

CHRISTIE'S

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20TH CENTURY AT CHRISTIE'S TOTALS
£194,366,000 / \$247,569,125 / €220,484,285

CHRISTIE'S *IMPRESSIONIST AND MODERN ART SALES*
TOTAL: £168,068,125 / \$214,071,732 / €190,595,799

CHRISTIE'S *MODERN BRITISH AND IRISH ART SALES*
TOTAL: £26,297,875 / \$33,497,392 / €29,888,486

**NEW WORLD AUCTION ARTIST RECORDS INCLUDE MAX BECKMANN,
VICTOR PASMORE AND GEORGES VANTONGERLOO**

MAX BECKMANN'S RECORD-BREAKING *HÖLLE DER VÖGEL (BIRDS' HELL)*
ACHIEVES HIGHEST VALUE FOR THE SEASON
£36,005,000 / \$45,834,362 / €40,865,674

CHRISTIE'S LEADS THE MARKET WITH THREE OF THE TOP FIVE PRICES REALISED



Pablo Picasso, *Femme écrivant (Marie-Thérèse)*, 1934, £34,885,000 / \$44,408,602 / €39,594,474 and
Max Beckmann, *Hölle der Vögel (Birds' Hell)*, 1937-38, £36,005,000 / \$45,834,362 / €40,865,674

London – 20th Century at Christie's concluded on 30 June 2017 with a combined total of £194,366,000 / \$247,569,125 / €220,484,285. The depth of bidding witnessed in the salerooms highlighted the truly global collector base with registered participation from 56 countries. Max Beckmann's *Hölle der Vögel (Birds' Hell)* was the leading work across the London season, achieving a world auction artist record of £36,005,000 / \$45,834,362 / €40,865,674, double the previous record that was established in 2001. The painting continues the Germanic

tradition of using allegory together with elements of Classicism and mythology to transcend the time and political situation in which it was created. In this sense it has become a universal symbol of humanity like Pablo Picasso's *Guernica* of the same period. Pablo Picasso's tender portrait of his young lover Marie-Thérèse, *Femme écrivant (Marie-Thérèse)*, achieved the second highest price of the season, selling for £34,885,000 / \$44,408,602 / €39,594,474. Vincent van Gogh's *Le moissonneur (d'après Millet)* was another highlight, soaring above its estimate to realise £24,245,000 / \$30,863,883 / €27,518,074. Following on from the February *Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale* bidding from Asia was notable with over 20% of works sold to clients in the region. Impressionist and Modern Art achieved a combined total of £168,068,125 / \$214,071,732 / €190,595,799. There were strong sell-through rates across 20th Century at Christie's, particularly in the evening sales.

The *Modern British and Irish Art Evening Sale* launched 20th Century at Christie's, opening with a world auction artist record for Henry Lamb's *Portrait of Edie McNeill* (£281,000 / \$357,994 / €319,497). Sculptures led the evening sale with Henry Moore's *Family Group*, which sold to an Asian collector, after spirited bidding in the saleroom and on the phone, for £3,861,000 / \$4,918,914 / €4,389,957. In addition Barbara Hepworth's *Curved Form (Bryher II)* was featured in 'Sculpture in the Square', an outdoor sculpture garden set within St James's Square, and achieved £3,301,000 / \$4,205,474 / €3,753,237. Further world auction artist records were set for Eileen Agar, Keith Coventry, Nic Fiddian-Green, Robert MacBryde, Cedric Morris, Eduardo Paolozzi, Victor Pasmore and a record in the medium for L. S. Lowry in the Evening and Day sales with a combined total of £26,297,875 / \$33,497,392 / €29,888,486.



Henry Moore, *Family Group*, 1946, £3,861,000 / \$4,918,914 / €4,389,957 and
Barbara Hepworth, *Curved Form (Bryher II)*, 1961, £3,301,000 / \$4,205,474 / €3,753,237

20TH CENTURY AT CHRISTIE'S SALES OVERVIEW

20th Century at Christie's Total: £194,366,000 / \$247,569,125 / €220,484,285

Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale: £149,500,000 / \$190,313,489 / €169,682,494

Impressionist and Modern Art Day Sale: £10,686,000 / \$13,678,080 / €12,021,750

Impressionist and Modern Works on Paper: £6,121,500 / \$7,835,520 / €6,886,687

Picasso Ceramics Online: £1,122,625 / \$1,432,469 / €1,277,547

Impressionist and Modern Art Online: £638,000 / \$812,174 / €727,320

Modern British and Irish Art Evening Sale: £20,199,500 / \$25,734,162 / €22,966,831

Modern British and Irish Art Day Sale: £6,098,375 / \$7,763,231 / €6,921,655

3 works sell for more than £20 million

6 works sell for over £5 million / 21 works sell for over £1 million

12 world auction artist records

- Eileen Agar, *The Bug of Genius*, £25,000 / \$31,825 / €28,375
- Max Beckmann, *Hölle der Vögel (Birds' Hell)*, £36,005,000 / \$45,834,362 / €40,865,674
- Keith Coventry, *Abbeyfield Estate*, £37,500 / \$47,738 / €42,563
- Nic Fiddian-Green, *Still Water*, £209,000 / \$266,266 / €237,633
- Hannah Höch, *Frau und Saturn*, £1,085,000 / \$1,381,205 / €1,231,475
- Henry Lamb, *Portrait of Edie McNeill*, £281,000 / \$357,994 / €319,497
- L. S. Lowry, *A Station Platform*, £269,000 / \$342,706 / €305,853 (record in the medium for a work on paper)
- Robert MacBryde, *Red and Black Still Life*, £27,500 / \$35,008 / €31,213
- Cedric Morris, *Poppies*, £131,000 / \$166,763 / €148,685
- Eduardo Paolozzi, *Life Savers*, £131,000 / \$166,763 / €148,685
- Victor Pasmore, *Linear Motif in Black and White*, £329,000 / \$419,146 / €374,073
- Georges Vantongerloo, *Composition dans le carré avec couleurs jaune-vert-bleu-indigo-orangé*, £1,085,000 / \$1,381,205 / €1,231,475

For sale insights on the *Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale* from Christie's Global President and auctioneer Jussi Pykkänen, Jay Vincze, Head of Impressionist & Modern Art London and Giovanna Bertazzoni, Deputy Chairman of Impressionist & Modern Art, please visit the [Facebook Live](#) video stream of our post-sale Press Conference.

For further commentary on the *Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale* please see our [online report](#).

Christie's summer season of sales continues on 4 July 2017 with Christie's Classic Week. Please see the full press release [here](#).

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in 2016 that totalled £4 billion / \$5.4 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. 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.

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.*

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Images available on request

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