

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | PARIS | 23 APRIL 2024 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SOLD!

**The collection *Empire of Taste, un appartement
madrilène par Billy Baldwin***

**TOTALLED
€2,1M | \$2,2M**



Leonora Carrington, *Levitasium*, Oil on canvas, 21 ¾ x 11 7/8 in., painted circa 1950.
Estimate : €250,000-350,000. Sold for €541,800

Paris - On 23 April, Christie's offered the collection [Empire of taste, un appartement madrilène par Billy Baldwin](#). A renowned decorator who designed beautiful interiors for such personalities as Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Greta Garbo, Barbara Hutton, Pauline de Rothschild and Rachel Lambert 'Bunny' Mellon to name a few. This Madrid interior was a signature of Billy Baldwin's style and vision. 2023 marked 40 years since Billy Baldwin's death but this collection celebrated both his taste and position as one of the great decorators of the 20th century.

Sale total: €2,065,896 | \$2,199,813

Reminder of pre-sale estimate: €1,284,800-1,909,000

Number of lots : 125

61% of lots sold above the high estimate

TOP LOT OF THE SALE:

Lot number: 65



The work : LEONORA CARRINGTON (1917-2011), *Levitasium*, Oil on canvas, 55.2 x 30.1 cm. Painted in Mexico City circa 1950




Sold: €541,800

Pre Sale estimate: €250,000-350,000

Lot essay : Born in 1917 to an Irish mother and English father, Leonora had a rather turbulent childhood and adolescence. After two successive expulsions, her parents enrolled her in a boarding school in Florence and then in Paris. In 1936 she became one of the first pupils of Amédée Ozenfant, who founded the Ozenfant Academy of Fine Arts in London, and the following year joined the Surrealists. Carrington quickly established herself as a major figure in the group, alongside Max Ernst, Nush and Paul Éluard, Man Ray and Lee Miller. More information [here](#).

THE MOST REMARKABLE LOTS:

		
<p>BERNARD BUFFET (1928-1999), NATURE MORTE SUR UNE TABLE, SIGNED AND DATED 'BERNARD BUFFET 53' (UPPER RIGHT), OIL ON CANVAS, PAINTED IN 1953 ESTIMATE : €100,000-150,000 SOLD FOR €252,000</p>	<p>A FLEMISH 'FEUILLE DE CHOUX' TAPESTRY, MID 16TH CENTURY, PROBABLY ENGHEN OR GRAMMONT ESTIMATE: €15,000-25,000 SOLD FOR €100,800</p>	<p>A PAIR OF EGYPTIAN REVIVAL PLASTER OR STUCCO PANELS, ALMOST PROBABLY FROM A DÉCOR OF GIUSEPPE VERDI'S OPERA AIDA, 20TH CENTURY ESTIMATE: €10,000-20,000 SOLD FOR €88,200</p>

		
<p>A PAIR OF ORMOLU AND ROCK CRYSTAL SIX-LIGHT GIRANDOLES, THE ORMOLU MOUNTS 19TH CENTURY, THE CRYSTAL 18TH CENTURY ESTIMATE: €40,000-60,000 Two pairs of girandoles each SOLD FOR: €50,400</p>	<p>A MICROMOSAIC CIRCULAR TABLE TOP, 19TH CENTURY, PROBABLY ITALIAN, THE BASE IS LATER ESTIMATE: €12,000-18,000 SOLD FOR: €44,100</p>	<p>A SUITE OF SIX MODERN VELVET CUSHIONS BY MAISON LE MANACH ESTIMATE: €600-1,000 SOLD FOR: €13,860</p>

ALL THE RESULTS [HERE](#)

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** 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.*

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