

CHRISTIE'S

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Christie's Quentin Blake: 200 Drawings Sold to Benefit House of Illustration 2 to 16 December 2020



From left to right:

Quentin Blake (b.1932), Sunshine Travellers #1, 2020, Pen, ink, watercolour, watercolour paper, signed. Estimate: £700-1,000

Quentin Blake (b.1932), Birds as people #6, 2006, Watercolour pencil, watercolour paper, signed. Estimate: £500-800

Quentin Blake (b.1932), The Dancing Frog, 2019, Pen, ink, watercolour paper, signed. Estimate: £500-800

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LONDON: Christie's Classic Week presents [Quentin Blake: 200 Drawings](#), open for browsing from 25 November and bidding from 2 to 16 December. With estimates ranging from £100 to £2,000, the online auction is the latest collection of works offered directly from the artist's studio, sold to benefit House of Illustration, the UK's only gallery and education space dedicated to illustration and graphics. Proceeds from the sale will support the charity's ongoing projects, which include the redevelopment of New River Head in London into the renamed Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration, the world's largest public arts space dedicated to illustration. Set to open in 2022, the centre will be a new cultural landmark for the UK that will become a permanent home for the archive of the organisation's founder, Sir Quentin Blake, with selections from his archive of more than 40,000 works on permanent display.

Quentin Blake said of 200 Drawings: *"There are very few days of the year on which I don't produce drawings; in addition to originals for publication, there are alternative versions, sequences of drawings exploring themes that appeal to me, experiments with unfamiliar*

implements and sometimes a drawing simply because I feel the need to. Christie's auction means for me, delightfully, that all kinds of people actually get to take these drawings home to look at and that is a pleasure enormously enhanced for me by the knowledge that their money contributes to the development of the Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration, which, when it opens 2022, is going to be an extraordinary new cultural destination."

Following the success of *Quentin Blake: Not in Books* in 2019, *200 Drawings* will showcase the wide variety of work undertaken by Sir Quentin in recent years, from drawings for publications to designs for public artwork and large-scale works for installation.

Highlights of the sale can be viewed [here](#). Lots are offered without reserve, with the sale open for browsing from 25 November and bidding from 2 to 16 December.



Proposed Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration shop, café and gallery interior. Tim Ronalds Architects.
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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 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.*