

PRESS RELEASE | AMSTERDAM FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 26 & 27 NOVEMBER 2018

# CHRISTIE'S SALES OF POST-WAR AND CONTEMPORARY ART IN AMSTERDAM TOTAL €8,078,500 / \$9,162,813 / £7,180,888

## STRONG PRICES FOR GERMAN POST-WAR ART AND COBRA ARTISTS



Georg Baselitz, Sujet populaire contraire (2007), estimate €150,000-200,000, price realised €391,500

Amsterdam – Christie's Post-War and Contemporary Art Evening and Day Sales concluded on the 27 November in Amsterdam, totalling €8,078,500 / \$9,162,813 / £7,180,888, with strong sell-through rates of 82% by lot and 88% by value. Registered bidders from 36 countries demonstrate the continued global appeal in Amsterdam's sales held at De Westergasfabriek, with enthusiastic bidding from the U.S. and Europe, particularly from the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany. New Christie's clients accounted for 19% of the online registrants for the sales. The season was led by German Post-War art, with strong prices achieved for works by Georg Baselitz, whose monumental canvas *Sujet populaire contraire* (2007) was the top lot of the sale, selling for €391,500 against an estimate of €150,000-200,000, as well as works by Günther Förg (*Untitled*, €259,500), Imi Knoebel, (*moment 5*, €68,750) and A.R. Penck (*Norden 3*, €60,000).

The evening sale's focus section "Cobra 70 Years: Creation before theory", dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the European avant-garde group, which presented works by artists such as Karel Appel, Corneille and Pierre Alechinksy, was 99% sold by lot and led by Asger Jorn's *Myr og Mo* (1950-1952), which sold for €391,500. Further highlights of the sales included an early work by François Morellet *Double Trames - 4*° +

4° - 8° + 8° (1959), which quadrupled its estimate, realising €187,500. Great results were achieved for American works on paper, including Robert Motherwell's In Black + White (1960), which had been part of a private collection since 1976 and sold for €162,500 against an estimate of €90,000-120,000, as well as works by German ZERO artists and the Dutch Nul Group, such as Jan Schoonhoven's relief R71-11 (1974), which achieved €193,500 against an estimate of €80,000-120,000.

Arno Verkade, Managing Director, Christie's, The Netherlands and Germany: "Strong results were achieved at Christie's in Amsterdam for the Post-War and Contemporary Art season, concluding the second year of auctions we have staged at De Westergasfabriek. The historical venue provides an amazing backdrop against which we can showcase international contemporary art. We saw over 1000 visitors over the viewing days, which coincided with Amsterdam Art Weekend and witnessed a substantial global appetite for Northern European and American art, with a strong focus on German art. We saw international bidding, especially from the U.S. and Europe. The sale totalled €8,078,500 / \$9,162,813 / £7,180,888 against a pre-sale estimate of €6,254,000."

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#### CHRISTIE'S AMSTERDAM AUCTION LOCATION

De Westergasfabriek Zuiveringshal West Pazzanistraat 37, 1014 DB Amsterdam

#### About Christie's Amsterdam

Christie's Amsterdam Post-War and Contemporary sales have been a success since the inauguration in 2009, with average sell-through rates of 90% season after season. This proven success is a result of a sale concept that differs from the Post-War sales at other sale locations: Christie's Amsterdam Post-War sales have been the place of innovation, introducing artists such as Günther Förg, Heinz Mack, Otto Piene, Günther Uecker or Imi Knoebel to an international audience for the first time. Today the Christie's Amsterdam Post-War & Contemporary sales continue to be the go-to destination for works by internationally acclaimed Dutch as well as German and Belgian artists.

While the Amsterdam sales of Post-War and Contemporary are taking place at De Westgasfabriek twice a year, in Spring and Autumn, Christie's Amsterdam operates from its offices at Vondelstraat 73. Headed by Christie's veterans Arno Verkade, Managing Director, Auctioneer & Specialist for Post-War and Con-temporary Art, and Jetske Homan van der Heide, Chairman & Senior Specialist Impressionist and Modern Art, the Amsterdam team of specialists of Post-War & Contemporary Art, Impressionist & Modern Art, Old Masters and 19th Century Art, Jewellery, Watches as well as Wine assist clients across the Netherlands with buying and selling at Christie's international auctions and online only sales as well as providing appraisals of artworks or precious objects.

#### **About Christie's**

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in the first half of 2018 that totalled £2.97 billion / \$4.04 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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