

# CHRISTIE'S

POST SALE RELEASE | PARIS | 19 OCTOBER 2017 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE *GRANDE FEMME II* BY ALBERTO GIACOMETTI SETS AUCTION HIGH FOR THE MOST EXPENSIVE WORK OF ART SOLD AT CHRISTIE'S FRANCE SINCE 2010 REALISING €25M**

**CHRISTIE'S *PARIS AVANT-GARDE* SALE TOTALLED €38,6M/£34,4M/\$45,6M**



**Paris** - Christie's FIAC week sales opened with the second edition of Christie's *Paris Avant-Garde* auction which realised a strong €38,6M/£34,4M/\$45,6M. Christie's France's President, François de Ricqlès, held the hammer in a packed room selling 27 lots to international buyers from 12 countries. The highly-expected *Grande Femme II* by Alberto Giacometti achieved an impressive €24,907,500/£22,167,675/\$29,390,850, becoming **the most expensive work of art sold in France in 2017**. This sculpture was first conceived by Giacometti in 1960 when he was asked to realise a project for the Chase Manhattan Bank's public plaza in New York.

**Pierre Martin-Vivier, Director, Chairman's Office:** "We are thrilled with the very good results achieved tonight and especially for the new high for any work of art sold in France in 2017 with *Grande Femme II* and it was a great honor to be entrusted with the sale of this prestigious work of art".

The first edition of *Facile* by Paul Eluard and Man Ray was sold for €823,500 to Jean-Baptiste de Proyart bidding in the room on behalf of a private client, establishing a new auction record for any 20<sup>th</sup> century French editioned book. A world auction record was achieved for Claude Cahun's photograph that sold for €223,500 against a pre-sale estimate of €100,000-150,000.

Jean Dubuffet was well represented in the sale with two drawings and an exceptional painting, realised in 1964 from the *Hourloupe* series, which was acquired by international collector Mr. Samir Traboulsi for €1,927,500.

A strong result was also realised for *Through the Dusk (Homage to the square)* by Josef Albers which sold for €631,500, three times its presale estimate and the mobile sculpture by Alexander Calder from the personal collection of Tal Coat was sold for €1,327,500.

**Tudor Davies, Co-Head of Sale:** "The second edition of our *Paris Avant-Garde* sale was a real success and we are pleased to have seen so much interest from international collectors present in Paris for FIAC. In addition to the great result achieved by the Giacometti's sculpture, many more artworks realised strong results such as Sonia Delaunay's oil on canvas created in 1913 and originally from the Bing gallery which was sold for €1,567,500".

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#### About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in first half of 2017 that totalled £2.35 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.

Alongside regular sales online, Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

*\*Please note when quoting estimates above that other fees will apply in addition to the hammer price - see Section D of the Conditions of Sale at the back of the sale catalogue.*

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

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