NEW YORK—Christie’s is pleased to announce the sale of Old Master & British Drawings on January 24 followed by the return of a various owner sale of Old Master Prints on January 25, to take place in New York for the first time in over 15 years. Old Master Paintings will be offered in April 2017, during Classic Week at Christie’s New York.

Christie’s Old Master & British Drawings sale on January 24 is comprised of 131 lots including works from distinguished private collections and institutions. Important works leading the sale are Francisco de Goya’s Hunter with his dog in a landscape and a lavish design by Peter Paul Rubens inspired by a composition by Renaissance artist Giulio Romano.

The sale features a strong selection of Italian drawings including studies by Giacomo Cavedone, Parmigianino and Taddeo Zuccaro, together with several works inspired by Michelangelo by Battista Franco, Giulio Clovio and Cesare da Sesto’s early study after the Sistine ceiling. Works by Piazzetta, Giovanni Battista and Giovanni Domenico Tiepolo, Piranesi and Francesco Guardi constitute the highlights of an outstanding selection of Venetian drawings.

Highlights from the British section include A male nude by Henry Fuseli, and works by Gainsborough and Burne-Jones. Charles de la Fosse’s preparatory study for the painting The Virgin’s Coronation with a selection of nineteenth-century works round out the sale.

The sale of Old Master Prints encompasses 220 prints from five centuries, offering an in-depth survey of the printed image in Europe, from Martin Schongauer’s (1450-1491) engravings created in the 1470s to a View of San Francisco by the French Charles Meryon (1821-1868), printed around 1855.

Classic prints by the most celebrated and widely collected artist-printmakers, including Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528), Rembrandt (1606-1669), and Francisco de Goya (1746-1828), stand side by side with extreme rarities, such as an anonymous, hand-coloured woodcut of the Virgin nursing the Child, printed in Northern Italy around 1530; one of a few surviving devotional prints of the period.

The estimates vary as much as the dimensions of the works: the exquisite little engravings by Hans Sebald Beham (1500-1550) are the size of a postage stamp, while the monumental woodcut The Submersion of Pharaoh’s Army (estimate: $200,000-300,000) after a design by Titian leads the sale and fills an entire wall in its scale.
Highlights | Old Master & British Drawings | January 24, 2017

FRANCISCO JOSE DE GOYA Y LUCIENTES (Fuendetodos 1746-1828 Bordeaux)
*A hunter with his dog in a landscape*
in ink, scraping, fragmentary watermark crest surmounted by a cross
$600,000-800,000

GIOVANNI DOMENICO TIEPOLO (VENICE 1727–1804)
*Head of a young man*
red and white chalk, stumping, on blue paper
$180,000–220,000

GIROLAMO FRANCESCO MAZZOLA, IL PARMIGIANINO (Parma 1503-1540 Casalmaggiore)
*A group of figures standing by a column*
pen and brown ink, brown wash heightened with white, made up along the edges
$200,000-300,000

JOHANN HEINRICH FUSSLI, HENRY FUSELI, R.A. (Zürich 1741-1825 Putney Hill)
*A male nude in a contemplative pose (recto); Study of a man (verso)*
pencil, pen and brown ink, brown, ochre and rose wash, heightened with white, watermark of a cross within a crest surmounted by a crown
$80,000 - 120,000

Highlights | Old Master Prints | January 25, 2017

MARTIN SCHONGAUER (CIRCA 1445-1491)
*The Death of the Virgin*
engraving, circa 1470-74
$100,000–150,000

ALBRECHT DURER (1471-1528)
*Knight, Death and the Devil*
engraving, 1513
$150,000-250,000

FRANCISCO DE GOYA Y LUCIENTES (1746-1828)
*La Tauromaquia*
the set of 33 etchings with burnished aquatint, drypoint and engraving, 1816
$80,000-120,000

REMBRANDT HARMENSZ. VAN RIJN (1606-1669) AFTER JAN LIEVENS (1607-1674)
*The Second Oriental Head etching, circa 1635*
$15,000-25,000

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About Christie’s

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*Estimates do not include buyer’s premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer’s premium and are reported net of applicable fees.

Images available on request

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