

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | 19 MAY 2023

THE COLLECTION OF DONNA SUMMER



Donna Summer

© Getty Images/Michael Ochs Archives / Stringer

NEW YORK – Christie's presents [The Collection of Donna Summer](#), to be offered in an online sale in June 2023, open for bidding June 15th through June 29th, 2023. Ahead of the sale the singer-songwriter's personal collection will be showcased in a curated exhibition and sale at Christie's Rockefeller Center, in the heart of New York City.

The Collection of Donna Summer showcases the ascent of the legendary star through memorabilia, including her numerous RIAA gold 45's, handwritten lyrics, and iconic performance outfits from concerts around the world. The collection also offers an intimate glimpse into her personal life through candid Polaroids taken at home and during her travels, as well as several of her evocative paintings, which she treasured as a favorite pastime.

Donna Summer remains a cherished figure in the hearts of many: the undisputed queen of disco for her global fanbase, as well as a multifaceted artist, devoted wife, and loving mother. With enduring classics such as 'I Feel Love', 'Love to Love You Baby', and 'Bad Girls', Donna Summer not only revolutionized the music industry in the 1970s but continues to captivate and energize dance floors today, for both longtime admirers and a new generation of fans.

Jonathan Rendell, Christie's Deputy Chairman – Americas, commented: *"It's a delight to present the collection of Donna Summer this June at Christie's. Filled with objects that speak to a moment in time when Disco was in its most ascendant moment, the sale offers enthusiasts of all generations, a rare opportunity to own a part of music history."*

Peter Klarnet, Christie's Senior Specialist says: "Donna Summer epitomized the disco era – but she also transcended the genre, producing timeless music that still resonates to this day. Christie's is thrilled to bring her estate to auction, from platinum records to handwritten lyrics as well as iconic stage costumes, we are confident our clients will be eager to bid on this once-in-a-lifetime collection."

Bruce Sudano commented: "I'm thrilled for all the Donna Summer fans everywhere around the world, that Christie's is offering this unique opportunity for them to share in her creative vision of music, art and fashion. Donna has the most loyal and knowledgeable fans, and she deeply appreciated them."

A portion of the proceeds will go towards [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital®](#), Save The Music Foundation and the Elton John AIDS Foundation. Selected highlights from the collection will tour to Christie's Los Angeles May 31st – June 3rd 2023.

EXHIBITION LOCATIONS:

Los Angeles Tour May 31- June 3

New York Viewing: June 23-27

SELECTED SALE HIGHLIGHTS – THE COLLECTION OF DONNA SUMMER



A RED AND WHITE BEADED PONGEE SILK EVENING DRESS

CIRCA 1985 Worn during the 50th Presidential Inauguration Ball for Ronald Reagan in Washington DC, 19 January 1985

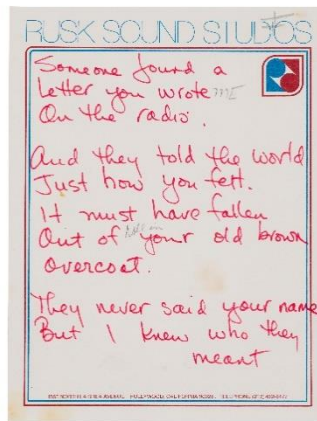
Estimate \$4,000-\$6,000



DONNA SUMMER (1948-2012)

Photograph with autograph inscription ("Who's That Lady?"), Italy, [ca May 1977]

Estimate \$800-1,200



MANUSCRIPT LYRICS FOR "ON THE RADIO" DONNA SUMMER (1948-2012).

Manuscript for "On the Radio," with autograph penciled corrections and emendations, Hollywood, [1979]

Estimate \$3,000-5,000



DONNA SUMMER (1948-2012)

Chairman of the Board signed and dated 'summer 88' (right side) acrylic on canvas Executed in 1988.

Estimate \$8,000-10,000



RIAA GOLD RECORD AWARD ISSUED TO DONNA SUMMER FOR 'LAST DANCE'

A Recording Industry Association of America gold record award for the 1978 single 'Last Dance' for sales of more than 1,000,000 copies for Casablanca Records, framed

Estimate \$3,000-5,000



A BLACK GLITTERED POLYESTER MAID DRESS WITH WHITE TULLE ATTACHED APRON AND WHITE TULLE AND LACE HAT

Likely worn for a live performance of 'She Works Hard for the Money' released in 1983

Estimate \$1,000-1,500

For more information, please visit: www.christies.com/DonnaSummer

PRESS IMAGES AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD [HERE](#)

CHRISTIE'S PRESS CONTACTS:

Americas

Deidrea Miller
+1 212 636 2690
communicationsamericas@christies.com

**Europe, Middle East,
Africa**

Nicky Eaton
+44 207 389 2664
presslondon@christies.com

Asia

Gigi Ho
+852 2978 6719
communicationsasia@christies.com

Global

Natasha Le Bel
+1 212 636 2690
NLeBel@christies.com

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 by reducing our carbon emissions by 50% and pledging to be net zero 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.*

FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:

