

CHRISTIE'S

MEDIA ALERT RESULTS | LONDON | 13 JULY 2022

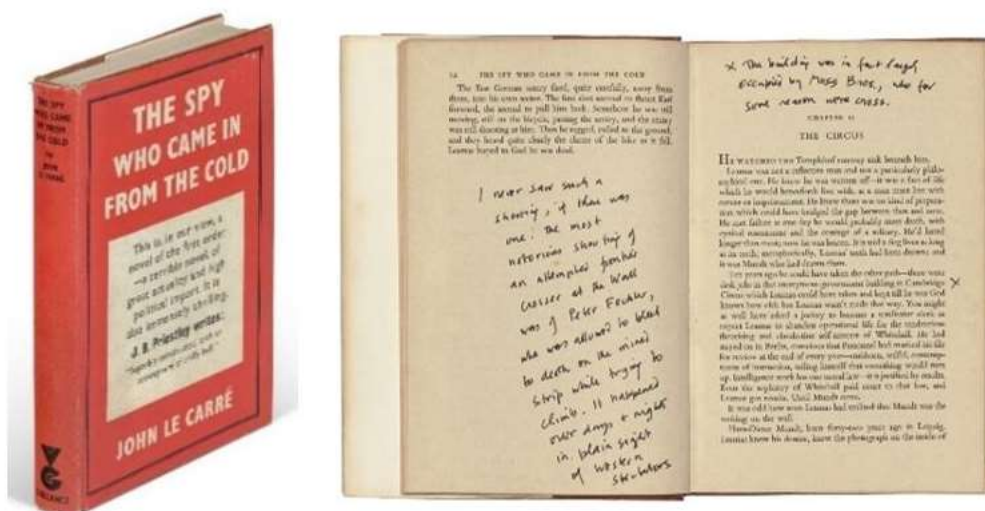
first editions
second thoughts

An Auction in Support of English PEN

TOTAL REALISED £515,844.00

98% SOLD BY LOT

ACHIEVED MORE THAN DOUBLE THE LOW ESTIMATE



(Illustrated above), John le Carré, (1931-2020).
The Spy Who Came in from the Cold.
London: Victor Gollancz, 1963.
(Estimate £8,000-12,000), realised £35,280

London – Christie's announces results from First Editions, Second Thoughts: An Auction in support of English PEN. Taking place for only the second time in the U.K. this online literary auction (28 June – 12 July) comprised First Edition books and works of art from internationally renowned contemporary artists and authors. Each work was personally annotated by the artist or author to include their insights, recollections, thoughts or illustrations,

creating a unique and covetable collector's item. The proceeds raised from the sale will fund English PEN's work to defend free expression and campaign for writers who are at risk.

Records were achieved for First Editions sold at auction for **John le Carré, Hilary Mantel, David Mitchell, Tom Stoppard, Alan Bennett** and **Salman Rushdie**.

The sale received international interest with registrants and bidders from 18 countries, with 51% of buyers from the U.K. 37% from North America and 5% from Continental Europe.

Daniel Gorman, Director of English PEN, comments, 'We are hugely grateful for this extraordinary conclusion to a very special auction. Thank you to all the writers and artists who have generously looked back and annotated some of their finest work. The funds raised at Christie's for English PEN will help us to continue the increasingly urgent and vital work of campaigning for writers at risk, and for freedom of expression in the UK and across the world.'

Sale Highlights include:

Authors: John le Carré, (1931–2020). *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold*. London: Victor Gollancz, 1963. (Illustrated on page one top). (Estimate £8,000 – 12,000), realised £35,280.

Hilary Mantel (b. 1952), *Bring Up the Bodies*. London: Fourth Estate, 2012. (Estimate £4,000 – 6,000), realised £30,240; **David Mitchell (b.1969),** *Cloud Atlas*. London: Sceptre, 2004.

(Illustrated below far right). (Estimate £4,000 – 6,000), realised £27,720; **Tom Stoppard (b.1937),** *Leopoldstadt*. London: Faber and Faber, 2020. (Illustrated below second left). (Estimate £2,000 – 3,000), realised £21,420; **Alan Bennett (b.1934),** *The History Boys*.

London: Faber and Faber, 2004. (Estimate £4,000 – 6,000), realised £17,640; **Thomas Keneally (b.1935),** *Schindler's List*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1982. (Estimate £3,000 – 5,000), realised £16,380; **Quentin Blake (b.1932, illustrator), – Roald Dahl (1916–1990).**

The BFG. London: Jonathan Cape, 1982. (Illustrated below second from right). (Estimate £6,000 – 9,000), realised £13,860; **Salman Rushdie, (b.1947),** *Midnight's Children*. London: Jonathan Cape, 1981. (Estimate £4,000-6,000), realised £11,970; **Margaret Atwood (b.1939),** *The Handmaid's Tale*. London: Jonathan Cape, 1986. (Estimate £4,000 – 6,000), realised £11,340.



Artists: Antony Gormley (b.1950) Stand up for Ukraine II. (Estimate £15,000-20,000), realised £44,100; **Ai Weiwei (b. 1957)** *1000 Years of Joys and Sorrows: A Memoir*. Estimate £5,000-7,000, realised £12,600.

The sale comprised 89 lots including works by internationally renowned writers such as **Hilary Mantel, Salman Rushdie, John le Carré, Ian McEwan, Tom Stoppard and Alan Bennett**, along with art works from highly esteemed artists **Antony Gormley, Ai Weiwei and Tracey Emin**.

English PEN is one of the world's oldest human rights organisations which champions the freedom to write and the freedom to read around the world, and is the founding centre of PEN International, a worldwide writers' association with 145 centres in more than 100 countries.

To learn more about the work of English PEN please click [here](#)

For the full sale results please click [here](#)

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About English PEN

Founded in 1921, English PEN is one of the world's oldest human rights organisations, championing the freedom to write and read. We are the founding centre of PEN International, a worldwide writers' association with 145 centres in more than 100 countries. With the support of our members – a community of readers, writers and activists – we protect freedom of expression whenever it is under attack, support writers facing persecution around the world, and celebrate contemporary international writing with literary prizes, grants, events, and our online magazine *PEN Transmissions*.

English PEN's work is made possible through core funding from Arts Council England and the TS Eliot Foundation alongside the support of members, project partners and Silver PEN partners.

<https://www.englishpen.org/>

About Christie's

Founded in 1766, Christie's is a world-leading art and luxury business. Renowned and trusted for its expert live and online auctions, as well as its bespoke private sales, Christie's offers a full portfolio of [global services](#) to its clients, including art appraisal, art financing, international real estate and education. Christie's has a physical presence in 46 countries, throughout the Americas, Europe, Middle East, and Asia Pacific, with flagship [international sales hubs](#) in New York, London, Hong Kong, Paris and Geneva. It also is the only international auction house authorized to hold sales in mainland China (Shanghai).

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 *Salvator Mundi*](#), 2017), for a 20th century artwork ([Andy Warhol's *Shot Sage Blue Marilyn*](#), 2022) and for a work by a living artist ([Jeff Koons' *Rabbit*](#), 2019). Christie's is also recognised as a reference for prestigious single owner collections, having auctioned 8 of the 10 most important collections in history.

Christie's [Private Sales](#) offers a seamless service for buying and selling art, jewellery and watches outside of the auction calendar, working exclusively with Christie's specialists at a client's individual pace.

Recent innovations at Christie's include the ground breaking 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 use of hologram technology to tour life-size 3D objects around the world, and the creation of viewing and bidding experiences that integrate augmented reality, global livestreaming, buy-now channels,

and hybrid sales formats.

Christie's is dedicated to advancing [responsible culture](#) throughout its business and communities worldwide, including achieving sustainability through net zero carbon emissions by 2030, and actively using its platform in the art world to amplify under-represented voices and support positive change.

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