

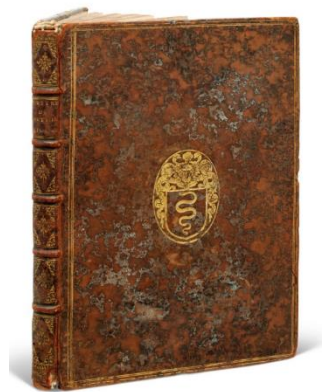
CHRISTIE'S

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CHRISTIE'S PARIS'

CLASSIC WEEK

ACHIEVES A GREAT SUCCESS



- Sales total: €16,179,456
- 551 lots sold during four auctions including
- 54% sold above high estimate
- 22 lots sold above €100,000
- 2 new world auction records
- 4 museum acquisitions

Outlook on the Classic Week

“The Classic week did a particularly great job at mixing styles and periods. The resulting mix and match was both very stimulating and relaxing. The two pieces of furniture, once the property of Marie-Antoinette are true masterpieces. The décor of the armchair is wonderfully lavish and extravagant. Setting the stage for objects with such a prominent royal provenance is challenging as they request appropriate space and grandeur. Luckily, Christie’s gave me carte blanche for the scenography. This idea of mixing styles could be pushed even further. Periods don’t tell the whole story. There is a direct link between the 18th Century’s quest for idealised lines and today’s design. Beyond auctions, I believe writing the history of taste is another mission of Christie’s.”

Patrick Hourcade, Artist,
Exhibition Designer

le XVIII^e siècle aux sources du design, Château de Versailles

Classical Arts and Marie Antoinette through an armchair

Created by Georges Jacob, the most renowned Louis XVI chair maker, a royal Etruscan style armchair combining sumptuous sculpted decor and purity of

line was sold for €906,000, nine times its presale estimate. Perfect example of the artistic influence of Queen Marie Antoinette, his illustrious patron who never ceases to fascinate, this armchair epitomizes the market’s interest in the demanding aesthetic research of the 18th Century. Field of excellence of a discipline that will later be called Design, the classical seat furniture pieces achieved very good results. Among the dozens of lots sold during Classic Week, a ceremonial armchair stamped Jean Avisse tripled its estimate, and a *chaise à chassiss*, by Pierre Falconet for the Duc of Penthièvre, multiplied its estimate by seven.

Sold for €2.5 million, *La nymphe Ersilie effrayée par un satyre masqué* is a masterpiece by Eduard Müller that set a new artist record and illustrates the growing interest in 19th Century neoclassical sculpture. This work of unquestionable virtuosity is a perfect example of the antiquarian spirit of Ancient Greece and Rome of the time.

The Teylers Museum in Haarlem, Netherlands and the National Gallery of Victoria in Melbourne, Australia, were among the four museums that acquired pieces of the highest quality in the sales.

Alexandre Mordret-Isambert, Sculptures Specialist, Christie’s: “Following the outstanding success of the Getty and Givenchy collections, this sale further confirms the strong resurgence of classic works in recent years. This is particularly striking for Sculpture, and especially for Neoclassical works of extraordinary stature.”

Classical thinkers and scientific spirit

Treasure of bibliophila and testimony of Colbert's interest in mathematics,

an extraordinary copy of the *Lettres de A. Dettonville* sold for €378,000. Founder of the Royal Academy of Sciences, Colbert had this copy made by his personal librarian. The Rare Books and Manuscripts sale featured rare editions, high quality manuscripts and prestigious provenances which met with great results. A book by Blaise Pascal published under a pseudonym, in reply to a mathematical challenge he had issued to the whole of Europe, achieved strong results, further demonstrating collectors’ appetite for scientific documents. This work tripled its estimate, just as an important 18th Century microscope sold over a million euros during last year’s edition of Paris’ Classic Week, crystallizing the high scientific standards of the time.

“The 18th Century in France, with its exuberance, playfulness, measure and harmony, represents life as it ought to be lived.”

Karl Lagerfeld

Karl by Marie Ottavi, Editions Robert Laffont, 2021

Chanel, Lagerfeld and Lesage at their best

A rare evening coat from Chanel's Fall-Winter 1996 collection sold for €277,200 to the National Gallery of

Victoria in Melbourne, Australia. This exceptional piece, new world record for a piece by Chanel and one of the highlights of Paris' Classic Week, is a vibrant tribute to Karl Lagerfeld's genius and his love for Versailles and the 18th Century. This result demonstrates the ever-growing recognition of his work (several of his drawings far exceeded their estimates during an auction last December at Christie's), just before his major retrospective at the Met Museum in 2023. Through the sale of iconic collections (Elizabeth Taylor in 2011, Catherine Deneuve in 2019, and a highly curated collection coming to auction in Paris in January 2023), Christie's further strengthens its historical expertise in remarkable Haute Couture pieces. This *Coromandel* coat is a masterpiece of embroidery from Maison Lesage, who works closely with the greatest Haute Couture designers.

“I am deeply moved to see this unique piece of work, result of a historic collaboration between Lesage and Chanel, meet with such success. This piece epitomizes the *savoir-faire* and excellence of Lesage, and I am delighted to see it enter the collections of a major international museum. This story is truly beautiful.”

Hubert Barrère, Creative Director, Maison Lesage

Iconic images

Iconic images crystallizing an era and its aesthetics, such as this *Salvator Mundi* painted after Leonardo da Vinci, are also highly prized on the market. Painted over a century after his famous original piece, this late copy sold for €1,062,000. Footsteps of the Mona Lisa replicas that have achieved very strong results at various auctions in recent years. There is an increasingly important market for works after Leonardo da Vinci, as illustrated by several *Mona Lisa* copies that achieved very strong results at auction in the last few years, demonstrating the strong fascination exerted by these timeless images.

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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. Christie's has sold 8 of the 10 most important single-owner collections in history, including the [Paul G. Allen Collection](#)—the most valuable collection, and philanthropic sale, ever offered at auction (November 2022). Christie's has also achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction ([Leonardo da Vinci's Salvator Mundi](#), 2017), for a 20th century artwork ([Andy Warhol's Shot Sage Blue Marilyn](#), 2022) 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.
- Following the groundbreaking 2021 sale of the first digital art NFT ever offered by a global auction house ([Beeple's Everydays](#)), Christie's recently launched the first [fully on-chain auction platform](#) dedicated to exceptional NFT art. As an industry leader in digital innovation, Christie's also continues to pioneer new technologies that are redefining the business of art, including the use of hologram technology to tour life-size 3D objects around the world, and 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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**Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium.*

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