

CHRISTIE'S

RESULTS | HONG KONG | 1 JUNE 2023 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Christie's Hong Kong
Chinese Paintings Live Spring Auctions
Achieved a Combined Total of HK\$360,563,810 / US\$46,254,929**

Hammer Price 121% Above Total Low Estimate
Almost 40% of Lots Surpassed Pre-Sale High Estimates
7 Lots Sold Above HK\$10 Million/ US\$1.3 Million

Millennial Buyers Accounted For 40% of New Buyers

Fine Chinese Modern and Contemporary Ink Paintings

Realised HK\$206,684,820 / US\$26,514,562
40% of Lots Sold Above High Estimates

Fine Chinese Classical Paintings and Calligraphy

Realised HK\$153,878,990 / US\$19,740,366
Hammer Price 154% Above Total Low Estimate

Over 15,000 Visitors Drawn to Auction Preview, and Special Exhibition of The Foh Collection



Auctioneer Liang-Lin Chen selling the top lot of the sale series:
Celestial Mountains and Pavilions by Qiu Ying, for HK\$31,230,000 / US\$4,006,341

Exquisite Eye: Chinese Paintings Online Continues Until 2 June

Hong Kong – On 31 May and 1 June, Christie's held two live auctions of Chinese Paintings: [Fine Chinese Modern and Contemporary Ink Paintings](#), and [Fine Chinese Classical Paintings and Calligraphy](#), achieving a combined total of **HK\$360,563,810 / US\$46,254,929**, with the total hammer price reaching 121% of the combined low estimate. The auctions attracted notably spirited bidding from 15 countries across four continents. Significant buying activity from mainland China, Hong Kong, and Singapore contributed to the solid results, propelling the sold prices of numerous lots to multiples higher than their low estimates.

The sale series was led by **Qiu Ying's *Celestial Mountains and Pavilions*** offered in the *Fine Chinese Classical Paintings and Calligraphy* auction, and sold for HK\$31,230,000 / US\$4,006,341. The *Fine Chinese Modern and Contemporary Ink Paintings* auction was headlined by **Lin Fengmian's *Opera Figures: Lotus Lantern***. Hailing from an English gentleman's collection, the artwork garnered significant interest and ultimately sold for HK\$23,970,000 / US\$3,074,991, over five times its low estimate.

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During the two-day live auction event, Christie's showcased a curated selection of seminal works with exceptional provenance, bolstered by the presence of numerous fresh-to-market pieces contributing to the event's overall success. The auctions successfully achieved a 100% sell-through rate for an array of distinguished single-owner collections. Of particular significance, the "From the Collection of Anna Fang, Madame Wong Nan-Ping" selection demonstrated remarkable performance, amassing a total of HK\$12.2 million/ US\$1.6 million and attaining a hammer price that exceeded the total low estimate by 162%.

Kim Yu, Senior Vice President, and Chairman of Chinese Paintings Department, Christie's Asia Pacific, commented, *"We are pleased and appreciative of the unwavering support from collectors and Chinese paintings enthusiasts for our Live Spring Auctions. The outstanding results for both modern and classical Chinese paintings, and distinguished single-owner collections being fully sold, highlight the strong demand and appreciation for this art form. Notably, millennials accounted for 40% of new buyers, reflecting the enduring appeal and growing interest in Chinese Paintings among younger generations. Additionally, the special non-selling exhibition, 'The Foh Collection', further showcased our dedication to Chinese paintings. We eagerly anticipate extending this momentum to the concurrently running Exquisite Eye: Chinese Paintings Online sale, which continues until 2 June."*

31 MAY – FINE CHINESE MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY INK PAINTINGS



TOP LOT OF THE SALE

Lot 1159

PROPERTY OF AN ENGLISH GENTLEMAN

LIN FENGMIAN (1900-1991)

Opera Figures: Lotus Lantern

Framed, oil on canvas

Price realised: HK\$23,970,000 / US\$3,074,991

Over 5 Times its Low Estimate



Lot 1147

PROPERTY FROM THE FAMILY COLLECTION OF WANG SHIH-CHIEH

ZHANG DAQIAN (1899-1983)

Ancient Temple in Misty Mountain

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on gold paper

Dated 1967

Price realised: HK\$22,155,000 / US\$2,842,154



Lot 1102

HONG KONG PRIVATE COLLECTION

WU GUANZHONG (1919-2010)

Woods and a Spring

Scroll, mounted and framed, ink and colour on paper

Price realised: HK\$14,895,000 / US\$1,910,805

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1 JUNE – FINE CHINESE CLASSICAL PAINTINGS AND CALLIGRAPHY



TOP LOT OF THE SALE SERIES

Lot 836

QIU YING (CIRCA 1495-1552)

Celestial Mountains and Pavilions

Hanging scroll, ink and colour on paper

Price realised: HK\$31,230,000 / US\$4,006,341



Lot 822

FROM THE COLLECTION OF PROFESSOR WEN FONG

CHEN CHUN (1483-1544)

Flowers and Calligraphy

Handscroll, ink on paper

Price realised: HK\$28,810,000 / US\$3,695,891
Almost 5 Times Over its Low Estimate



Lot 823

FROM THE COLLECTION OF PROFESSOR WEN FONG

WANG YUANQI (1642-1715)

Landscape after Song and Yuan Masters

A set of eleven loose album leaves, ink and colour/ink on paper

Price realised: HK\$26,995,000 / US\$3,463,054
9 Times Over its Low Estimate

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EDUCATIONAL NON-SELLING EXHIBITION

Concurrent with the live auctions, Christie's demonstrated its dedication to promoting Chinese Paintings through a meticulously curated non-selling exhibition at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre: **"The Foh Collection"**. Presenting over sixty 20th century Chinese paintings acquired by Singaporean collectors Foh Kim Hong and Ms. Chan Siew Fong, and now managed by their son Foh Kai Lik, the exhibition featured a diverse array of works by renowned artists such as Wu Guanzhong, Lin Fengmian, Zhang Daqian, Huang Binhong, and Xu Beihong. This captivating display, a reflection of the Foh family's background and perspectives, drew over 15,000 international visitors.



NOTES TO EDITORS

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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. Christie's has sold 8 of the 10 most important single-owner collections in history, including the [Paul G. Allen Collection](#)—the most valuable collection ever offered at auction (November 2022). In recent years, Christie's also 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 [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.
- Following the groundbreaking 2021 sale of the first digital art NFT ever offered by a global auction house ([Beeple's Everydays](#)), Christie's recently launched the first [fully on-chain auction platform](#) dedicated to exceptional NFT art. 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.
- Browse, bid, [discover](#), and join us for the best of art and luxury at: www.christies.com or by downloading Christie's apps.

** 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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