

CHRISTIE'S

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**CHRISTIE'S LEADS 20TH CENTURY ART MARKET WITH
SALES IN LONDON ACHIEVING
£341.6 million / \$474.5 million / €384.2 million**

**HIGHEST TOTAL FOR ANY AUCTION OF POST-WAR AND
CONTEMPORARY ART EVER HELD IN EUROPE**

**SECOND HIGHEST RESULT FOR IMPRESSIONIST, MODERN
AND SURREAL SALES IN FEBRUARY**



Top: Andy Warhol, *Six Self Portraits*, £22,261,250 / \$31,262,568 / €25,290,557

Bottom left: Pablo Picasso, *Mousquetaire et nu assis*, £13,733,750 / \$19,172,315 / €15,532,871

Bottom right: René Magritte, *Le groupe silencieux* ('The Silent Group'), £7,208,750 / \$10,063,415 / €8,153,096

London – '20th Century at Christie's' concluded in London on 8 March, with a combined total across five sale platforms of Impressionist and Modern, Surreal and Post-War and Contemporary Art, reaching £341.6 million / \$474.5 million / €384.2 million. These results confirmed Christie's leadership in the 20th Century art market, and were a 24% increase on the equivalent season last year. A passion for collecting and exceptional quality

underpinned the private collections offered throughout '20th Century at Christie's' this season: 'The Eye of the Architect', 'The Collection of Antoni Tàpies', 'Abstraction Beyond Borders', 'The Triton Collection Foundation', 'Property from the Collection of Wilhelm Reinold' and 'A Private European Collection: Fontana, Burri, Schütte, Flavin, Kiefer and Richter'. The success they achieved throughout the auction series gives rise to the Collection of Peggy and David Rockefeller, the most significant philanthropic auction, which will take place in New York in May 2018. Icons of the 20th Century including Degas, Monet, Magritte, Kandinsky, Bacon, Warhol, and Basquiat were presented alongside those at the forefront of contemporary art such as Peter Doig, Kristin Baker, Kelley Walker and Cecily Brown, as well as artists who have never appeared at auction in London before: Shafic Abboud, Huguette Caland and Marwan. Collectors from the Americas, Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East participated in the sales, representing 73 different countries across 6 continents.

The Day Sales of Impressionist and Modern and Post-War and Contemporary Art saw collectors gather in London for a series that achieved outstanding results, with the highest combined total for Impressionist and Modern Works on Paper and Day Sale (£29,804,938 / \$41,488,473 / €33,739,190), complemented by the online-only sale *Picasso Ceramics*, which was 100% sold and totalled £1,817,063 / \$2,398,523 / € 2,036,927. This was completed by the Post-War and Contemporary Art Day Auction, which sold 92% by lot and 96% by value (£22,910,000 / \$31,776,171 / €25,567,561).

IMPRESSIONIST, MODERN AND SURREAL ART

- *Impressionist and Modern Art* and *The Art of the Surreal* realised a combined total of £149,592,750 / \$208,831,479 / €169,189,400
- The top lot of the *Impressionist and Modern Art* Sale was Pablo Picasso's *Mousquetaire et nu assis*, painted in Mougins on 11 April 1967, which realised £13,733,750 / \$19,172,315 / €15,532,871
- The second highest price of the night was achieved with Edgar Degas' *Dans les coulisses*, which sold for £8,993,750 / \$12,555,275 / €10,171,931
- World auction records were set for works by Georges Vantongerloo and Antoine Pevsner
- The top lot in the *Art of the Surreal Evening Sale* was *Figure* by Picasso (1930), which realised £8,333,750 / \$11,633,915 / €9,425,471
- René Magritte's *Le groupe silencieux* ('*The Silent Group*'), painted in 1926 and an important example of the artist's early Surrealist style, sold for £7,208,750 / \$10,063,415 / €8,153,096
- The *Impressionist and Modern Works on Paper and Day Sale* realised a combined total of £29,804,938 / \$41,488,473 / €33,739,190, Christie's highest total for a Works on Paper and Day Sale in London
- The top lot of the Day Sale was Chaïm Soutine's *Portrait de Charlot*, which realised £896,750 / \$1,248,276 / €1,015,121
- The top lot of the Works on Paper sale was Claude Monet's *Coucher de soleil*, which realised £1,568,750 / \$2,183,700 / €1,775,825
- Picasso Ceramics sold 100% by lot and by value, totalling £1,817,063 / \$2,398,523 / € 2,036,927

POST-WAR AND CONTEMPORARY ART

- The *Post-War and Contemporary Art Evening Auction* in London realised £137,459,750 / \$189,969,375 / €153,680,001 and achieved the highest total for any auction of Post-War and Contemporary Art ever held in Europe and was 92% sold by lot and 96% by value
- The top lot of the night was Andy Warhol's *Six Self Portraits*. This rare masterpiece was completed just months before the artist's sudden death in 1987, and sold for £22,261,250 / \$31,262,568 / €25,290,557
- *Multiflavors*, a 1982 painting by Jean-Michel Basquiat, achieved the second highest price of the night when it sold for £12,046,250 / \$16,647,918 / €13,467,707
- Peter Doig's *Charley's Space* (1991) is the first of the celebrated 'snow' paintings that would define the artist's output in the 1990s. Begun during his final year at Chelsea School of Art in London, it realised the third highest price of the sale when it was bought for £10,921,250 / \$15,093,168 / €12,209,957. The proceeds of the sale of *Charley's Space* and Doig's *Snowballed Boy* (1995) will support a programme by The Donald R. Sobey Foundation in conjunction with the Sobey Art Foundation to strengthen international exhibition opportunities for contemporary Canadian artists

- World auction records were set on the night for works by Mark Bradford, Kelley Walker and Maria Helena Vieira da Silva. A world auction record by medium was established for George Condo's *Three Nudes*
- The *Post-War and Contemporary Art Day Auction* totalled £22,910,000 / \$31,776,171 / €25,567,561, selling 92% by lot and 96% by value
- The top lot of the *Post-War and Contemporary Art Day Auction* was Günther Uecker's *White Stream*, which realised £704,750 / \$977,488 / €786,501. A highlight was a group of works sold with proceeds going towards Syri-Arts: Saving A Generation Through Education, which totalled £1,380,500 / \$1,914,754 / €1,540,638

20TH CENTURY COLLECTIONS

COLLECTION	TOTAL ACHIEVED
The Eye of the Architect	£28,992,000 / \$40,066,944 / €32,413,056
Abstraction Beyond Borders	£11,770,000 / \$16,430,920 / €13,311,870
Triton Collection	£10,696,125 / \$14,925,029 / €12,098,038
Tapies Collection	£8,367,500 / \$11,681,027 / €9,463,642
Reinold Collection	£6,501,750 / £9,072,582 / £7,354,445
An Important European Collection	£18,657,000 / \$25,783,974 / € 20,858,526

SALE TOTALS

- *Impressionist & Modern Art and Art of the Surreal Evening Sale*: £149,592,750 / \$208,831,479 / €169,189,400
- *Impressionist & Modern Art Works on Paper and Day Sale*: £29,804,938 / \$41,488,473 / €33,739,190
- *Picasso Ceramics*: £1,817,063 / \$2,398,523 / € 2,036,927
- *Post-War and Contemporary Art Evening Auction*: £137,459,750 / \$189,969,375 / €153,680,001
- *Post-War and Contemporary Art Day Auction*: £22,910,000 / \$31,776,171 / €25,567,561
- **TOTAL**: £341,584,501 / \$474,464,021 / € 384,213,079

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in 2017 that totalled £5.1 billion / \$6.6 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and international expertise. 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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