

# CHRISTIE'S

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## ASIAN ART WEEK

**PRESS PREVIEW: SEPTEMBER 5 AT 3PM**

**PUBLIC EXHIBITION: OPENS SEPTEMBER 6**

**LIVE AUCTIONS: SEPT. 10-13 | ONLINE SALES: SEPT. 10-25**



**New York** – Christie's announces **Asian Art Week**, a series of auctions, viewings, and events, from **September 6-13**. This season presents nine auctions—six live and three online—featuring over 1,000 lots spanning all epochs and categories of Asian Art from classical Chinese paintings, ceramics, jades, bronzes, and furniture, to impressive Tibetan gilt-bronzes and contemporary Indian painting. Featured this season are two impressive collection sales, **Masterpieces of Early Chinese Gold and Silver** and **Chinese Art from The Art Institute of Chicago**, featuring works of art with exceptional provenance.

The week of sales begins with **Fine Chinese Paintings** (September 10), spanning classical, modern, and contemporary paintings, with highlights including an early work by Zhang Daqian (1899-1983), *Hibiscus*, dated 1948 (\$300,000-500,000). The **Indian, Himalayan and Southeast Asian Works of Art** sale (September 11) features an array of fine bronzes and sculptures from Gandhara, India, the Himalayas, and Southeast Asia, led by a large and magnificent gilt-bronze figure of Vajrasattva, Tibet, 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century (\$600,000-800,000).

The **South Asian Modern + Contemporary Art** sale (September 11) is led by Sayed Haider Raza's monumental *La Terre* (1977), one of the artist's most important and largest works (Estimate on request). The sale also includes important early works by the Progressive Artists' Group such as Francis Newton Souza's *Head in Landscape*, executed in 1958 (\$250,000-350,000), presented alongside contemporary works from the region, and a special section featuring works donated to Columbia University Press by artists, galleries and collectors to raise funds for their project, *The Library of Bengali Literature*.

**Masterpieces of Early Chinese Gold and Silver** (September 12) features over 100 exquisite gold and silver objects formerly in the collection of Dr. Johan Carl Kempe (1884-1967). The sale is led by a very rare and important large parcel-gilt silver bowl, Tang dynasty (\$2,000,000-3,000,000). **Chinese Art from The Art Institute of Chicago** (September 12), spans a live and online sale, and offers impressive ceramics from prominent Chicago collectors, sold to benefit the acquisitions fund.

The week of live auctions concludes with the sale of **Important Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art** (September 13), which includes masterworks in various categories, and is led by an exceptionally rare pale greyish-green jade carving of a dragon head, Tang dynasty (\$2,500,000-3,500,000); a famille rose *mille fleurs* lantern vase, *Jiaqing* iron-red six-character seal and mark of the period (\$300,000-500,000); and a magnificent and very rare *huanghuali* folding horseshoe-back armchair, *jiaoyi*, 17<sup>th</sup> century (\$1,000,000-1,500,000).

Additional information on the nine auctions is included in the following pages. [Press images can be downloaded here.](#)



**ZHANG DAQIAN (1899-1983), HIBISCUS**  
HANGING SCROLL, INK AND COLOR ON PAPER  
DATED EIGHTH MONTH, WUZI YEAR (1948)  
ESTIMATE: \$300,000-500,000

***Fine Chinese Paintings***  
**10 September | 10am | New York**

Christie's sale of ***Fine Chinese Paintings*** features approximately 120 lots of classical, modern, and contemporary ink works. Leading the sale is an early painting by Zhang Daqian (1899-1983), *Hibiscus*, dated 1948 (\$300,000-500,000). Additional highlights of classical painting include Bada Shanren (1626-1705), *Bird and Rock* (\$150,000-200,000), which features the artist's expressive style and a colophon by Wang Fangyu (1913-1977); and a rare and innovative *Cursive Calligraphy* by Jinshi (1614-1680). Modern and contemporary ink highlights include Wang Ziwu (B. 1936), *Portrait of Cao Xueqin* (\$10,000-13,000); Ding Fuzhi (1879-1949), *Plum Blossoms* (\$40,000-80,000) from The Irving Collection; and Jia Youfu's (B. 1942) *Herding in the Mountains* (\$6,400-9,000).



**SAYED HAIDER RAZA (1922-2016)**  
**LA TERRE**  
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS  
PAINTED IN 1977  
ESTIMATE ON REQUEST

***South Asian Modern + Contemporary Art***  
**11 September | 10am | New York**

Christie's sale of ***South Asian Modern + Contemporary Art*** showcases a group of important early paintings by members of the Progressive Artists' Group including Sayed Haider Raza, Francis Newton Souza, Maqbool Fida Husain and Hari Ambadas Gade, as well as important works by George Keyt, Abdur Rahman Chughtai, Zainul Abedin, Shakir Ali and Mohammad Kibria. Alongside significant paintings by Arpita Singh, Jehangir Sabavala, Akbar Padamsee and Bikash Bhattacharjee the sale also includes works by the most sought-after contemporary artists from the region like Zarina, Mrinalini Mukherjee, Jitish Kallat, Muhammad Imran Qureshi and Subodh Gupta. A special section of the auction features works donated to Columbia University Press by artists, galleries and collectors to raise funds for their project, the Library of Bengali Literature.



**A LARGE AND MAGNIFICENT GILT-BRONZE**  
**FIGURE OF VAJRASATTVA**  
TIBET, 14<sup>TH</sup>-15<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY  
ESTIMATE: \$600,000—800,000

***Indian, Himalayan and Southeast Asian Works of Art***

**11 September | 2pm | New York**

Christie's sale of ***Indian, Himalayan and Southeast Asian Works of Art*** will present almost 120 curated lots featuring an array of fine sculpture from Gandhara, India, the Himalayas, and Southeast Asia. The sale features a fine selection of Indian and Southeast Asian sculpture from the renowned Dorothy and Richard Sherwood Collection; a rare and magnificent group of Himalayan bronzes; Sri Lankan bronze and stone sculpture from an important private collection; a curated selection of fine Indian paintings and *picchvais*; as well as Southeast Asian stone and bronze sculpture.

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**A VERY RARE AND IMPORTANT LARGE  
PARCEL-GILT SILVER BOWL  
TANG DYNASTY (AD 618-907)  
ESTIMATE: \$2,000,000 - 3,000,000**

**Masterpieces of Early Chinese Gold and Silver  
12 September | 10am | New York**

*Masterpieces of Early Chinese Gold and Silver* is comprised of over 100 exquisite gold and silver objects dating from the Spring and Autumn Period (late 6th – early 5th century BC) onwards. The group comes from the collection originally formed by Dr. Johan Carl Kempe (1884-1967), a prominent and celebrated collector of Chinese art. The collection is particularly strong in silver works dating from the Tang period, a golden age for works produced in this material. The opulence of the Tang-dynasty court is reflected in these objects, which included fine vessels and exquisite jewelry. Highlights include a very rare and important large parcel-gilt silver bowl, Tang dynasty (\$2,000,000-3,000,000); and a very rare gold 'dragon'-handled cup, Yuan dynasty (\$600,000-800,000).



**A VERY RARE LARGE BLUE AND WHITE  
'DRAGON AND LOTUS' VASE, TIANQIUPING  
QIANLONG SIX-CHARACTER SEAL  
MARK AND OF THE PERIOD (1736-1795)  
ESTIMATE: \$300,000 - 500,000**

**Chinese Art from The Art Institute of Chicago  
12 September | 2pm | New York**

Sold to benefit The Art Institute of Chicago's Asian Art Acquisition Fund, *Chinese Art from The Art Institute of Chicago* features 84 lots with a focus on Ming and Qing porcelains. The sale offers a rare insight into the taste for collecting Chinese ceramics and works of art in the Midwest from the end of the 19th century through the 1980s. Highlights include two Wanli *wuca* garlic-head vases (sold as separate lots, each: \$200,000-300,000), a large Qianlong mark-and-period blue-and-white 'dragon' vase, *tianqiuping* (\$300,000-500,000), and a Qianlong mark-and-period blue-and-yellow stem bowl (\$100,000-150,000). Additionally, a selection of Chinese ceramics and works of art will be presented in an **online sale from September 10-17**.



**AN EXCEPTIONALLY RARE AND HIGHLY IMPORTANT  
PALE GREYISH-GREEN JADE  
CARVING OF A DRAGON HEAD  
TANG DYNASTY (AD 618-907)  
ESTIMATE: \$2,500,000-3,500,000**

**Important Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art  
13 September | 10am and 2pm | New York**

*Important Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art* will be held on September 13 across two sessions and comprises over 280 lots, representing works from a variety of collecting categories, including ancient ritual bronze vessels, early Buddhist sculpture, a range of ceramics, lacquerware, and other works of art. Leading the sale is an exceptionally rare and highly important pale greyish-green jade carving of a dragon head, Tang dynasty (\$2,500,000-3,500,000). Additional highlights include a pair of rare ritual food vessels and covers on integral stands, *fangzuogui*, mid-western Zhou dynasty (\$500,000-700,000); a famille rose *mille fleurs* lantern vase, *Jiaqing* iron-red six-character seal and mark of the period (\$300,000-500,000); and a magnificent and very rare *huanghuali* folding horseshoe-back armchair, *jiaoyi*, 17<sup>th</sup> century (\$1,000,000-1,500,000).

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**TWO POWDER-BLUE-GLAZED VESSELS**  
KANGXI PERIOD (1662-1722)  
ESTIMATE: \$5,000-7,000

**Chinese Art from The Art Institute of Chicago Online**  
**10-17 September | Online**

**Chinese Works of Art from The Art Institute of Chicago Online** includes Chinese ceramics, glass, lacquer, bronze and wood carvings that showcase the legacy of collecting Chinese art in America from the end of the 19th century through the 20th century. Highlights include Ming and Qing dynasty porcelain donated by celebrated patrons, such as Kate Sturges Buckingham and Russell Tyson. This online sale presents a rare opportunity to acquire works with distinguished provenance across a range of prices.



**A GREY SCHIST FRIEZE DEPICTING ASITA'S PROPHECY**  
ANCIENT REGION OF GANDHARA, 2ND-3RD CENTURY  
ESTIMATE: \$8,000-12,000

**Gods and Guardians: South Asian Works of Art**  
**12-19 September | Online**

**Gods and Guardians: South Asian Works of Art** marks the first online sale for the Indian, Himalayan, and Southeast Asian Works of Art. Comprised of 60 lots, the online sale includes a selection of accessibly priced Indian paintings, Himalayan bronzes and paintings, Gandharan stone sculpture, and Southeast Asian works of art.



**FRANCIS NEWTON SOUZA (1924-2002)**  
**LITTORAL PICTURE**  
ACRYLIC ON PAPER, EXECUTED IN 1991  
ESTIMATE: \$10,000 – 15,000

**Contemporary Art Asia: Including a Collection of Works by Leonard Tsuguharu Foujita**  
**18-25 September | Online**

Presenting over 90 lots, **Contemporary Art Asia** features works by contemporary artists across Asia, including Foujita, Kaws, Zao Wou-Ki, Yoshitomo Nara, Walasse Ting, Kusama, Liu Ye and Yue Minjun. For the first time, the Contemporary Art Asia online sale will also feature Contemporary Indian Art including pieces by Souza, Husain, Jimini Roy, Nikhil Biswas, and Ram Kumar.

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**PRESS PREVIEW:**

**Thursday, 5 September | 3pm**

**ASIAN ART WEEK SALE DATES:**

LIVE AUCTIONS:

Tuesday, 10 September | **Fine Chinese Paintings** | 10am  
Wednesday, 11 September | **South Asian Modern + Contemporary Art** | 10am  
Wednesday, 11 September | **Indian, Himalayan and Southeast Asian Works of Art** | 2pm  
Thursday, 12 September | **Masterpieces of Early Chinese Gold and Silver** | 10am  
Thursday, 12 September | **Chinese Art from The Art Institute of Chicago** | 2pm  
Friday, 13 September | **Fine Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art** | 10am & 2pm

ONLINE SALES:

10-17 September | **Chinese Art from The Art Institute of Chicago Online**  
12-19 September | **Gods and Guardians: South Asian Works of Art**  
18-25 September | **Contemporary Art Asia: Including a Collection of Works by Leonard Tsuguharu Foujita**

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**PRESS CONTACT:**

Jennifer Cuminale | +1 212 636 2680 | [jcuminale@christies.com](mailto:jcuminale@christies.com)

### **CHRISTIE'S CONTENT FEATURES:**

[5 minutes with... A Nepalese bronze figure of Buddha Ratnasambhava](#)  
[The Ming dynasty prince who became one of China's most important artists](#)  
[Collecting guide: 10 things to know about classical Chinese furniture](#)  
[A Ming-dynasty folding chair: Fewer than 30 are known to exist](#)  
[Collecting guide: Léonard Tsuguharu Foujita](#)  
[Collecting guide: 10 things to know about classical Chinese furniture](#)  
[Collecting guide: Buddhist sculpture](#)

### **About Christie's**

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had auction sales in the first half of 2019 that totalled £2.2 billion / \$2.8 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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