# CHRISTIE'S

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# CHRISTIE'S AMERICAN ART

**LIVE AUCTION: MAY 22 | ONLINE AUCTION: MAY 15-22** 



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GEORGIA O'KEEFFE (1887-1986)

Hibiscus

oil on canvas

Painted in 1939.

Estimated: \$4,000,000-6,000,000

**New York** – Christie's announces the Spring American Art auctions, with a live auction on May 22 and a concurrent online sale taking place from May 15-22. The sales are distinguished by private collections including The Collection of Joan and Preston Robert Tisch, The Estate of Robert A. Mann and the Mann Family, and the Collection of Mandell & Madeleine Berman, among others.

The top lot of the sale is Georgia O'Keeffe's seminal work, *Hibiscus*, painted in 1939 during her three-month Hawaiian sojourn at the behest of the Hawaiian Pineapple Company (estimated: \$4,000,000-6,000,000). Composed of brilliant and varying hues, *Hibiscus* is an affirmation of O'Keeffe's color theory and epitomizes the brilliance of the artist's Hawaiian works that excited such praise from contemporary critics.

Highlighting the works by Norman Rockwell in the sale is *Piano Tuner*, painted in 1947, and gifted to the boy depicted in the painting, Andrew Smith. As payment for his work, Rockwell gave young Smith, only eight years old at the time, \$5 to model for him. Works from a private Midwestern Collection include Childe Hassam's *Conversation on the Avenue* and George Wesley Bellow's *Evening Blue (Tending the Lobster Traps. Early morning)* (estimate: \$1,500,000-2,500,000 and \$1,000,000-1,500,000). Modernist works in the sale include Milton Avery's *Red Nude* (estimate: \$1,000,000-1,500,000) and *General MacArthur on the Rocks* (estimate: \$20,000-30,000), both from the

Collection of Joan and Preston Robert Tisch. Western Art in the sale features works by Thomas Moran, Newell Convers Wyeth, Gerard Curtis Delano and Oscar Edmund Berninghaus, among others.

The American Art online auction features paintings, sculpture and works on paper from some of the most noteworthy American artists of the 19th and 20th centuries, from Milton Avery and 'Grandma' Moses to Albert Bierstadt and Thomas Moran. With estimates starting under \$5,000, this sale is an excellent opportunity for those at the start of their collecting journey as well as seasoned connoisseurs. Bidding opens on 15 May, and the works will be on view in Christie's Rockefeller Center galleries from May19-21.

#### **AMERICAN ART HIGHLIGHTS**



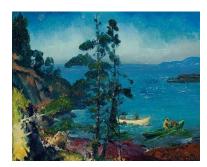
NORMAN ROCKWELL (1894-1978)

Piano Tuner

oil on canvas

Painted in 1947.

Estimate: \$3,000,000-5,000,000



GEORGE WESLEY BELLOWS (1882-1925)

Evening Blue
oil on panel
Painted in 1916.
Estimate: \$1,000,000-1,500,000



MILTON AVERY (1885-1965)

Red Nude
oil on canvas
Painted in 1954.
Estimate: \$1,000,000-1,500,000



CHARLES BURCHFIELD (1893-1967)

Cherry Blossom Snow
watercolor, gouache, and charcoal on joined paper laid down on board
Executed circa 1917-45.
Estimate: \$1,000,000-1,500,000



CHILDE HASSAM (1859-1935)
The Yachts, Gloucester Harbor oil on canvas
Painted in 1899.
Estimate: \$1,500,000-2,500,000



CHILDE HASSAM (1859-1935)
Conversation on the Avenue
oil on panel
Painted in 1892.
Estimate: \$1,500,000 - 2,500,000

### **WESTERN ART HIGHLIGHTS**



THOMAS MORAN (1837-1926)
Grand Cañon after a Storm
(Grand Canyon of Arizona at Sunrise)
oil on canvas
Painted in 1910.
Estimate: \$800,000-1,200,000



NEWELL CONVERS WYETH (1882-1945)

Breaking the Log Jam

oil on panel

Painted in 1943.

Estimate: \$600,000-800,000



GERARD CURTIS DELANO (1890-1972)

The Proud People
oil on canvas
Estimate: \$300,000-500,000

#### **AMERICAN ART ONLINE HIGHLIGHTS | May 15-22**



THOMAS EAKINS (1844-1916)

Mrs. Matilda Searight
oil on canvas
Painted in 1904.
Estimate: \$60,000-80,000



WILLARD LEROY METCALF (1858-1925) Sandy Hollow, Manchester, Massachusetts oil on canvas Painted in 1877. Estimate: \$50,000-70,000



LUDWIG BEMELMANS (1898-1963)

The Palm Court at the Plaza
mixed media and collage on paperboard
Executed circa 1943.
Estimate: \$25,000-35,000



HARRIET WHITNEY FRISHMUTH
(1880-1980)
Crest of the Wave
bronze with greenish-brown patina
marble base
Modeled in 1925; cast by 1929.
Estimate: \$15,000-25,000



FRITZ SCHOLDER (1937-2005)

Indian with Coup Stick

acrylic on canvas

Painted in 1972.

Estimate: \$20,000-30,000



ANNA MARY ROBERTSON 'GRANDMA' MOSES
(1860-1961)
House and Barn with Pink Sky
oil on board
Painted circa 1956.
Estimate: \$3,000-5,000

#### **Notes to Editors:**

 Christie's established the highest total for an American Art sale on May 9 with The Collection of Peggy and David Rockefeller: Art of the Americas Evening Sale which totaled \$106,883,500 and set world auction records for Burchfield, Graves, Hirsch, Porter, Rivera, Sheeler, and Stuart.

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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.

\*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

