

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | LONDON | 24 JUNE 2020

Let There Be Light: Lighting from the 18th to the 21st Century 24 June – 14 July Online



Lot 21
An Italian Coloured Glass Twelve-Light Chandelier,
probably MURANO, 20th Century.
(Estimate £6,000-10,000)



Lot 91
A North European, Green and Cut Glass Six-Light Chandelier in the Manner of Johann
Zech, St Petersburg, 20th Century.
(Estimate £12,000-18,000)

London – Christie's presents **Let There Be Light** (24 June – 14 July), an online themed sale dedicated to the history of lighting, demonstrating the breadth, richness and variety of styles through outstanding examples of lighting. These include candlesticks, candelabra, chandeliers, wall-lights, table and standing lamps, from the 18th to the 21st Century. The sale comprises 134 lots and showcases how precious and finely crafted examples of lighting from the 18th and 19th Century, can sit alongside modern light fixtures in today's interiors. Via a juxtaposition of lighting styles comes the creation of interiors schemes combining layers of history with modernity, which in turn showcase the character and taste of the modern day collector.



Candlesticks and candelabra, both functional and decorative, were traditionally positioned throughout the house, especially before the invention of electricity. Lot 4, (*illustrated left*), A pair of Louis XV Ormolu Candlesticks, mid-18th Century, are typical of the period with scrolling and swirls in an anti-classical style, (estimate £2,000-3,000). Candlesticks were variably decorated depending on where they were placed: in important rooms the most precious examples were often

gilt and decorated with crystal or cut-glass; in dining rooms, silver examples appear, often to match the cutlery. Lot 47,

(*Illustrated left*), The Painted Hall Candelabra,

The Old Royal Navy College, Greenwich. A Pair of George VI Silver, Five-Light Candelabra, London, 1938 (estimate £10,000-15,000). Lot 72, (*illustrated above*), A Pair of Louis Philippe Ormolu-Six-Light Candelabra, circa 1840, (estimate £18,000-25,000).



Amjad Rauf, Head of Sale, International Head of Masterpiece and Private Sales comments, *“Influential interior decorators and designers focus on lighting as a priority from the beginning of a project to fruition: it is at the heart of the planning process not only of the architectural shell, but the fully developed interior design scheme. Lighting significantly influences the overall atmosphere of a home, as well as the presence and visibility of all interiors components and works of art”.*

Amjad continues, *“We are also delighted to be working with **Martin Brudnizki** as a Tastemaker on this sale. **Martin Brudnizki Design Studio** is an internationally acclaimed interior architecture and design studio based in London and New York. MBDS expertise in lighting residential properties globally is recognised as second to none with a large team dedicated solely to the art of lighting”.*



Lighting has been essential since the earliest civilisations. Elements of light have been key in the study of the history of Interior Decoration and Design: the homes of the Egyptians, Greek and Romans already contained a form of lamp, and Roman Emperors were often depicted flanked by an oil-lamp. More is known of the great luminary schemes at the Royal Courts of Europe in the 17th and 18th Century. Louis XIV’s chateau de Versailles is particularly noteworthy as the abundant and luxurious lighting features were the main focus of the palace, which demonstrated the wisdom and power of the King.

The monumental candelabra, crystal and bronze chandeliers in the Galerie des Glaces in Versailles are still the main focal point in one of the most recognisable rooms in the world. Commonly seen in Neo-Classical palaces and the courts of Europe, Lot 121, (*illustrated above on previous page*) a North German Ormolu and Cut-Glass, Twelve-Light Chandelier in the Manner of Werner & Mieth, Berlin,



early 19th Century, (estimate £18,000-25,000). Lot 120, (*illustrated above*), a Monumental North European Ormolu Twelve-Light Chandelier in the manner of Karl Rossi, St. Petersburg, 20th Century, (estimate £18,000-25,000).



The invention of electricity in the late 19th Century allowed for new methods of lighting. Table lamps were developed in a variety of shapes and styles, occasionally incorporating an earlier artefact such as a vase or column. Lot 1, (*illustrated above left*), A Pair of Moulded Cobalt-Blue Glass Lamps, Modern, (estimate £2,000-3,000). Lot 45, (*illustrated above centre*), a Pair of George III Ormolu-Mounted Blue-John Cassolettes by Matthew Boulton, *circa* 1765-70, (estimate £12,000-18,000). **Let There Be Light** also includes an eclectic variety of modern table lamps including examples in brass, painted wood and plaster, porcelain and glass. The recurrent shapes – ovoid, baluster, vase and column - have classical connotations but often with a modern twist giving them a fresh, contemporary feel. Lot 32, (*illustrated above right*), a Pair of Silvered and Gilt-Metal ‘Sputnik’ lamps, second half 20th Century, (estimate £1,500-2,500). **Let There Be Light** includes contemporary lots consigned by some of the most prominent and renowned British decorators and designers including **Vaughan, Robert Kime, Jamb, Soane** and **Colefax & Fowler**.

Each of these designers are generously donating a significant percentage of the proceeds from the sale of the following lots 22–31, 52-62, 64, 94–98 and 100 to NHS Charities Together.

FURTHER HIGHLIGHTS



Lot 102

Jonathan Monk, (B. 1969)
My Left Hand and My Left Hand
Made to Look Like My Right Hand
 White Neon Mounted on Plexiglass
 (Estimate £7,000-10,000)



Lot 61

A English Brass, 'Truro Twig' Lamp
 By Vaughan, London, *Modern*
 (Estimate £1,000-1,200)



Lot 107

A Pair of Ormolu-Mounted Chinese
 Cloisonne Enamel Vases
 Mounted as Lamps
 Late 19th/20th Century
 (Estimate £2,000-4,000)



Lot 46

A Pair of Victorian Silver Four-Light
 Candelabra,
 London, 1838, One branch 1830
 (Estimate £30,000-40,000)



Lot 19

A Pair of French Gilt-Metal and Rock Crystal
 Six-Light Wall-Appliques
 20th Century
 (Estimate £12,000-18,000)



Lot 50

A Modern Spanish Silver Four-Light
 Centrepiece
 Designed by Damian Garrido, Madrid, 1997;
 No. 10 of a Limited Edition of 30
 (Estimate £3,000-5,000)



Lot 37

A set of Four French Ormolu Three-Light
 Wall-Lamps
 'A Cors de Chasse', *Mid-19th Century*
 (Estimate £15,000-25,000)



Lot 130

A Pair of French Silver-Gilt and Cut-Glass
 Candelabra-Vase.
 Mark Andres Aucoc, Paris, Circa 1890
 (Estimate £12,000-18,000)



Lot 83

A Pair of French Parcel-Gilt and
 Red-Lacquered Tole Lanterns,
 19th Century
 (Estimate £10,000-15,000).

To view the sale please click [here](#)

PRESS CONTACTS:

Charlotte Brown | 07741 029753 | CharlotteBrown@christies.com

Notes to Editors:

NHS Charity Donations from Let There Be Light

A percentage of proceeds from the sale of a selected number of lots within Let There Be Light are being donated to charity. Designers, Vaughan, Colefax & Fowler, Soane, Robert Kime and Jamb are generously donating from the sale of lots 22–31, 52–62, 64, 94–98 and 100. For further information on the designated charity please click on the following link nhscharitiestogether.co.uk. NHS Charities Together (registered charity no. 1186569).

About Martin Brudnizki

Martin Brudnizki Design Studio was founded by Martin Brudnezki in 2000, the team is comprised of over 79 interiors designers, architects, lighting designers, product designers and art consultants and has experience in creating hotels, restaurants, bars and private members' clubs alongside residential developments and helping a select number of people design their dream homes mbds.com

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had auction sales in 2019 that totalled £4.5 billion / \$5.8 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and international expertise. 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.

Alongside regular sales online, Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

**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 and are reported net of applicable fees.*

###

Images available on request

FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:

