

CHRISTIE'S

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Richard Aronowitz Appointed Global Head of Restitution



On March 30, Richard Aronowitz joins Christie's to lead the largest and most experienced Restitution team of any international auction house. Richard's appointment as Global Head of Restitution, reporting to Marc Porter, Chairman, Christie's Americas, further affirms the company's longstanding commitment and responsibility to this area as a vital part of its business.

For more than a quarter of a century, Christie's has engaged with the legacy of Nazi era and World War II art theft and dispossession. Losses during 1933–1945 to Europe's collections, in particular those of Jewish collectors, through persecution, confiscation, and forced sales, continue to resonate strongly in today's art world.

Based in London, Aronowitz comes to Christie's after 15 years at Sotheby's, where he led the Restitution department in Europe from 2006 to 2021, and was responsible for building relationships with restitution lawyers, researchers, families and heirs. He also worked at Bloomsbury Auctions, the Ben Uri Gallery and was Head of Research in the Impressionist & Modern Art department at Sotheby's earlier in his career. He is the author of several novels and an expert on German Expressionism.

In his new role, Richard will direct Restitution efforts to further enhance Christie's global status at the forefront of the market, working closely with Marc Porter; Eileen Brankovic, International Business Director; Sarah Done, Director; and the entire Restitution team, to provide skilful expertise and leadership. Located in New York, London, Berlin, and Vienna, Christie's researchers have approximately 70 combined years of experience, making Nazi-era provenance research a hallmark of our expertise and inextricably a part of the art historical framework.

Marc Porter, Chairman Christie's Americas, comments: *"Richard has a sophisticated command of the complexities and sensitivities in the Restitution field, and is an ideal leader for our business. He shares in our firm belief that re-opening and re-examining the historical record is a necessary step in the pursuit of justice."*

Richard Aronowitz comments: *"I'm delighted to be joining Christie's and its highly regarded Restitution team. It's clear that this is an area central to the values of the company, and I'm looking forward to continuing the notable achievements of Christie's both in the art world and the global restitution community to ensure just and fair resolutions for restituted works of art."*

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Notes to Editors:

For more on Christie's Restitution team and recent work in this area, visit <https://www.christies.com/en/services/restitution-services>

Christie's Recent Restitution Highlights

- **Franz Marc, The Foxes (*Die Füchse*)**
Christie's London, March 2022
Restituted by the city of Dusseldorf to the heirs of Kurt & Else Grawi, in 2021.
- **Vincent Van Gogh, *Meubles de blé***
Christie's New York, November 2021
Sold pursuant to a settlement agreement between the previous owner, the heir of Max Meirovsky and heirs of Alexandrine de Rothschild.
- **Silvered Bronze, Enameled Silver, and Gilt-Bronze Elephant Automaton Clock, c. 1600-10**
Christie's New York, October 2021
Restituted by the city of Wetzlar to the heirs of Maximilian Baron von Goldschmidt-Rothschild.
- **Lucas Cranach I, *The Resurrection***
Christie's New York, April 2021
Sold pursuant to a settlement agreement between the previous owner and the heir of Margarete Eisenmann.

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. In recent years, Christie's has achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction (Leonardo da Vinci's *Salvador Mundi*, 2017), for a single collection sale (The Collection of Peggy and David Rockefeller, 2018), 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.

Recent innovations at Christie's include the groundbreaking sale of the first NFT for a digital work of art ever offered at a major auction house (Beeple's *Everydays*, March 2021), with the unprecedented acceptance of cryptocurrency as a means of payment. As an industry leader in digital innovation, Christie's also continues to pioneer new technologies that are redefining the business of art, including 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 through net zero carbon emissions by 2030, and actively using its platform in the art world to amplify under-represented voices and support positive change.

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