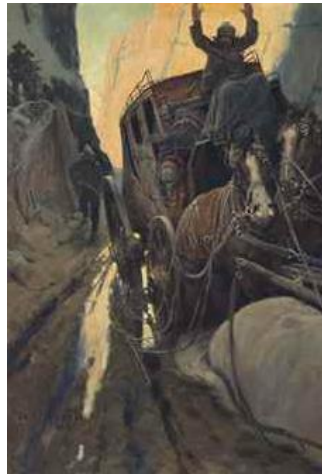
Georgia O'Keeffe (1887-1986)  
*Sand Hill, Alcalde*  
oil on canvas  
Painted in 1930.  
Estimate: \$1,200,000 - 1,800,000



Milton Avery (1885-1965)  
*Anemones*  
oil and pencil on canvas  
Painted in 1945.  
Estimate: \$400,000 – 600,000



Andrew Wyeth (1917-2009)  
*The Sexton*  
tempera on panel  
Painted in 1950.  
Estimate: \$2,000,000-3,000,000



Newell Convers Wyeth (1882-1945)  
*"Hands Up!"*  
oil on canvas  
Painted in 1906.  
Estimate: \$1,500,000 – 2,500,000



Norman Rockwell (1894-1978)  
*The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter*  
oil on canvas  
Painted in 1923.  
Estimate: \$400,000 – 600,000

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E-catalogues:

[American Art \(main catalogue\)](#)

[Distinguished Art from a Private New York Collection](#)

[American Impressionism](#)

[American Modernism](#)

Content:

[A taste of American Art](#)

[American Impressionism: 'What happiness looks like'](#)

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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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*Images available on request*

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