

CHRISTIE'S

MEDIA ALERT | LONDON
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CLASSIC WEEK

CHRISTIE'S LONDON ANNOUNCES
JULY CLASSIC WEEK CALENDAR
1 – 29 July 2020



THE PRAYER BOOK OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS, for the use of Fontevraud, made for Louise de Bourbon-Vendôme, Abbess of Fontevraud and given to her grand-niece Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots (1542-1567) and Queen Consort of France (1559-1560), in Latin and French, illuminated manuscript on vellum [Paris, c.1535-1540 (after 1534)]
Estimate: £250,000 - £350,000

London - Christie's London announce a new, expanded, hybrid *Classic Week*, a marquee series of 12 auctions to take place throughout the month of July 2020. Comprising eight on-line sales, including a creative collaboration between Old Masters and Post War Art, *Classic Week* will also feature four live auctions culminating with an innovative new *Classic Art Evening Sale* on 29 July.

The expanded *Classic Week* will celebrate craftsmanship and the story of creativity across time from antiquity to the 21st century, and across artistic media including Old Master and 19th Century Paintings, Drawings and Prints; Sculpture and Antiquities; Books and Manuscripts; and the full diversity of Decorative Arts.

Karl Hermanns, Global Managing Director, Classic Art Group comments, *“Christie’s Classic Art business has seen great success in the new environment of the last two months, with live auctions converted to on-line only sales, creative new on-line theme sales, and last week in Paris we held the first live auctions by an international auction house since lockdown. Our on-line only New York Classic Week is live for bidding now. We are excited to announce London’s July marquee Classic Week in this new, expanded, hybrid format and featuring two innovative new sale concepts: a creative on-line collaboration between Old Masters and Post War Art and a new cross-category Classic Art Evening Sale”.*

July 2020 Classic Week Calendar

Old Master Prints	1 - 15 July	Online
Old Master & British Drawings and Watercolours	6 - 27 July	Online
Antiquities	6 - 27 July	Online
Antiquity: A Personal View	6 - 27 July	Online
British & European Art	7 - 29 July	Online
Old Master Paintings and Sculpture	9 - 30 July	Online
Valuable Books & Manuscripts	9 - 30 July	Online
Remastered: Dialogues Across the Centuries	16 - 30 July	Online
The Collector: European and English 18th and 19th Century Furniture and Works of Art, Silver, Ceramics and Gold Boxes	15 July	Live
An Aristocratic Private Collection	22 July	Live
A Distinguished Private Collection	23 July	Live
Classic Art Evening Sale	29 July	Live

A lead lot from the *Classic Art Evening Sale* has recently been announced, (illustrated above), Mary Queen of Scots' prayer book, offered on 29 July, (estimate: £250,000 - £350,000). An unpublished witness to the brilliant patronage of a powerful woman in 16th-century France, the prayer book is illuminated and decorated with an impressive cycle of forty miniatures painted with the utmost subtlety by the Master of François de Rohan, one of the most sought-after artists of the court of King Francis I (r. 1515-1547). This sale presents a rare opportunity for collectors to acquire a significant addition in terms of the very limited number of illuminated manuscripts that can be directly connected to Mary Stuart.

For the full press release on the Mary Queen of Scots' prayer book please click [here](#)

Highlights from the auctions will be on view at King Street in the lead up to the sales, and available to browse online from 1 July at www.christies.com All necessary measures to protect our London visitors and our staff will be in place, taking into account government guidelines in the UK.

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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.*

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