

CHRISTIE'S

RESULTS | NEW YORK | 15 MAY 2019 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RESULTS: ART OF AFRICA MASTERWORKS

The Songye Kifwebe Mask Breaks Auction Record

TOTAL: \$4,996,250

90% by Value, 75% by Lot



**THE WALSCHOT-SCHOFFEL KIFWEBE MASK
ATTRIBUTED TO A SONGYE MASTER ARTIST
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO**
Height: 14 8/5 in. (37 cm.)
Price Realized: \$4,215,000

New York – On May 14, the Christie's New York **Art of Africa Masterworks** auction achieved a total of **\$4,996,250**. The sale sold 90% by Value and 75% by Lot, led by *The Walschot-Schoffel Kifwebe Mask*, which realized \$4,215,000. The lot sold after two minutes of competitive bidding between two telephone bidders, with the winning bid breaking the auction record.

Susan Kloman, International Department Head of African and Oceanic Art at Christie's remarks: "We are so delighted and proud of the results of our sale. It demonstrates a demand for works of top quality and the importance of African art in art history. With private and institutional participation from around the world, we saw new world records set for the Songye Kifwebe mask and for the Chokwe Ensemble."

Other top lots included *A Guro Mask Representing Gu*, which realized a total of \$300,000, exceeding the high estimate of \$250,000. Additional notable results included *A Fang-Ntumu Figure for a Reliquary Eyema Byeri*, which realized \$150,000; *A Blackened Punu Mask, Ikwara*, which totaled \$218,750; and *A Chokwe Ensemble*, selling for \$37,000.

To browse the full results, please visit the [Art of Africa Masterworks results page](#).

CHRISTIE'S ART OF AFRICA MASTERWORKS | 14 MAY 2019 | NOTABLE RESULTS



A GURO MASK REPRESENTING GU
IVORY COAST
Height: 10 ½ in. (27 cm.)
Price Realized: **\$300,000**



A BLACKENED PUNU MASK,
IKWARA
GABON
Height: 12 in. (30.5 cm.)
Price Realized: **\$218,750**



A FANG-NTUMU FIGURE FOR A
RELIQUARY EYEMA BYERI
GABON
Height: 33 ¼ in. (84.5 cm.)
Price Realized: **\$150,000**



A CHOKWE ENSEMBLE
ANGOLA
Height: 65 in. (165 cm.)
Price Realized: **\$37,000**

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in the first half of 2018 that totalled £2.97 billion / \$4.04 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.*

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Images available on request

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