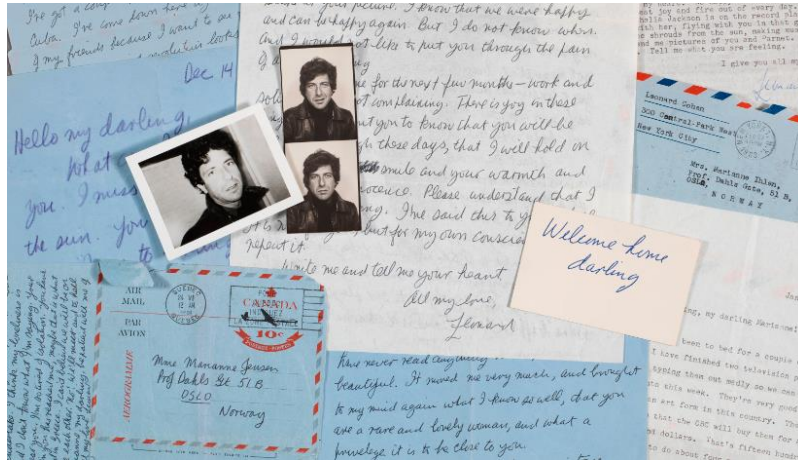


CHRISTIE'S

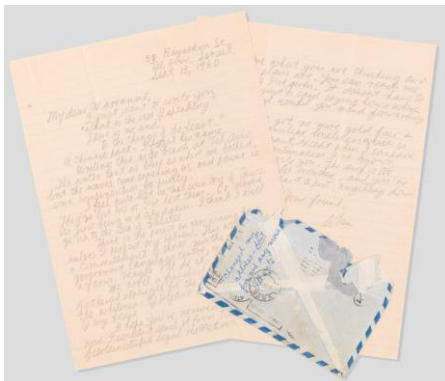
RELEASE | NEW YORK | 22 MAY 2019

WRITE ME AND TELL ME YOUR HEART LEONARD COHEN'S LETTERS TO MARIANNE

5-13 JUNE 2019 | NEW YORK



New York - This June 5-13 Christie's will bring to auction a superb and largely unknown archive of over 50 letters from the acclaimed Canadian poet, singer-songwriter, and novelist [Leonard Cohen](#) (1934-2016) to his most famous muse, the inspiration for the song "So Long, Marianne," Marianne Ihlen. Postmarked from Hydra, Montreal, New York, Tel Aviv, and Havana, and written during pivotal years in Cohen's career, these poetic letters brim with both biographical detail and raw emotion, documenting one of the most captivating love affairs of its time as well as the transformation of a young man into a great artist. Highlights from the sale include a letter written in Tel Aviv in September 1960 at the start of their relationship where Cohen writes "It's hard to write you. The surf is too loud. The beach is too crowded, and you're too much in my heart to put anything down" (estimate: \$ \$6,000-9,000), a cracked bronze bell from Marianne & Leonard's home in Hydra that recalls lyrics from his song "Anthem" (estimate: \$8,000-12,000) and an autograph letter from February 1967 after his first major performance in New York. Cohen describes in the letter that he "sang in New York for the first time last night, at a huge benefit concert. Every singer you've ever heard of was there performing. Judy Collins introduced me to the audience, over 3000 people, and they seemed to know who I was, mostly because of 'Suzanne'" (estimate: \$8,000-12,000). Estimates range from \$300-\$12,000 and registration is open starting Tuesday, May 21st.



From Tel Aviv with love

Autograph letter signed ("Cohen") to Marianne Ihlen ("My dear Marianne"), Tel Aviv, 13 September 1960.
Estimate: \$ \$6,000-9,000



There is a crack, a crack in everything
An Italian bronze bell, c. 15th-16th century.
Estimate: \$8,000-12,000



Cohen's first major performance
Autograph letter signed ("Leonard") to Marianne Ihlen ("Darling"), New York, 23 February 1967.
Estimate: \$8,000-12,000

CHRISTIE'S

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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:

*Write Me and Tell Me Your Heart: Leonard
Cohen's Love Letters to Marianne*
Online, June 5-13

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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