

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | LONDON | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | 7 DECEMBER 2017

CLASSIC WEEK

Old Masters Evening Sale

Totals £21,772,000/ \$29,109,164 /€24,667,676

Selling 93% by value with 78% of lots exceeding their estimate

El Greco's *Saint Francis and Brother Leo in Meditation* from Property from the Collection of Stanford Z. Rothschild, Jr. Realises £6,871,250/ \$9,186,861/ €7,785,126

Running Total of Classic Week £28,363,750/ \$37,943,180/ €32,120,596



London – The *Old Masters Evening Sale* on 7 December totalled £21,772,000/ \$29,109,164/ €24,667,676 and was led by El Greco's *Saint Francis and Brother Leo in Meditation*, from the Collection of Stanford Z. Rothschild, Jr., which sold for £6,871,250/ \$9,186,861/ €7,785,126, becoming the second highest price for the artist at auction. A new world record price for the artist at auction was also set for Bartholomäus Spranger with *Mercury carrying Psyche to Mount Olympus*, which far surpassed the previous record, realising £3,368,750 / \$4,504,019 / €3,816,794. The sale was 77% sold by lot and 93% sold by value, with registered bidders from 30 countries, across 5 continents.

Henry Pettifer, Head of Christie's Old Master Paintings EMERI: "2017 is the second consecutive record year for Old Masters at Christie's. With 78% of lots selling above estimate, tonight's sale was 93% sold by value, the second highest sell-through rate by value for Old Masters, Christie's London. The sale proved the healthy demand for 16th and 17th century Dutch and Flemish paintings, demonstrated by the highly competitive bidding for the works by Spranger, Rembrandt, Ruisdael and

Teniers, among others. We were pleased to see El Greco's superb Saint Francis and Brother Leo in Meditation set the second highest price for the artist at auction, and for the new record for the Spranger which is one of the finest mannerist pictures to come to the market in recent memory. We now look forward to our sale of 'Old Masters including Old Master & British Drawings and Watercolours' on 8 December."

Classic Week continues, concluding on 18 December when *The Astor Collection from Tillypronie, Aberdeenshire* closes. A wrap-up release will follow.

PRESS CONTACTS:

Hannah Schweiger | 020 7389 2964 | hschweiger@christies.com

Lauren Clarke | 020 7389 2391 | laurenclarke@christies.com

Notes to editors:

Christie's first Old Masters Online sale *The Lure of Naples: A Private Collection of Italian Views* closed on 7 December, achieving strong sell-through rates of 80% by lot and 87% by value.

Related Features for Upcoming Classic Week Sales:

Valuable Books and Manuscripts | *An alchemist's guide to the elixir of eternal life*: <http://bit.ly/2nb0U1H>

Topographical Pictures | *The enduring power of Irma Stern*: <http://bit.ly/2Btozxm>

Old Master Prints | *Before the mirror: Rembrandt's self-portrait etchings*: <http://bit.ly/2hZeDTI>

19th Century European & Orientalist Art | *At the birth of a masterpiece*: <http://bit.ly/2iYE5tv>

The Astor Collection from Tillypronie, Aberdeenshire | *Tillypronie — 'lying deep among the brown and purple moors'*: <http://bit.ly/2iYAOKI>

###

Images available on request

FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:



CHRISTIE'S

OLD MASTERS EVENING SALE

London, Thursday 07 December 2017, Sale 13673

[All sold prices include buyer's premium]

27 lots sold	Total: £21,772,000 / \$29,109,164 / €24,667,676	77% sold by lot		
35 lots offered	\$1.337 = £1 / €1.133 = £1	93% sold by value		
Lot	Description	Estimate (£)	Price Realised	Buyer
14	Doménikos Theotokópoulos, called El Greco (Crete 1541-1614 Toledo), <i>Saint Francis and Brother Leo in Meditation</i> SECOND HIGHEST PRICE FOR THE ARTIST AT AUCTION	5,000,000 - 7,000,000	£6,871,250 \$9,186,861 €7,785,126	Anonymous
10	Rembrandt Harmensz. van Rijn (Leiden 1606-1669 Amsterdam), <i>Portrait of Petronella Buys (1610-1670)</i>	1,500,000 - 2,500,000	£3,368,750 \$4,504,019 €3,816,794	Anonymous
13	Bartholomäus Spranger (Antwerp 1546-1611 Prague), <i>Mercury carrying Psyche to Mount Olympus</i> WORLD RECORD PRICE FOR THE ARTIST AT AUCTION	400,000 - 600,000	£3,368,750 \$4,504,019 €3,816,794	Anonymous
9	Jacob van Ruisdael (Haarlem 1628/9-1682 Amsterdam), <i>Sailing vessels in a stormy sea near a rocky coast</i>	300,000 - 500,000	£1,448,750 \$1,936,979 €1,641,434	Anonymous
3	Ludolf Bakhuizen (Emden 1630-1708 Amsterdam), <i>An extensive seascape with figures by a boat on a shore</i>	80,000 - 120,000	£668,750 \$894,119 €757,694	Anonymous
36	Sir Edwin Henry Landseer, R.A. (London, 1802-1873), <i>Alpine Mastiffs Reanimating a Distressed Traveller</i>	500,000 - 800,000	£608,750 \$813,899 €689,714	Anonymous
20	Marten van Cleve I (Antwerp c. 1527-1581), <i>The Wedding Dance oil on panel</i>	200,000 - 300,000	£464,750 \$621,371 €526,562	Anonymous
7	Osias Beert I (Antwerp c. 1570-1624), <i>Flowers in a German tigerware vase, with a bluebottle fly and a Red Admiral butterfly, on a ledge</i>	200,000 - 300,000	£440,750 \$589,283 €499,370	Anonymous
30	William van der Hagen (The Hague active c. 1720-1745 Ireland), <i>An extensive view of Carton House, County Kildare, with Maynooth in the distance</i> WORLD RECORD PRICE FOR THE ARTIST AT AUCTION	200,000 - 300,000	£428,750 \$573,239 €485,774	Anonymous
5	David Teniers II (Antwerp 1610-1690 Brussels), <i>Monkeys cooking in a kitchen</i>	40,000 - 60,000	£416,750 \$557,195 €472,178	Anonymous

PRESS CONTACT: Hannah Schweiger | 020 7389 2964 | hschweiger@christies.com

Estimates do not include buyer's premium.

Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and do not reflect costs, third-party financing fees or application of buyer's or seller's credits.