

# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | LONDON  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | 15 NOVEMBER 2018

## *Christie's Handbags & Accessories Auction*

*Exceptional Pieces From Chanel And Hermès*

*Extremely Rare Aluminium Explorer Trunk By Louis Vuitton*

*12 December 2018, London*



**Left:** An Exceptional Matte White Diamonds Forever Flap Bag With 18k White Gold & Diamond Hardware, Chanel, 2008, Estimate: £50,000–70,000

**Centre:** A Rare & Exceptional, Matte Himalaya Niloticus Crocodile Diamond Birkin 35 With 18K White Gold & Diamond Hardware, Hermès, 2010, Estimate: £100,000 –150,000

**Right:** A Rare Aluminium Explorer Trunk, Louis Vuitton, 1892, Estimate: £50,000-100,000

**London** – On 12 December 2018 Christie's London will present at auction 225 rare, limited edition, and one-of-a-kind Handbags & Accessories. With a focus on the most sought-after vintage and current pieces, the sale will offer something for every collector, with estimates ranging from £500 to £150,000.

Highlights of the auction include an exceptional Chanel Matte White Diamonds Forever Flap Bag with 18k White Gold & Diamond Hardware (estimate: £50,000–70,000, *illustrated above left*), one of a limited edition of only sixteen. Also offered is a Hermès, Matte Himalaya Niloticus Crocodile Birkin 35 with 18k White Gold & Diamond Hardware (estimate: £100,000–150,000, *illustrated above centre*). A similar piece in a smaller size was sold in London in June for £162,500 and currently holds the European record for most valuable handbag sold at auction.



A Rare Aluminium Explorer Trunk, Louis Vuitton, 1892,  
Estimate: £50,000-100,000

A leading lot of the sale is an extremely rare aluminium Louis Vuitton explorer trunk (estimate £50,000-100,000). Dating to 1892, this extraordinary trunk was created at a time when the production of aluminium was so complex it was more expensive than gold. Following its appearance at the “Exposition Universelle” in 1855 the demand for this precious metal soared. The immense shine of the metal combined with its incredible lightness made it ideal for jewellery design and soon became the material of choice for the French elite, becoming known as ‘the white gold of Napoleon’. Louis Vuitton produced explorer trunks in a range of metals including Zinc, Brass and Copper however, due to exceptionally high production costs, only a very small quantity of aluminium trunks were crafted. These were coveted by explorers and high-society alike due to their resistance, weight and rarity.



A Limited Edition Multicolour Swift Leather *One Two Three & Away We Go Birkin 25* With Palladium Hardware  
By Nigel Peake Hermès, 2017,  
Estimate: £10,000-15,000



A Rare, Custom Matte Gris Perle Alligator & Taupe Swift Leather *Quelle Idole* With Palladium Hardware  
Hermès, 2017,  
Estimate: £35,000-40,000



A Custom Shiny Gris Tourterelle and Ultraviolet Niloticus Crocodile *Sellier Kelly 32* with Palladium Hardware  
Hermès, 2017,  
Estimate: £35,000-40,000

**Viewing Dates:**

23 Nov, 10am - 4pm  
24 Nov, 12pm - 5pm  
25 Nov, 12pm - 5pm  
26 Nov, 10am - 4:30pm  
27 Nov, 10am - 8pm  
8 Dec, 12pm - 5pm  
9 Dec, 12pm - 5pm  
10 Dec, 10am - 4:30pm  
10 Dec, 6pm - 8:30pm  
11 Dec, 10am - 8pm  
12 Dec, 10am - 12pm

**Auction Date:** 12 Dec, 12pm

**About Christie's**

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in the first half of 2018 that totalled £2.97 billion / \$4.04 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.*

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*Images available on request*