

# CHRISTIE'S

LONDON | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | 16 DECEMBER 2016



CHRISTIE'S INAUGURAL YEAR OF CLASSIC WEEK CONCLUDES WITH A COMBINED TOTAL OF £206,440,675 / \$272,305,384 / €247,109,456

DECEMBER CLASSIC WEEK ACHIEVES £47,830,938 / \$60,231,515 / €56,433,800



STRONG RESULTS ACHIEVED ACROSS ALL CATEGORIES INCLUDING OLD MASTERS, TOPOGRAPHICAL PICTURES, ANTIQUITIES, DECORATIVE ARTS AND SCULPTURE, VICTORIAN AND 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY ART

SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN TOTAL SALES, CROSS-CATEGORY BUYING AND NEW BIDDERS

**GLOBAL PARTICIPATION FROM 53 COUNTRIES** 

CHRISTIE'S GLOBAL OLD MASTER AUCTION SALES FOR 2016 TOTAL £152 MILLION, DOUBLING THE AUCTION SALES TOTAL OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR

**London** – Classic Week at Christie's concluded on 15 December, achieving a total of £47,830,938 / \$60,231,515 / € 56,433,800 and brings the combined global Classic Week total for 2016 to £206,440,675 / \$272,305,384 / €247,109,456. The December season presented a dedicated series of sales spanning Old Master Paintings, Decorative Arts and Sculpture, Antiquities, Japanese Art and private collections. Highlights included the record prices achieved for a variety of artists such as François Clouet, Corneille de Lyon, Christian Bérard, Salvador Dalí, Pavel Tchelitchew, Edward James, Johann Moritz Rugendas and Félix Resurrección Hidalgo y Padilla. The week saw robust prices, with global participation from over 1,200 registered bidders from 53 countries, and substantial cross-category buying accounting for 39% of the total spend for the week.

Karl Hermanns, Global Managing Director, Old Master, 19<sup>th</sup> Century, Russian Art: "Classic Week in December concludes an outstanding year for the classical arts at Christie's. Following its launch in April in New York and in July in London the new Classic Weeks series, complementing Christie's innovative 20<sup>th</sup>-century weeks, have achieved for our clients significantly increased sales, cross-category bidders and new bidders. We are particularly encouraged by the number of 20<sup>th</sup>-century clients and Asian collectors participating in these sale. Classic Week auction sales were led by the

masterpiece by Rubens, 'Lot and his Daughters', which achieved £44.9 million, the highest auction price for any work of art sold in Europe in 2016. Old Master and Victorian pictures also sold well alongside the best modern and contemporary art in the Defining British Art sale, the flagship event of Christie's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Christie's also led the market in Old Master private sales, led by the historic sale of Rembrandt portraits, which sold to the French and Dutch states. Our specialists will continue to innovate and to inspire collectors with curated sales weeks of the highest quality. We look forward to hosting the next Classic Weeks in New York in April 2017 and in London in July 2017."

## CHRISTIE'S DECEMBER CLASSIC WEEK BY NUMBERS

- December Classic Week totalled: £47,830,938 / \$60,231,515 / € 56,433,800.
- Over 21,000 visitors to Christie's King Street.
- The week saw 1,200 registered bidders.
- Registered bidders came from 53 countries.
- 39% of total spend for the week came from clients transacting in more than one category.
- 1.341 works of art sold.
- The oldest lot sold was an Egyptian Flint Knife, *circa* 3500-2686 B.C, which sold for £3,750 in the *Antiquities* sale.
- The most modern work sold was *Narcisses mauves* (1953) by Bernard Buffet (1928-1999), which sold for £25,000 in *From Ancient to Modern: A Distinguished Private Collection*.
- 14 auction world record prices were achieved for record prices achieved for: François Clouet, Corneille de Lyon and Jean Decourt, Battista Zelotti, Judith Leyster, Christian Bérard, Salvador Dalí, Pavel Tchelitchew, Edward James, Johann Moritz Rugendas, Thomas Baines, Gottfried Lindauer, Félix Resurrección Hidalgo y Padilla.
- For individual results of Classic Week, please click <u>here</u>.

### **INDIVIDUAL SALES RESULTS AND TOP LOTS**

Antiquities 6 December 2016 Sale Total: £820,625



SALE HIGHLIGHT:
A Roman marble acroterion fragment, circa 2nd-3rd Century A.D.
Price Realised: £87,500

From Ancient to Modern: A Distinguished
Private Collection
7 December 2016
Sale Total: £4,894,125



SALE HIGHLIGHT:
Giambattista Tiepolo (1696-1770),
Alexander and Campaspe in the studio of
Apelles
Price Realised: £725,000

European Sculpture & Works of Art 6 December 2016 Sale Total: £2,522,250



**SALE HIGHLIGHT:**A bronze reclining figure of the Hermaphrodite,
Price Realised: £785,000

Old Master & British Drawings & Watercolours 7 December 2016 Sale Total: £649,813



SALE HIGHLIGHT:
John Ruskin, H.R.W.S. (1819-1900),
The sun setting through clouds
Price realized: £45,000

The Resandro Collection 6 December 2016 Sale Total: £3,013,125



SALE HIGHLIGHT:

A large Egyptian bronze Isis and Horus,
circa 747-656 B.C.
Price Realised: £1,085,000

Art of Japan 8 December 2016 Sale Total: £1,856,875



SALE HIGHLIGHT:
Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849)
Red Fuji
Price Realised: £106,250

Old Master Evening Sale 8 December 2016 Sale Total: £ 12,224,500

Old Masters Day Sale 9 December 2016 Sale Total: £2,446,125 19<sup>th</sup> Century Art 13 December 2016 Sale Total: £2,274,375



SALE HIGHLIGHT:
Jacob Jordaens (1593-1678),
The Holy Family with an angel
Painted circa 1625-6.
Price Realised: £1.805,000



SALE HIGHLIGHT:

Domenico Tintoretto (1560-1635),

A group portrait of four Venetian senators

Price Realised: £341,000



SALE HIGHLIGHT:
Johann Friedrich Overbeck's (1789-1869),
The Banishment of Hagar
Price Realised: £581,000

Victorian, Pre-Raphaelite & British Impressionist Art 14 December 2016 Sale Total: £2,617,000



SALE HIGHLIGHT:
John Atkinson Grimshaw (1836-1893),
Glasgow, twilight
Price Realised: £185,000

A Surreal Legacy: Selected Works of Art from the Edward James Foundation 15 December 2016 Sale Total: £6,719,500



SALE HIGHLIGHT:
Pavel Tchelitchew (1898-1957),
The Concert
Price Realised: £1,385,000

Topographical Pictures 15 December Sale Total: £7,702,625



SALE HIGHLIGHT:
Johann Moritz Rugendas (1802-1858),
The Independencia market, Lima.
Price Realised: £725,000

#### PRESS CONTACTS

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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 2016 that totalled £2.1 billion / \$3 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. 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.

2016 marks Christie's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's has since conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Click <u>HERE</u> to view a short film about Christie's and the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 12 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Mumbai. Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

\*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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