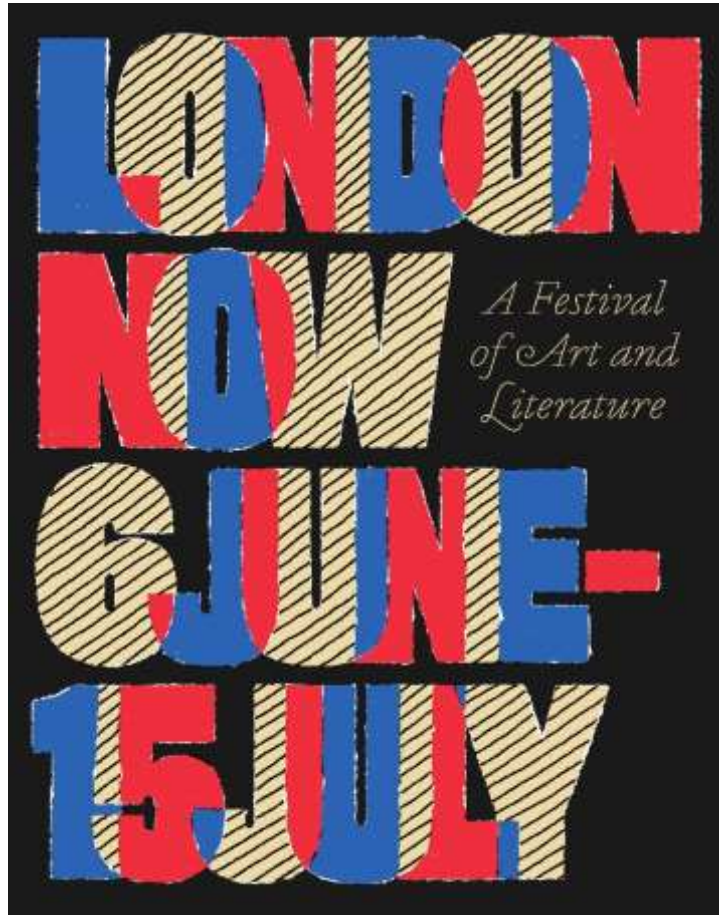


# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | GLOBAL | 28 APRIL 2022



**London** - Christie's announces **London Now**, an innovative summer season of exhibitions, events and auctions taking place during June and July 2022 at its headquarters in the historic heart of London's St. James's. **London Now** will celebrate the capital as a global cultural hub, recognising the part London has played throughout the centuries bringing together artists, writers, poets and art lovers, a role it continues to play. Honouring London's unique identity and vibrant diversity, the **London Now** festival calendar will feature specially programmed exhibitions, talks and events free to attend and open to the public under the banner of **The Art of Literature**.

**The Art of Literature: Auction Highlights Exhibition** will run from **6 to 15 June**, encompassing a selection of outstanding lots from Christie's auctions during June and July. In addition there will be **The Art of Literature: Loan and Selling Exhibition** which will run from **6 June to 15 July**. Both exhibitions will be curated to present the finest examples of works from categories including books, antiquities, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Art, Decorative Arts and Old Masters. Works of art will be united with the novels, poetry, drama and stories which have inspired them, and which they, in turn, have inspired. Curated by Christie's next-generation of specialists, the exhibitions will seek to engage and provoke discussion.

Furthermore Christie's is pleased to announce that it will be partnering with English PEN, one of the world's first human rights organisations, on a landmark philanthropic literary auction to raise proceeds for the charity. **First Editions, Second Thoughts** an online sale taking place from **28 June to 12 July** will offer prized first editions, uniquely annotated, illustrated or supplemented, by over 80 leading authors and artists of our time. Margaret Atwood, Salman Rushdie, Bernardine Evaristo and Edmund de Waal amongst many distinguished authors have added their handwritten thoughts, notes or illustrations within these remarkable books.

Orlando Rock, Chairman, Christie's U.K. comments, *'Following the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in early June, Christie's will celebrate London as one of the most culturally vibrant cities in the world, with an immersive summer festival of exceptional auctions, views, exhibitions and events. We look forward to welcoming visitors to experience the juxtaposition of outstanding works of art with literary influences. It's also our privilege to partner with English PEN, one of the world's oldest human rights organisations, for an extraordinary auction of first editions with annotations by some of the greatest living authors of our time'*.

Co-curators of **The Art of Literature**, Victoria Gramm (Specialist, Post-War and Contemporary Art); Mark Wiltshire (Specialist, Books and Manuscripts) and Annabelle Scholar (Associate Director, Client Advisory EMEA) comment, *'As co-curators of **The Art of Literature** we have relished the opportunity to thread a narrative between writers and artists from the classical period to the present day. Works of art and literature on show will range from Dante to Hilary Mantel, and Roman antiquities to Marlene Dumas, truly bringing the correlation between the visual arts and their literary influences to the forefront of this exciting series of events during the summer season'*.

**London Now** is part of a summer programme of cultural highlights taking place at Christie's locations across Europe this year.

The **London Now** programme includes:

6 June - 15 June	The Art of Literature: Auction Highlights Exhibition
6 June - 15 July	The Art of Literature: Loan and Selling Exhibition
8 June	Christie's Lates – The Art of Literature. 6.00pm – 8.30pm. Christie's open their St James's headquarters to the public to attend a free evening of talks, workshops, performances and exhibitions with external contributors and Christie's specialists
28 June - 12 July	First Editions, Second Thoughts: An Auction in Support of English PEN

Further details regarding **London Now** and events open to the public are to be announced in the coming weeks.

**London Now** will also encompass the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Art sales in June and will conclude with the Classic Week sales in July.

Please click [here](#) for more information.

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### About English PEN

Founded in 1921, **English PEN** is one of the world's oldest human rights organisations, championing the freedom to write and read. We are the founding centre of PEN International, a worldwide writers' association with 145 centres in more than 100 countries. With the support of our members – a community of readers, writers and activists – we protect freedom of expression whenever it is under attack, support writers facing persecution around the world, and celebrate contemporary international writing with literary prizes, grants, events, and our online magazine *PEN Transmissions*.

English PEN's work is made possible through core funding from Arts Council England and the TS Eliot Foundation alongside the support of members, project partners and Silver PEN partners.

<https://www.englishpen.org/>

### 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 *Salvator 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 ground breaking 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.

Browse, bid, [discover](#), and join us for the best of art and luxury at: [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com) or by downloading Christie's apps. The COVID-related re-opening status of our global locations is available [here](#)

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Images available on request

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