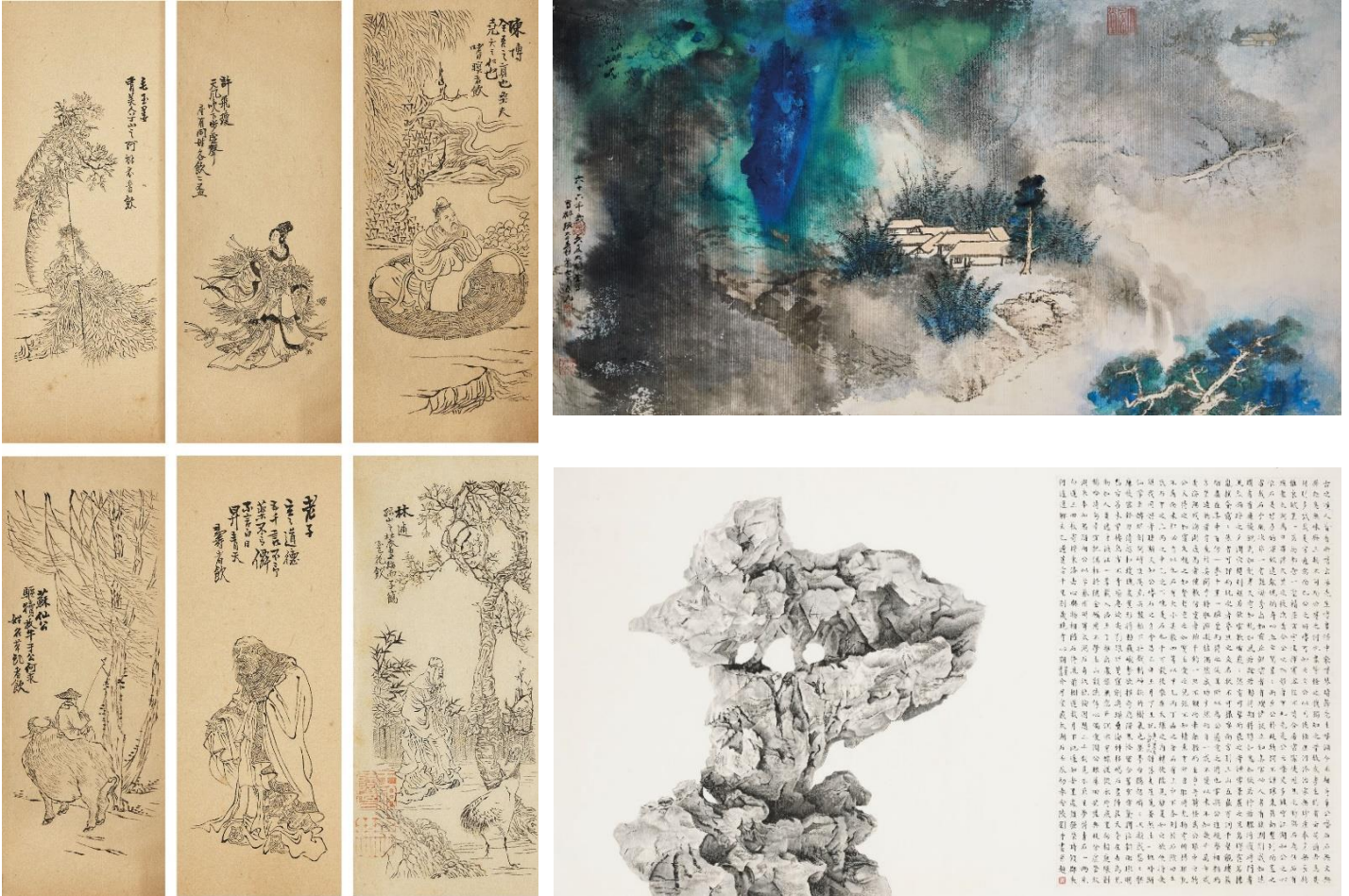


CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | HONG KONG | 9 NOVEMBER 2019

Christie's Hong Kong Chinese Paintings Autumn Sales Presents Exemplary Works by Renowned Artists from the Classical to the Contemporary



Left: REN XIONG (1823-1857), *DRINKING CARDS WITH ILLUSTRATIONS OF DAOIST IMMORTALS* Estimate: HK\$1,200,000-2,200,000 / US\$160,000-280,000
Top right: ZHANG DAQIAN (1899-1983), *RETREAT IN THE BAMBOO GROVE* Estimate: HK\$45,000,000-55,000,000 / US\$5,800,000-7,000,000
Bottom right: LIU DAN (B. 1953), *SCHOLAR'S ROCK* Estimate: HK\$3,500,000-4,500,000 / US\$450,000-580,000

HONG KONG - From classical masters to modern-day pioneers, Christie's will offer an outstanding collection of Chinese paintings for auction on the 25th and 26th November 2019. The selection of works beautifully capture the highest levels of achievement in Chinese paintings across time, and are featured in three sales **Fine Chinese Classical Paintings and Calligraphy**, **Fine Chinese Modern Paintings**, and **Chinese Contemporary Ink**.

Showcasing a wide range of distinctive styles and techniques from meticulous *gongbi* to monumental splashed ink, highlights from this season include: classical compositions from **Shen Zhou**, **Ren Xiong** and **Bada Shanren**; works by modern masters such as, **Zhang Daqian**, **Wu Guanzhong**, and **Fu Baoshi**; as well as innovative contemporary ink paintings by **Liu Kuo-sung**, **Liu Dan** and **Li Huayi**.

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CLASSICAL HIGHLIGHTS



Property Of Mr. Chen Rentao – Chinese Paintings From The King Kwei Collection
SHEN ZHOU (1427-1509)

Landscapes Dedicated to Zhu Xingfu

Handscroll, ink and colour on paper

Painting measures 35 x 1,263 cm. (13 ¾ x 497 ¼ in.)

Inscription measures 35 x 131 cm. (13 ¾ x 51 ¾ in.)

Estimate: HK\$6,000,000-8,000,000 / US\$770,000-1,000,000



Leading the offering of classical paintings this season is a large-scale work – ***Landscapes Dedicated to Zhu Xingfu*** by **Shen Zhou**, who was one of the greatest literati masters of the fifteenth century. With a total length of almost 14 meters, the depicted landscape is meticulously rendered with expressive simple brush strokes, while the fine calligraphy demonstrates the artist's superb skills and dexterity.

An additional highlight is ***Drinking Cards with Illustrations of Daoist Immortals*** by **Ren Xiong**, a prolific artist who revolutionised traditional Chinese painting within his abbreviated career.



The album of forty-eight leaves is the last surviving masterpiece of the artist's drinking card series, and presents the viewer with an amusing interplay between text and image, which provides wit and humour to festive gatherings. Due to his short career as an artist, works such as these are extremely rare and highly sought after.

Another exciting highlight is **Preface to the Orchid Pavilion** by **Bada Shanren**, which was once owned by **Zhang Daqian** (1899-1983). During a 1955 exhibition in Tokyo, Zhang sold the work to

Chinese Painting And Calligraphy From

The Dr. S. Y. Yip Collection

REN XIONG (1823-1857)

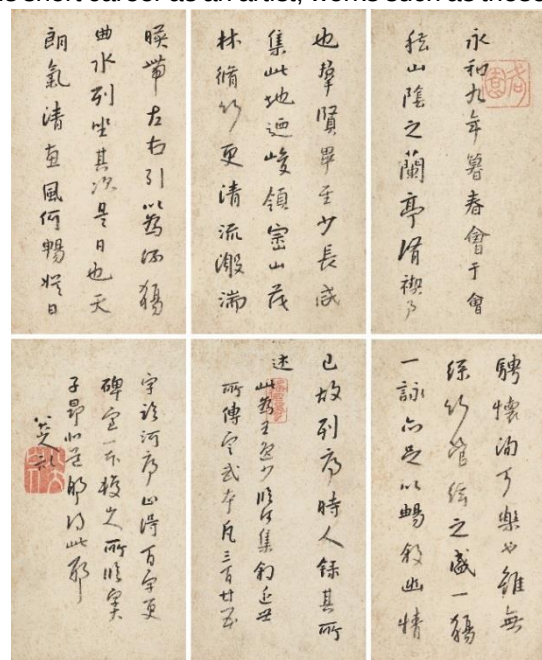
Drinking Cards with Illustrations of Daoist Immortals

Album of forty-seven leaves and one loose leaf

Each leaf measures 25 x 12 cm. (9 ¾ x 4 ¾ in.)

Estimate: HK\$1,200,000-2,200,000 / US\$160,000-280,000

Matsubayashi Keigetsu (1876-1963), who was a prominent Nanga-style painter during Meiji, Taisho and early Showa periods. Matsubayashi was a receiver of many accolades during his time, including his appointment as an imperial court painter in 1944 and receiver of the Japanese Cultural order award in 1958.



Previously In The Collection Of **Matsubayashi Keigetsu (1876-1963)**

BADA SHANREN (1626-1705)

Preface to the Orchid Pavilion

A set of six album leaves, mounted as three frames, ink on paper

Each leaf measures 24 x 13 cm. (9 ½ x 5 ¼ in.)

Estimate: HK\$1,200,000-1,800,000 / US\$160,000-230,000

CHRISTIE'S

MODERN PAINTINGS



FROM AN IMPORTANT ASIAN PRIVATE COLLECTION

ZHANG DAQIAN (1899-1983)

Retreat in the Bamboo Grove

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper

102 x 193 cm. (40 1/8 x 76 in.)

Dated 1977

Estimate: HK\$45,000,000-55,000,000 / US\$5,800,000-7,000,000

Leading this season's sales of Chinese is painting is the impressive work ***Retreat in the Bamboo Grove*** by **Zhang Daqian**, which comes from an important Asian Private collection.

An electrifying vision of scintillating hues of green and blue, ***Retreat in the Bamboo Grove*** sits amongst the most monumental splashed-colour works that epitomise the triumphant outburst of creative energy in the artist's final years.

By depicting an idyllic retreat with effortless technical prowess, Zhang Daqian demonstrates a spectacular synthesis of pictorial languages that firmly places him as one of the greatest artists of the twentieth century.

Coinciding with the centenary of **Wu Guanzhong**'s birth, this season's sales will present a special selection of the artist's works, including ***The Grand Canyon***, which is from a private collection in North America. ***The Grand Canyon*** was part of London's British Museum's ground-breaking 1992 exhibition and only one of three versions painted by the artist.

The work reflects the artist's newfound vitality during this period, as he effortlessly moved between two styles, embracing both the free-flowing line of early-Qing artist Gong Xian and the rapid brushstrokes of Post-Impressionist Henri Matisse. The multiplying and tangling of different brush lines epitomises Wu's distress between two contradictory styles, as he strove to achieved a completely new artistic language.



PROPERTY FROM A PRIVATE AMERICAN COLLECTION

WU GUANZHONG (1919-2010)

The Grand Canyon

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper

123.3 x 170 cm. (48 1/2 x 66 7/8 in.)

Dated 1989

Estimate: HK\$15,000,000-20,000,000 / US\$2,000,000-2,600,000



PROPERTY FROM A HONG KONG PRIVATE COLLECTION

FU BAOSHI (1904-1965)

Waterfalls of Lake Jingpo

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper

97.2 x 180.6 cm. (38 1/4 x 71 1/8 in.)

Dated 1963

Estimate: HK\$5,000,000-8,000,000 / US\$650,000-1,000,000

A further highlight of the sale is the large-scale work ***Waterfalls of Lake Jingpo*** by modern ink master **Fu Baoshi**. The work is the artistic culmination of the artist's journey to Northeast China in the early-1960s, where Lake Jingpo is located. The focal point of the painting is the six-foot giant waterfall which flows into the lake below, appearing to embody the philosophical saying: "thunder, the sound of the valley". Overall, the spectacular composition is representative of Fu's mastery over the traditional ink and brush.

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CONTEMPORARY INK PAINTINGS

Contemporary ink artists continue to draw upon historical artistic wisdom by reinterpreting traditional painting techniques and applying a unique perspective to their creations. Several works on offer this season beautifully embody this practice, including ***Scholar's Rock*** by **Liu Dan**, where we see the artist's finest, most virtuosic study of a scholar's rock. Suffused with subtle inflections of light and shadow dancing a cross the composition the work reveals a microscopic view into the wider universe. In ***Roof of the World Series No. 5*** by **Liu-kuo-Sung**, the artist portrays a majestic mountain range, by

combining technical mastery with an experimental use of materials, to create an atmospheric "portrait" of snowy jagged mountains. In ***Rising Mountain*** by **Li Huayi**, the artist uses a range of techniques to create towering mountain forms that appear hauntingly disquiet. In this composition, Li paints a personal and philosophical dialogue between man and nature - a dialogue that is intricately linked to many Chinese literati painters who came before him.



PROPERTY FROM AN IMPORTANT AMERICAN COLLECTION

LIU DAN (B. 1953)

Scholar's Rock

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink on paper

99.8 x 183 cm. (39 ¾ x 72 in.)

Executed in 2012

Estimate: HK\$3,500,000-4,500,000 / US\$450,000-580,000



LIU KUO-SUNG (LIU GUOSONG, B. 1932)

Roof of the World Series No. 5

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper

94.2 x 158.2 cm. (37 ¼ x 62 ¼ in.)

Executed in 2013

Estimate: HK\$1,600,000-2,200,000 / US\$210,000-280,000



PROPERTY FROM AN IMPORTANT HONG KONG COLLECTION

LI HUAYI (B. 1948)

Rising Mountain

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper

136.5 x 67.5 cm. (53 ¾ x 26 ½ in.)

Executed in 2006

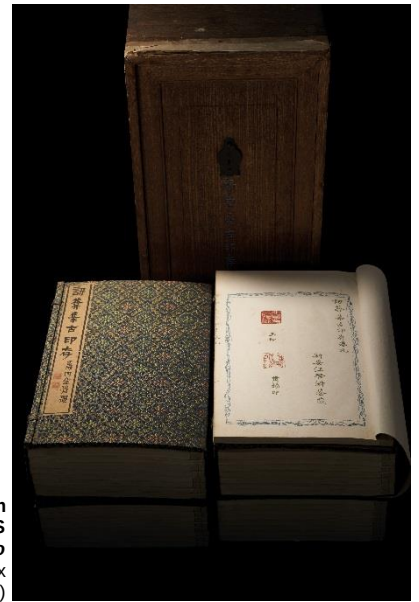
Estimate: HK\$1,600,000-2,600,000 / US\$210,000-330,000

CHRISTIE'S

EXQUISITE EYE: CHINESE PAINTINGS ONLINE

As part of the Hong Kong week sales, Christie's presents **Exquisite Eye: Chinese Paintings Online**. This season the sale is led by the Chinese paintings and calligraphy collection assembled by **Eileen and I.M. Pei**, which features numerous works collected by the couple and personally gifted to them. Also on offer is a selection of paintings and calligraphy ranging from classical to modern to contemporary periods, notable artists include **Zhu Qizhan**, **Xie Zhiliu**, **Li Yanshan**, **Koo Mei**, and **Lui Shou Kwan**.

Also on offer is a selection of works by artists such as **Pan He** and **Lin Zhimian** from **The Collection of Huang Xiayi**, who was an important political figure Guangdong during the Republican period. This sale also features a collection of calligraphic couplets by literati members and important calligraphers of the late imperial period. This dedicated online auction offers emerging and seasoned collectors a unique opportunity to acquire paintings from distinguished private collections from Hong Kong, Japan, Southeast Asia, Australia and North America.



Property From the Tokutomi Soho Museum
A SET OF 18TH CENTURY SEAL BOOKS
Seal Books From The Collection Of Ren Studio
A set of thirty-two books, seals on paper, with wooden box
Each page measures 28.7 x 19 cm. (11 ¼ x 7 ½ in.)
Estimate: HK\$80,000-150,000



Collection Of Late Qing Literati Calligraphy
LIANG QICHAO (1873-1929)
Seven-character Calligraphic Couplet in Standard Running Script
A pair of hanging scrolls, ink on paper
Each scroll measures 165.5 x 39 cm. (65 ½ x 15 ¾ in.)
Estimate: HK\$40,000-60,000



Previously From The Collection Of Huang Xiayi
PAN HE (1873-1929) AND ZHAO HAOGONG (1881-1947)
Landscape in the Style of Zhang Sengyou
Hanging scroll, ink and colour on paper
104 x 34.1 cm. (41 x 13 ¾ in.)
Dated 1923
Estimate: HK\$15,000-20,000



The Collection Of Eileen And I.M. PEI
WEI ZIXI (1915-2002)
Stream in Pine Valley
Hanging scroll, ink and colour on paper
68.2 x 45.2 cm. (26 ¾ x 17 ¾ in.)
Dated 1986
Estimate: HK\$6,000-12,000



KOO MEI (GU MEI, B. 1929)
Landscape
Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper
47 x 46.5 cm. (18 ½ x 18 ¾ in.)
Estimate: HK\$22,000-30,000



The Collection Of Eileen and I.M. PEI
GAO MANG (1926-2017)
Strolling in the Rain
Hanging scroll, ink and colour on paper
67 x 65.5 cm. (26 ¾ x 25 ¾ in.)
Dated 1981
Estimate: HK\$5,000-8,000

CHRISTIE'S

Notes to Editors:

CHINESE CONTEMPORARY INK – 25 November 2019

FINE CHINESE CLASSICAL PAINTINGS AND CALLIGRAPHY - 25 November 2019

FINE CHINESE MODERN PAINTINGS – 26 November 2019

LOCATION: Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, No.1 Expo Drive, Wanchai, HK

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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.*

Images available on request

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