# CHRISTIE'S

RELEASE | NEW YORK | 16 MAY 2019

## FINE PRINTED BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS INCLUDING AMERICANA

12 JUNE 2019 | NEW YORK



FRANKLIN, Benjamin (1706-1790). Autograph letter signed ("B. Franklin") to Henry Home, Lord Kames, London, 14 March 1775. Estimate: \$20,000 -30,000



EDGAR ALLEN POE (1809-1849) – French. An 18k gold key-wound quarter repeating open-face pocket watch. Estimate: \$80,000 - 120,000



CRICK, Francis H.C. (1916-2004) and WATSON, James D. (b.1928). Galley proof signed ("Francis Crick" and "James D. Watson") with two annotations. "Molecular structure of nucleic acids: A structure for deoxyribose nucleic acid." Nature 171 (1953): 737-738. Estimate: \$180,000-220,000

**New York –** This June 12<sup>th</sup>, Christie's Books & Manuscripts department will be presenting two live sales: The Birth of Modern Business: Luca Pacioli's Summa de Arithmetica (estimate: \$1,000,000-1,500,000), a stand-alone sale of the original how-to guide for business and a various owner sale of Fine Printed Books & Manuscripts Including Americana. The latter includes over 200 objects ranging from early printed books to 20<sup>th</sup>-century manuscripts. The public view will open in Christie's Rockefeller galleries in New York from Friday June 7<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday June 11<sup>th</sup>.

### Fine Printed Books & Manuscripts Including Americana | Live Auction | 12 June

A notable highlight of the June auction is a group of Letters from Benjamin Franklin to Henry Homes, Lord Kames. This important series of letters were written between 1760 and 1775 from Franklin, "the First American," to Henry Home, Lord Kames (1696-1782), a key figure in the Scottish Enlightenment. The correspondence chronicles Franklin's transformation from a champion of the British Empire to an advocate for American liberty and independence. Another highlight is a three-page letter from **George Washington to Major General Daniel Morgan** from 1794 that is a strongly worded expression of Washington's deepening concern over the spread of the so-called Whiskey Rebellion (estimate: \$100,000-150,000). These are two of the many highlights of the **Roger D. Judd Collection of Historical Letters, Documents, and Manuscripts**. The collection features additionally important letters and documents by a diverse range of personalities including Ferdinand and Isabella, Henry VIII, Elizabeth I, Hernando Cortes, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, Robert E. Lee, "Stonewall" Jackson, George Armstrong Custer, Mark Twain, Edgar Allan Poe, Dwight Eisenhower, and Ronald Reagan.

The auction also features important scientific properties including the original, signed galley proofs of **Francis Crick and** James Watson's articles on DNA: "Molecular Structure of Nucleic Acids" and "Genetical Implications of the Structure of Deoxyribonucleic Acid" (estimate: \$180,000-220,000), marking the first time their pioneering work on "the secret of life" ever appeared in print; this is the only known prepublication copy of Watson & Crick's momentous 1953 paper. Also of interest are a series fresh-to-market Albert Einstein correspondences including a series of letters written to Antonia Stern, the daughter of his close friend, historian Alfred Stern, including letters alluding to a romantic affair between the two in the early 1930s and correspondence between Einstein and Paul Epstein, a theoretical physicist at Caltech, with important letters expressing his discomfort with the implications of quantum theory: "In other words, God tirelessly plays dice under laws which he has himself prescribed." In a third collection of letters, written to a young physics student, Einstein takes further jabs at quantum theory, describing it as "concocted of incoherent elements of thought". To round off the scientific offerings, there is a unique hand-painted globe that portrays an early theory of life on the planet mars by made by the Danish female astronomer Emmy Ingeborg Brun (estimate: \$30,000 - 50,000).

Literary highlights lead off with **Edgar Allan Poe's gold pocket watch** (estimate: \$80,000 - 120,000) bearing his engraved name within; Philip Roth's IBM Selectric typewriter; important correspondences from J.D. Salinger and Margaret Mitchell and others. The sale also includes a superb selection of color-plate books covering subjects ranging from natural history to military uniforms.

#### Note to editors:

#### RELEASE Summa de Arithmetica: The Birth of Modern Business, June 2019



Einstein offers a thought experiment to explain quantum entanglement ALBERT EINSTEIN. Autograph letter signed to Paul Epstein, Princeton, 8 November 1945. Estimate: \$60,000 - 80,000



GLOBE OF THE PLANET MARS EMMY INGEBORG BRUN (1872–1929). A rare globe by the female astronomer Emmy Brun, portraying an early theory of life on Mars. Estimate: \$30,000 - 50,000

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George Washington and the Whiskey Rebellion—the first great test of federal authority GEORGE WASHINGTON (1732-1799). Autograph letter signed as President to Major General Daniel Morgan (1736-1802), Carlisle, [Pennsylvania] 8 October 1794. Estimate: \$100.000-150.000

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#### **Auction Viewing:**

7 June, 10am - 5pm 8 June, 10am - 5pm 9 June, 1pm - 5pm 10 June, 10am - 5pm 11 June, 10am - 5pm

#### Auction:

*Fine Printed Books & Manuscripts Including Americana* New York, 12 June 2019

Summa de Arithmetica: The Birth of Modern Business New York, 12 June 2019

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

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in 2018 that totalled £5.3 billion / \$7 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

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