

CHRISTIE'S

RESULTS | NEW YORK FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 2 FEBRUARY 2024

OLD MASTER & BRITISH DRAWINGS

TOTALS: \$4,826,080

135% SOLD HAMMER ABOVE LOW ESTIMATE | 86% SOLD BY
LOT

PORTRAIT SHATTERS FOUR-DECADE RECORD FOR VAN DYCK DRAWING AT
AUCTION



WORLD RECORD

SIR ANTHONY VAN DYCK (ANTWERP 1599-1641 LONDON)

Portrait of Willem Hondius

black chalk, grey and brown wash, pen and brown ink, heightened with white

8 ½ x 6 ½ in. (21.5 x 16.5 cm)

Price realized: \$2,107,000

New York – Christie's **Old Master & British Drawings** sale set an important auction record for a drawing by Sir Anthony van Dyck, as the auction totaled \$4,826,080, 135 percent sold hammer above low estimate, and 86 percent sold by lot. The top lot of day was the record-setting sheet, **Van Dyck's Portrait of Willem Hondius**, which made \$2,107,000. It is one of the most important Northern drawings to have surfaced in recent decades, and adds to the corpus of extant drawings by van Dyck in preparation for his monumental series of engravings of notable people, known as the *Iconographie*. Christie's set the previous record for a van Dyck drawing 40 years ago, with the sale of another study for the same series, the *Portrait of Hendrick van Balen*, which Christie's sold in London on behalf of the Duke of Devonshire during the legendary *Old Master Drawings of Chatsworth* auction, 3 July, 1984. That sheet fetched £585,000 and was bought by J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles, California.

International Head of Old Master Drawings Department, Stijn Alsteens said: "Today's sale of van Dyck's *Portrait of Hondius* continues Christie's good fortune with this artist, and shows once again that exceptional work can do better than ever. As a whole, the number of participants at the auction, the sell-through rate achieved, and the prices obtained confirm that drawings of all schools and at all price levels attract strong interest from private collections, public institutions and the trade."

The top lots in the sale reflect the strength in the market for a wide variety of different styles, eras, and media in works on paper. **Francesco Salviati's two-sided sheet of figure studies**, a powerful testament to Florentine Mannerism, brought \$529,200; a **16th century drawing from the Netherlands** of Bruegel's famous *Painter and the Connoisseur*, made \$108,000; a 17th century miniature by Jacob Hoefnagel, ***Apelles painting Campaspe, the Mistress of Alexander the Great*** realized \$107,100. Two masters of 18th century France were among the top lots. A vast Roman *capriccio* by Hubert Robert of ***a great colonnaded building*** brought \$138,600, and one of Jean-Honoré Fragonard's famed studies for illustrations of Ariosto's *Orlando furioso*, ***Ruggiero desperately seeking Angelica*** made \$100,800. English drawings were well represented in the sale, including Joseph Mallord William Turner's watercolour, ***Plymouth Citadel, a gale***, which realized \$151,200.



HUBERT ROBERT (PARIS 1733-1808)
A great colonnaded building, the roof partly open to the sky,
 black chalk, pen and black ink, watercolor, on two joined sheets
 30 ½ x 27 in. (77.5 x 69 cm)
 Price realized: \$138,600



FRANCESCO DE' ROSSI, CALLED FRANCESCO SALVIATI (FLORENCE 1510-1563 ROME)
 A nude man in profile to the left (recto); A nude youth (verso)
 black chalk, pen and brown ink, top corners cut
 16 5/8 x 10 3/8 in. (43 x 27.8 cm)
 Price realized: \$529,200



JOSEPH MALLORD WILLIAM TURNER, R.A. (LONDON 1775-1851)
Plymouth Citadel, a gale
 graphite and watercolour with scratching out
 7 ¼ x 11 1/8 in. (18.5 x 28.1 cm.)
 Price realized: \$151,200



JACOB HOEFNAGEL (ANTWERP 1557-1632/1633 HAMBURG)
Apelles painting Campaspe, the Mistress of Alexander the Great
 watercolor, bodycolor, gold paint, possibly completed by a later hand, on vellum
 9 ½ x 6 ¼ in. (24 x 16 cm)
 Price realized: \$107,100



JEAN-HONORÉ FRAGONARD (GRASSE 1732-1806 PARIS)
Ruggiero desperately seeking Angelica
 black chalk, brown and gray wash
 15 ½ x 10 in. (39.4 x 25.5 cm)
 Price realized: \$100,800



NETHERLANDISH SCHOOL, 16TH CENTURY
The painter and the connoisseur, after Pieter Bruegel
 black chalk, pen and brown ink
 12 3/8 x 8 5/8 in. (31.5 x 22 cm)
 Price realized: \$100,800

Images for press use available [HERE](#).

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