

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE - PARIS – 13 MAY 2019 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ALERTMEDIA ALERT***MEDIA ALERT***

TWO WORKS OF ART COMING FROM THE COLLECTION OF CHARLES AZNAVOUR WILL BE OFFERED AT CHRISTIE'S ON 4 JUNE 2019



Paris – The *Post-War and Contemporary Art* department is honoured to present two works of art coming from the personal collection of Charles Aznavour (1924-2018). The singer, who passed last year, was passionate about art as evidenced by the two sculptures offered at auction on 4 June.

La Tauromachie is probably one of the most emblematic work by Germaine Richier (1902-1959). Conceived by the artist in 1953 and realised in an edition of 11, this bronze sculpture with a gold patina was acquired by Charles Aznavour from his friend, the singer Fred Mella, member of the *Compagnons de la chanson*. Present in several prestigious institutional collections (Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk; Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, New York ; Musée Royal d'Art Moderne, Bruxelles), it currently holds the world auction record for a Germaine Richier's work of art (3,086,400 euros in December 2017).

The exceptional work of art will be on view in New-York (4-16 May) and Hong-Kong (22-25 May) before being presented to the Parisian public (27 May-4 June). It is estimated at 1,500,000 and 2,500,000 euros.

A sculpture by César (1921-1998) entitled *Plaque Tesconi* (named after the Tesconi foundry which the artist worked with) and made in 1958 will be also offered during the evening sale. It is estimated between 60,000 and 80,000 euros.



Anne Lamunière (Christie's Genève) and Paul Nyzam (Christie's Paris), specialists of the *Post-War and Contemporary Art* department: "Acclaimed around the world, Charles Aznavour is one of the most popular artists of the 20th century and it is with an immense joy that we are paying him tribute

by offering two works coming from his personal collection. From Goya to Picasso, bullfighting has always been a recurrent subject in art history, making *La Tauromachie* a masterful and universal work of art. By presenting Germaine Richier and Charles Aznavour face to face, we are creating a beautiful dialogue between two legendary figures.”

Auction : Tuesday 4 June 2019 at 7pm

Viewing : From 25 May to 3 June from 10am to 6pm. Closed on Sunday 26 and Tuesday 30 May.

Open on Sunday 2 June from 2:30pm to 6pm.

Christie's : 9 avenue Matignon, 75008 Paris

PRESS CONTACT:

Beverly Bueninck - +33 (0)1 40 76 84 08 - bbueninck@christies.com

Briséis Leenhardt +33 (0)6 71 62 74 15 – BLeenhardt@christiespartners.com

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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

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