

CHRISTIE'S

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ART + TECH SUMMIT **Exploring Blockchain**

**Is the art world
ready for consensus?**

CHRISTIE'S LAUNCHES ANNUAL ART+TECH SUMMIT

London - Christie's announces the launch of its Art+Tech Summit, an annual initiative debuting on 17th July 2018, to be hosted at the London headquarters of the world's leading art business. Bringing together thought leaders and industry experts from across sectors, this one day conference will explore the potential impacts of innovative technologies on the art world and market. The Summits are being held in association with Christie's Education.

Each year the Summit will highlight a different technology as its focus. 2018's inaugural conference, *'Exploring Blockchain – Is the art world ready for consensus?'* will deliberate on the potential applications this technology can provide to the art market. This year's programme has been co-curated by Vastari, technology experts who operate the world's largest online marketplace for art and culture exhibitions.

The Summit will feature a stimulating mix of keynote lectures, debates and panel discussions, interspersed with short and powerful ideas based talks. Themes range from the current art world blockchain landscape to blockchain successes and pitfalls in other industries. Industry leaders Hans Ulrich Obrist, Artistic Director of the Serpentine Gallery; Ed Vaizey, Member of Parliament and former Minister for Culture, Communications and Creative Industries; and Kati Price, Head of Digital Media of the Victoria & Albert Museum among others will bring the event to a close, sharing reflections on the content covered during the day.

Richard Entrup, Global Chief Information Officer of Christie's said: "The Christie's Art+Tech Summits offer a forum to invite some of the brightest technology thought leaders to discuss their views on emerging trends and predictions facing the future of our business. This annual conference continues to further our efforts to position Christie's at the crossroads of the conversation between Art, Tech and Innovation".

Further information, including the full speaker list and agenda together with details of ticket payment and venue location, is available here <https://www.christies.com/art-and-tech>

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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.

About Christie's Education

Christie's Education is a wholly owned subsidiary of the world's leading art business, Christie's. It is an international postgraduate institution devoted to preparing graduates for entry into the art world through the advanced study of art business, art world practice and the acquisition of connoisseurship skills. By offering Master's degrees in London and New York, we immerse students in all areas of the art world, focusing on business analysis, object-based study, history of art, art market studies, supported by rigorous professional development courses. All Master's degrees have an integrated work placement at Christie's auction house as an accredited part of these programmes.

Christie's Education online courses provide a fully immersive experience of the art world. Christie's Education also offers a vast range of continuing education opportunities in London, New York and Hong Kong, designed to introduce enthusiasts to the fundamentals of art and the art market.

About Vastari

Founded in 2012, Vastari is a London based technology firm that operates an online marketplace for art, culture, science and design exhibitions - specifically facilitating International exhibition loans and tours. The company works globally with representatives in New York, Singapore, Beijing, Melbourne, Paris, Barcelona, São Paulo and Budapest. The company's clients include thousands of museum professionals, art collectors, producers and suppliers around the world including from 6 of the top 10 most visited museums. Vastari is at the forefront of technological advances in their field, and their CEO, Bernadine Bröcker Wieder, often speaks internationally about innovations that may impact the art and culture world, including distributed ledger technology and artificial intelligence.

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Images available on request

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