

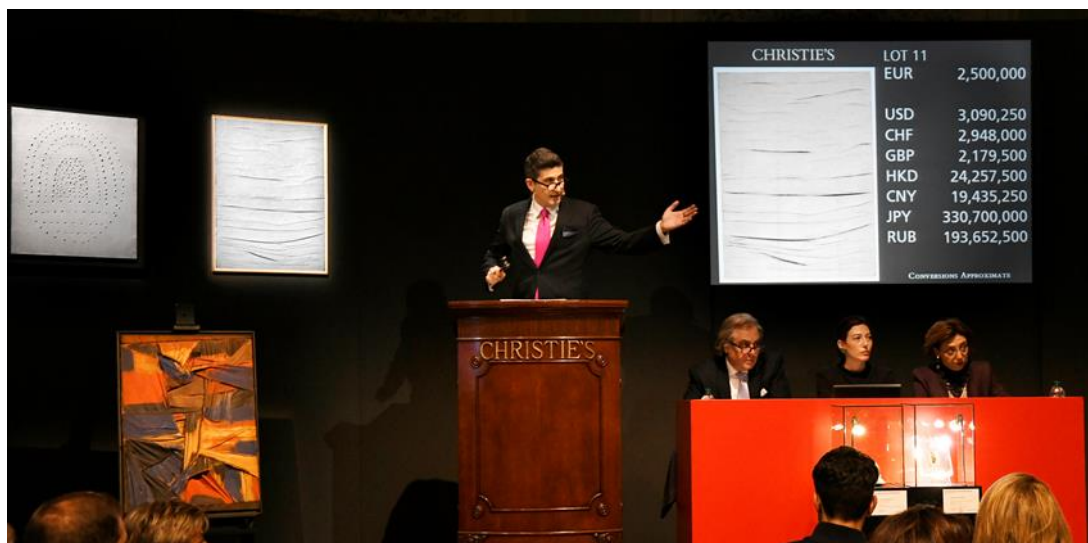
CHRISTIE'S

POST-SALE RELEASE | MILAN | 11 APRIL 2018

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF CHRISTIE'S ITALY

MILAN MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY THE BEST OF ITALIAN 20TH CENTURY ART

REALISING A SALE TOTAL OF € 14.7 MILLION
SETTING 6 NEW WORLD AUCTION RECORDS



Renato Pennisi selling the top lot of the auction: Piero Manzoni's *Achrome*, 1958, for EUR2,970,000

Milan – The 6th consecutive *Milan Modern and Contemporary* art auction has achieved a strong total result of €14,693,500 / £12,809,793 / \$18,162,635, selling 91% by lot and 97% by value. Six new auction records for Osvaldo Licini (lot 8), Leoncillo (lot 18), Antonio Donghi (lot 29), Piero Dorazio (lot 32), Fausto Pirandello (lot 43), and Claudio Parmiggiani (lot 56) were set.

A fine selection of figurative Italian art was very well received, as demonstrated by Umberto Boccioni's *Ritratto di giovane*, dated 1905/06, which has fetched €379,500. All three private collections on offer have performed extremely well: the Sergio Tomasinelli collection (lots 6-9) from Turin sold for €1,536,250 and was highlighted by Salvatore Scarpitta's *Ammiraglio* painted in 1958 which realised for EUR 1,015,000. Two of the top ten lots of the auction, were consigned from an important Milanese private collection (lots 20-23), led a 1966 Lucio Fontana's *Concetto Spaziale* which sold for EUR 991,500, while a private collection from Vincenza (lots 30 and 36) also achieved strong results.

“Our tailor-made approach to respond to the ever-growing international as well as national appetite for the best of Italian Art has paid off. With 200 collectors gathering at Palazzo Clerici and many more on the telephones and via the internet, Christie’s Milan sale has showed the strong appeal of Italian Art in the current market. The top 3 private collections on offer performed very well, as further demonstrated by great works sourced privately achieving high prices throughout the sale”, commented Renato Pennisi, Director and Senior Specialist, Head of the Milan sale.

Mariolina Bassetti, Chairman, Italy and International Director, Post War & Contemporary Art, added: *"On Christie's 60th anniversary in Italy, the quality of Italian art promoted on an international stage has triumphed once again. The carefully selected works on offer totalled €14.6 million, selling 97% by value. Christie's strategy of holding one high-quality auction per year in Italy has been widely rewarded. We are now looking forward to the sales of the Collection of Peggy and David Rockefeller to be presented in New York next month, the proceeds of which will be entirely donated to charity."*

TOP 3 LOTS OF THE AUCTION:

Lot 11 - Piero Manzoni, *Achrome*, 1958 selling for EUR 2,970,000

It is one of the earliest works of the artist’s series bearing the same name. Never offered before on the art market, in the same collection since 1976 and exhibited in the 2014 retrospective of the artist in Milan, as well as documented in all catalogue raisonnés on the artist, the work attracted international bidding.

Lot 17 - Lucio Fontana, *Concetto spaziale*, Atesa, 1967 selling for EUR 1,687,500

Showing a single clean slash through the red canvas, it was made in 1967, exactly 10 years after the artist introduced the series of *tagli*. These works were created during a period of exploration in space with the slash sometimes seen as a reference to the unknown, to the spatial dimension.

Lot 6 - Salvatore Scarpitta, *Ammiraglio*, 1958, selling for EUR 1,015,500

A pivotal piece of Scarpitta’s ‘wrapped’ or ‘bandaged’ series, where he deconstructed the anatomy of a painting, reconstituting its physical components to create a new and direct means of expression.

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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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Images available on request