

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | LONDON
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | 12 OCTOBER 2020

THE SECRET GARDEN OF PAUL HAIM

NOW AVAILABLE TO BROWSE

INCLUDED IN CHRISTIE'S 20th CENTURY: LONDON TO PARIS SERIES
22 OCTOBER 2020 | AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

JOAN MIRO, *LA CARESSE D'UN OISEAU*



The Caress of a Bird (1967, illustrated left) by Joan Miró is a large totemic sculpture created using a vivid palette of primary colours. An edition of three, one of which can be found at the Maeght Foundation and another at the Miró Foundation, Miró later agreed to make an additional artist's proof for Paul Haim. Through its interpretation of the female body and its erotic references, the sculpture embodies Miró's poetry, but also the more playful aspect of his work, through its incongruous assemblage of trivial objects. Reflecting a certain 'joie de vivre' and Miró's artistic maturity, this painted sculpture is one of the greatest produced by the Catalan master.

ZAO WOU KI ET DOMINIQUE HIDEUX -
MOSAÏQUE



Alongside masterful sculptures, collectors will be able to bid for exceptional works created for the garden, such as the unique mosaic by Zao Wou-Ki (illustrated left), which is over 7m wide, and created in 1984. The story of how this work was acquired stems from a visit Paul Haim made to the great collector Dominique de Menil in Houston. Arriving at her house, he saw a wonderful abstract mosaic resembling Monet's *Water Lilies*. Finding it majestic, Paul asked Zao Wou-Ki if he would agree to make a mosaic for his garden. They had become great friends thanks to Jeannette who had danced in the 50s with May Zao, the painter's first wife. It took several years to create this monumental work, with the Chinese artist devoting considerable time and energy.

EDUARDO CHILIDA - MURAL G-336



Over the years, many artists became friends of Paul Haim, such as Roberto Matta, Niki de Saint-Phalle, Jorge Oteiza and Eduardo Chillida. But also the heirs and successors of Bourdelle, Maillol and Léger. Fernand Léger's works are widely represented at La Petite Escalère, someone who Haim exhibited extensively abroad.

The works from Paul Haim's collection will be exhibited at Kering's headquarters, 40 rue de Sèvres, from October 15 to 22, 2020. This is a great opportunity for Christie's to exhibit these monumental sculptures in this exceptional location. This mythical address, well known to Parisians, was home to the Laennec Hospital until 2000 before the Kering group set up its headquarters there. The unique architecture steeped in history will thus become the ephemeral showcase of this fabulous collection.

PRESS CONTACT

Beverly Bueninck | +33 (0)1 40 84 08 | bbueninck@christies.com

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 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.*

###

FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:

