## CHRISTIE'S PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 12 MAY 2017

## Christie's to offer exemplary works of 19<sup>th</sup> Century European Art this May

23 MAY 2017



Joaquín Sorolla y Bastida (Spanish, 1863-1923), *Algarrobo (The Carob Tree),* oil on canvas. Estimate: \$700,000 - 1,000,000

**New York –** Christie's announces the sale of 19<sup>th</sup> Century European Art on May 23, which offers a strong selection of fresh to the market paintings, drawings, and sculpture by leading artists who reflect the extraordinary diversity of this pivotal period of art history. Painters of the Barbizon, French Realist and Orientalist schools are represented, as well as a strong selection of Belle Époque painters and important female artists. The tightly curated sale of 88 lots is primarily sourced from private collections with lots ranging in price from \$7,000 to \$1,200,000.

A highlight of the sale is **Joaquín Sorolla's** (Spanish, 1863-1923), *Algarrobo (The Carob Tree)* painted when the artist was visiting the Spanish village of of Jávea, in eastern Spain (estimate: \$700,000-1,000,000). The artist was entranced by the beauty of the area, and this work is a striking example of Sorolla's ability to capture the effects of heat and light using an almost abstract pattern of light and texture. It is considered among the first true landscape paintings by the artist.

The sale also includes a very strong section of works of art by French artists lead by *Le Roi de la forêt* by **Rosa Bonheur** (estimate: \$800,000 – \$1,200,000). This masterpiece by the renowned *animalier* depicts a life-sized stag in the artist's exactingly naturalistic style and was considered by the artist herself to be one of her masterpieces. Two works by **Jean-François Millet**, *Le Passage des oies sauvages* (estimate: \$600,000-800,000) and *Portrait of a Woman, probably the Artist's Sister* (estimate: \$250,000-350,000) are highlights which are emblematic of the two different periods of Millet's career – his early portraiture, and his later depictions of peasant life in the area around Barbizon. *Le Passage des oies sauvages* is an important work by the artist in pastel, a medium in which he was considered exceptionally skilled.

There is also a strong group of paintings by **Sir Alfred Munnings**, Dutch paintings lead by a very high quality **Wouterus Verschuur**, and several important works by **Jean-Léon Gérôme** which illustrate the wide variety of subject matter within the artist's *oeuvre*.

## **Select Highlights**





<u>Jean-François Millet (French, 1814-1875)</u> Le Passage des oies sauvages Estimate: \$600,000 - 800,000

René Archille Rousseau-Decelle (French, 1881-1964) Le pesage de Longchamp Estimate: \$250,000 – 350,000

Rosa Bonheur (FRENCH, 1822-1899) Le Roi de la forêt Estimate: \$800,000 - 1,200,000



Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot (French, 1796-1875) Groupe d'arbres au bord d'un marais, avec deux vaches (Soleil levant) Estimate: \$100,000 - 150,000



Olga Wisinger-Florian (Austrian, 1844-1926) Allee im Herbst, Alcsuth Estimate: \$100,000 – 150,000



Sir Alfred James Munnings, P.R.A., R.W.S. (British, 1878-1959) Mare and Foal belonging to Colonel Guy Blewitt Estimate: \$120,000 – 180,000



Edwin Lord Weeks (American, 1849-1903) Promenade on a Street in Ahmedabad with the Rajah's Elephant led by Two Retainers Estimate: \$70,000 – 100,000

## About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in 2015 that totalled £4.8 billion / \$7.4 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. 2016 marks Christie's 250th 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. 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.

Christie's has a global presence with 54 offices in 32 countries and 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



