

CHRISTIE'S

RESULTS | NEW YORK | 6 OCTOBER 2021 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHRISTIE'S NEW YORK PHOTOGRAPHS SALE ACHIEVES A TOTAL OF \$4,776,125

115% HAMMER SOLD ABOVE ESTIMATE

JUSTIN AVERSANO'S *TWIN FLAMES* – FIRST NFT TO BE SOLD IN A PHOTOGRAPHS
AUCTION – REALIZES \$1,100,000

ANSEL ADAMS' *MOONRISE, HERNANDEZ, NEW MEXICO* ACHIEVES \$930,000—
HIGHEST PRICE AT AUCTION FOR THE ICONIC IMAGE



JUSTIN AVERSANO (B. 1992)

Twin Flames #83. Bahareh & Farzaneh

accompanied by *Twin Flames Full Physical Collection, 2017-2018*
one non-fungible token accompanied by 100 chromogenic prints, each 16 x 20 in.,
or inverse, each print is number one from an edition of one.

Sold for \$1,110,000

New York – Wednesday, October 6, 2021, Christie's New York [Photographs](#) auction at Rockefeller Center saw successful results throughout, achieving a total of \$4,776,125. The first lot of the sale *Twin Flames #83* by Justin Aversano comprised one NFT accompanied by 100 chromogenic prints. Marking the first time an NFT has been on offer in a Photographs sale, the work experienced high levels of interest from clients in the room and on the telephones. After four minutes of competitive bidding, the work sold for \$1,100,000 – over ten times its low estimate – to a buyer in the room. The auction also saw a landmark result for Ansel Adams' *Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico, 1941*, which exceeded its high estimate to sell for \$930,000, the highest price ever seen at auction for this iconic image. Strong performances were also seen by Diane Arbus, Robert Frank, and Laszlo Moholy-Nagy.

Darius Himes, Christie's International Head of Photographs, remarks: "Today's auction reaffirms the significance of photography as a force in the art space. In the work of Justin Aversano, we see a young artist in love with the medium of photography who has concurrently built a vibrant community of NFT collectors and supporters in the digital space. This result of \$1,110,000—breaking the million dollar mark—signals that not only does a younger generation of collectors love photography but they are willing to collect it. The next two top lots—by Ansel Adams (\$930,000) and Diane Arbus (\$625,000)—are powerhouse works that clearly stand the test of time."

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About Christie's

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Christie's [auctions](#) span more than [80 art and luxury categories](#), at price points ranging from \$200 to over \$100 million. In recent years, Christie's has achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction (Leonardo da Vinci's *Salvador Mundi*, 2017), for a single collection sale (the Collection of Peggy and David Rockefeller, 2018), and for a work by a living artist (Jeff Koons' *Rabbit*, 2019).

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Recent innovations at Christie's include the groundbreaking sale of the first NFT for a digital work of art ever offered at a major auction house (Beeple's *Everydays*, March 2021), with the unprecedented acceptance of cryptocurrency as a means of payment. As an industry leader in digital innovation, Christie's also continues to pioneer new technologies that are redefining the business of art, including the creation of viewing and bidding experiences that integrate augmented reality, global livestreaming, buy-now channels, and hybrid sales formats.

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**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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