

CHRISTIE'S 佳士得

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CHRISTIE'S 2019 SHANGHAI AUTUMN SALES

THE PENINSULA HOTEL, SEPTEMBER 21



ZAO WOU-KI
Voie Lactée – 09.11.1956

oil on canvas
63 7/8 x 47 in.
Painted in 1956
Estimate: RMB 38,000,000 – 68,000,000

SHANGHAI – Christie's announces its 2019 Shanghai Autumn Auctions to take place on September 21 at the Peninsula Hotel.

In its seventh year as the only international auction house to conduct independent sales in mainland China, Christie's presents a dynamic array of high-profile artworks created by internationally-acclaimed and emerging artists to meet the growing diversified tastes of Chinese collectors.

RARE 'ORACLE-BONE' PERIOD WORK BY ZAO WOU-KI TO LEAD THE SALES

A spectacular large-format oil painting by Zao Wou-Ki - one of the most celebrated artists of the 20th century, which showcases the rarely seen Milky Way theme, will highlight this season's 20th Century & Contemporary

Art evening sale.

“Milky way” is an extraordinarily unique subject among Zao Wou-Ki’s oeuvre. In this masterpiece, he draws inspiration from the ancient Star Map from the Tang dynasty and transforms ancient Chinese written characters by depicting of a vast flow of stars across the skies of the Milky Way, linking the ever-evolving civilization of mankind’s past to its future, leaving a unique imprint of Eastern art on the eternity of the cosmos.

Voie Lactée – 09.11.1956, an extremely rare work from Zao’s “oracle-bone” period, is a powerful testament to the artist’s belief in how Asian art should be perceived within a wider context. This period marks a significant breaking-out point in Zao’s career, as he drew inspiration from Chinese oracle-bones and bronzeware scripts - some of the oldest forms of writing in China. It was in 1954, among the inscriptions carved in ancient relics, Zao at last discovered the key that would help him unlock the spirit of the East, marking a return to his roots. It was at this point in his career where he began incorporating deconstructed and reassembled fragments of oracle-bone and bronzeware scripts in his work. By using the expressive nature of Western oil medium, Zao realised his desire to seamlessly meld Eastern and Western art forms.

AN ICONIC, MONUMENTAL, SCULPTURE BY SALVADOR DALÍ

Leading the Impressionist & Modern Art collection of works is *Le profil du temps*, featuring the iconic and instantly recognizable subject of the melting clock by Salvador Dalí – the pioneering proponent of Surrealism.

Over three meters high, *Le profil du temps* is the manifestation of the artist’s investigation into a world beyond our understanding, the subconscious realm of dreams, hallucinations and cerebral associations, rendered in his signature Renaissance-inspired, modern style. Dalí’s remarkable vision, transported into the physical present, creates a communal space that connects the great artist’s mind with his viewers’ in one space.



© 2019 Salvador Dalí, Fundació Gala-Salvador Dalí / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

SALVADOR DALÍ
Le Profil Du Temps

bronze with green, gold and brown patina
149 5/8 x 102 7/8 x 78 3/4 in.
380 x 259 x 200 cm.
Conceived in 1977
Estimate: RMB 7,000,000 - 10,000,000

The work unmistakably speaks to Dalí’s philosophical quest to question the nature of time and its interplay with mankind, drawing inspiration from Albert Einstein’s theory of relativity. In his artistic work, Dalí sought to parallel the scientist’s discovery, which overturned the absolute notions of a cosmic order at the beginning of the 20th century. By destabilizing cultural norms and challenging the usual state of an everyday object, *Le profil du temps* generates an alternative reality, a new way of seeing, that allows the viewers an insight to a deeper state of mind.

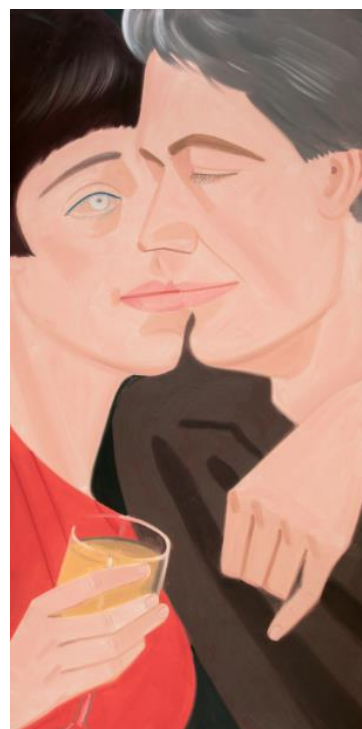
THE FIRST WORK BY ALEX KATZ TO BE AUCTIONED IN CHINA

Among the strong line-up of western avant-garde artists, Alex Katz's *Jennifer and Mathieu* is the leading Post-war and Contemporary Art highlight in the evening sale and is the first work by the 92-year-old figurative artist ever presented at auction in mainland China.

Rendered in a luminous palette of bold red, dark colours and flesh tones, the painting displays the artist's recognizable mature style, which had been developing since the early 1960s. The moment of intimacy between Jennifer and Mathieu evokes a multitude of emotions associated with romance; namely those of passion, obsession, uncertainty, and mystery. The artist's employment of cropping and the close-up views of people make links with contemporary fascination with advertising, comic strips and movies. The intensity of their romantic exchange highlights how Katz reconciled the tensions of recording the vitality and the emotions of the real, three-dimensional world onto a two-dimensional surface.

ALEX KATZ
Jennifer And Mathieu

oil on linen
96 1/8 x 48 in.
Painted in 1986
Estimate: RMB 3,500,000-5,000,000



In addition to this highlight, the 20th Century & Contemporary Art evening sale will feature a selection of exceptional global art spanning a wide range of categories, such as Asian 20th Century and Contemporary Art, Chinese Contemporary Ink, Impressionist and Modern, and Post-War and Contemporary Art, which include famed artists such as Pablo Picasso, Marc Chagall, Chu Teh-Chun, Wang Yidong, Wang Tiande, Serge Poliakoff, Andreas Gursky, Yoshitomo Nara and Hiroshi Sugito to name a few.

Complementing the exceptional lineup of art pieces in the evening sale, Christie's will once again present a dedicated sale of Moutai and the 「FIRST OPEN | SHANGHAI: Living with Art」 sale, bringing new inspiration to collectors drawn to cross-category collection.



1977 FeiTian Moutai

12 Bottles
Estimate: per lot RMB 700,000-1,200,000



KAWS
No Reply

a set of ten screenprints in colours
each: 88.9 x 58.4 cm. (10)
Executed in 2015
edition 21/100

Estimate: RMB 400,000-800,000

Julia Hu, General Manager, Christie's China, commented, "Following the excellent results achieved in our last auctions series, this year's evening sale once again offers a carefully curated group of works by acclaimed international artists, meeting collectors' growing demand for Western art and continuing our 25 years of commitment to the China Market. Complementing our evening sale are two additional auctions - FIRST OPEN and Kweichow Moutai, which offer a fresh approach to collecting and an attractive platform for those newer to the art market. We are happy to provide more details in the following weeks and look forward to welcoming all collectors in joining us to celebrate another year of exciting sales."

AUCTIONS SCHEDULE		
September 21	11:00 AM	「 THE SPIRIT OF CHINA – KWEICHOW MOUTAI 」
	15:30 PM	「 FIRST OPEN SHANGHAI: Living with Art 」
	18:00 PM	「 20 TH CENTURY & CONTEMPORARY ART 」 Evening Sales

PREVIEW SCHEDULE		
Beijing Preview	September 14 - 15	Jinbao Street, Beijing Art Space
Shanghai Preview	September 19 - 21	The Peninsula Hotel & Shanghai Art Space

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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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