CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | 20 JULY 2020 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHRISTIE'S PRESENTS JULY LATIN AMERICAN LIVE AND ONLINE SALES

INCLUDING IMPORTANT WORKS BY WIFREDO LAM, LEONORA CARRINGTON, RUFINO TAMAYO, ALFREDO RAMOS MARTINEZ AND CARMEN HERRERA

11am, 30 July 2020 | 20 Rockefeller Center, New York 21 July to 4 August | Online

New York – Christie's announces two July sales for Latin American Art with the live auction taking place on 30 July, and an online auction running 21 July to 4 August. The sales offer a comprehensive selection of 17th and 18th-century Spanish colonial painting alongside modern and contemporary masterpieces from influential artists such as Rufino Tamayo, Alfredo Ramos Martinez, Carmen Herrera, Leonora Carrington, Mario Carreño and Francisco Toledo.

The collection is led by *Femme Cheval* by Cuban artist Wifredo Lam (estimate: \$2,000,000-3,000,000 USD) and *Dos amantes contemplando la luna* by Rufino Tamayo (estimate: \$2,000,000-3,000,000 USD).



WIFREDO LAM *Femme Cheval* oil on canvas 50 13/16 x 38 7/16 in. Estimate: \$2,000,000-3,000,000 USD

The figure of the *Femme Cheval* first appeared in Lam's *Fata Morgana* drawings (1940-41), made to illustrate André Breton's Surrealist poem, but her evolved expression in his paintings from 1947 to 1950 marks the apotheosis of her persona. She is distinguished by a variety of head shapes—round, trumpet, detached, hatted, doubled, spiked—and anatomical stylizations, whose references span Santería (the horned Eleggua head) and traditional Spanish dress (the mantilla). As a personification of ritual possession in Santería, the femme cheval evinces the lush carnality of the feminine body and its supernatural powers. That year (1950) saw Wifredo Lam open solo exhibitions at Pierre Matisse Gallery in New York and at Havana's Parque Central, earning international plaudits as he further cultivated his femmes cheval.

Dos amantes contemplando la luna by Rufino Tamayo, executed in 1950, exemplifies the artist's self-identified "poetic realism" as he painted the everyday, absent of demagoguery. As a student and collector of pre-Columbian art, Tamayo further charged his abstracted figures with his study and knowledge of sculptural form, notably the thick bodied, short limbed ceramic animal and warrior figurines of Jalisco and Colima in West Mexico.

The sale also includes vibrant works by Fernando Botero, including *Good Morning* (estimate: \$500,000-700,000 USD) and *Reclining Woman* (estimate: \$600,000-800,000 USD); Alfredo Ramos Martinez, *La India* (estimate: \$800,000-1,200,000 USD); and Francisco Toledo, *Vaca en un laberinto* (estimate: \$700,000-900,000 USD).

Another highlight of the sale is Carmen Herrera, **Noche de Salamanca (Castilla)** (estimate: \$700,000-900,000 USD), which revisits her earlier Spanish series, citing the Castilian kingdom

> celebrated for the baroque splendor of its eighteenthcentury Plaza Mayor. Salamanca's architectural

grandeur is elegantly



RUFINO TAMAYO Dos amantes contemplando la luna oil on canvas 31.87 x 39.33 in Estimate: \$2,000,000 – 3,000,000 USD

schematized into pure geometry – an irregular black polygon centered on a square diptych.

The sale also features works by female Latin American surrealist artists including Leonora Carrington, *La joie de patinage (The Joy of Skating)* (estimate: \$400,000-600,000 USD) and Alice Rahon, *Luna de octubre* (estimate: \$60,000-80,000 USD).



FRANCISCO TOLEDO Vaca en un laberinto oil and sand on canvas 81 1 x 59 in. Estimate: \$700,000 – 900,000 USD



CARMEN HERRERA Noche de Salarranca (Castilla) acrylic on canvas 72 x 72 in. Estimate: \$700,000-900,000 USD



TOMAS SANCHEZ Buscador de paisajes acrylic on canvas 48 ½ x 66 ½ in. Estimate: \$500,000-700,000 USD

SALE HIGHLIGHTS



LEONORA CARRINGTON La joie de patinage (The Joy of Skating) oil on canvas 18 x 24 in. Estimate: \$400,000-600,000 USD



ALFREDO RAMOS MARTINEZ La India oil on canvas 42 x 49 in. Estimate: \$800,000-1,200,000 USD









CLAUDIO BRAVO Package Pastel on paper 42 ½ x 19 in. Estimate: \$300,000-500,000 USD MARIO CARREÑO *Mujer con aguacate* gouache on paper 30 x 22 in. Estimate: \$100,000-150,000 USD

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had auction sales in 2019 that totalled £4.5 billion / \$5.8 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 emphasison 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 includin g 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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