

CHRISTIE'S

RESULTS | NEW YORK | 10 DECEMBER 2019

ANSEL ADAMS AND THE AMERICAN WEST: PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE CENTER FOR CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY

Total: \$1,098,250 / £835,171 / €990,513

100% SOLD BY LOT



Ansel Adams (1902–1984)

Clearing Winter Storm, Yosemite Valley, California, 1938
gelatin silver print, mounted on board, printed 1978-1984

titled in ink in photographer's Camel credit stamp [BMFA Stamp I], with Center for Creative Photography & AAPRT stamps (mount, verso)

Price Realized: \$60,000



Ansel Adams (1902–1984)

Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico, 1941

gelatin silver print, mounted on board, printed 1973-1977

signed in pencil (mount, recto); titled and dated in ink in photographer's Camel credit stamp [BMFA Stamp 11], and with Center for Creative Photography & AAPRT stamps (mount, verso)

Price Realized: \$75,000

New York — The top lot of the 10 December live auction of works by **Ansel Adams** (1902–1984) was [*Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico, 1941*](#), which realized \$75,000. Another highlight of the sale to benefit The Center for Creative Photography at the University of Arizona included [*Clearing Winter Storm, Yosemite Valley, California, 1938*](#), which realized \$60,000, [*The Tetons and the Snake River, Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, 1942*](#), which realized \$58,750, and [*Thunderstorm over the Great Plains near Cimarron, New Mexico, c. 1961*](#), which realized \$40,000.

Proceeds from the sale will benefit a new acquisition endowment for The Center for Creative Photography. When Adams co-founded the Center, he wanted it to be more than a museum solely dedicated to exhibiting his work. His vision, which has now become a reality, was to create a seminal place for the exhibition, research, dialogue, and celebration of all photographers and photography throughout time. The distinct group of works in this sale are duplicate prints that were initially placed at the Center by Adams and reside outside of his archive. This sale will allow the Center to continue to further his vision by diversifying its collection.

Full results can be [viewed here](#).



Thunderstorm over the Great Plains near Cimarron, New Mexico, c. 1961
gelatin silver print, mounted on board

signed in ink (mount, recto); titled in ink in photographer's Carmel credit stamp [BMFA Stamp 5], affixed with Museum of Modern Art exhibition label, and with Center for Creative Photography & AAPRT stamps (mount, verso)

Price Realized: \$40,000



Aspens, Northern New Mexico, 1958

gelatin silver print, mounted on board, printed probably 1962-1963
signed in ink (mount, recto); photographer's Carmel credit stamp [BMFA Stamp 5], with Center for Creative Photography & AAPRT stamps (mount, verso)

Price Realized: \$37,500

Darius Himes, International Head of Photography at Christie's, remarked: *"We are extremely pleased with this afternoon's results of 100% sold by lot and value. The strength of the Ansel Adams market is evident through strong results for iconic images, high bidder turnout and very active Internet bidding. To be able to contribute to the overall mission of The Center for Creative Photography, and specifically through the use of these proceeds to create an acquisition fund, is a deep and lasting honor."*

About The Center for Creative Photography:

The Center for Creative Photography is recognized as one of the world's finest academic art museums and study centers for the history of photography. The Center opened in 1975 following a meeting between the University of Arizona President Dr. John Schaefer and Ansel Adams. Beginning with the archives of five living master photographers — Ansel Adams, Wynn Bullock, Harry Callahan, Aaron Siskind, and Frederick Sommer — the collection has since grown to include 270 archival collections. Among these are some of the most recognizable names in 20th century North American photography: Lola Álvarez Bravo, W. Eugene Smith, Edward Weston, and Garry Winogrand. Altogether there are over 8 million archival objects in the Center's collection including negatives, work prints, contact sheets, albums, scrapbooks, correspondence, writings, audiovisual materials, and memorabilia. In addition to whole archival collections, the Center also actively acquires individual photographs by modern and contemporary photographers and currently holds more than 110,000 works by over 2,200 photographers.

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