

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | 13 SEPTEMBER 2023

# MADE IN HOLLAND

# 400 YEARS OF DUTCH ART 50 YEARS OF CHRISTIE'S AMSTERDAM



Karel Appel (1921-2006), *Huilend meisje*, 1953, estimate: €300,000-500,000

Amsterdam – The 4<sup>th</sup> edition of MADE IN HOLLAND, showcasing 400 years of Dutch artistic talent coincides with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Christie's Amsterdam. Since its first sale in 1973, Christie's Amsterdam has held numerous historic auctions including the Collection of the Princely House of Liechtenstein, the Anton Philips Collection, the Anton Dreesmann Collection, The Property of the Scheringa Museum of Realist Art, The Piet and Ida Sanders Collection, The Hofland Collection and the Collection of Old Master Drawings of Prof. I.Q. van Regteren Altena. In 1986, Christie's Amsterdam sold the world-famous Nanking Cargo. The trove of more than 150,000 pieces of 18th century Chinese porcelain and gold ingots fetched more than 17 million euros, still a record for any auction conducted in the Netherlands.

Today, Christie's is located at Vondelstraat 73, Amsterdam-West, a house built by and formerly inhabited by P.J.H. Cuypers (1827-1921), architect of the famous Rijksmuseum and Amsterdam's Central station.

Arno Verkade, Managing Director Christie's Amsterdam recalls: "Already in the early 1970s Amsterdam was on the expansion map of the British company, becoming the second saleroom on the continent when it opened in 1973. It would take another 5 years before the company expanded to former New Amsterdam, today known as New York. To mark 50 years of Christie's Amsterdam, the local specialist team is honoured to present a landmark celebratory sale of works by Dutch masters, spanning 400 years of art history. Christie's Amsterdam offers a wide range of services such as valuations, advice, and direct access to the company's global network of auctions and private sales, supported by a team of specialists in various fields including Post-War & Contemporary Art, Impressionist & Modern Art, Old Masters, 19th Century Art, Jewellery, Watches and Wine."

Specialists involved in the MADE IN HOLLAND sale, running online from 26 September to 10 October 2023, have selected some of their favorite works out of the *circa* 75 lots offered, which will be on public view at Christie's Amsterdam.

#### **OLD MASTER PAINTINGS**





Jan Davidsz. de Heem, Still life, 1627, estimate: €50,000–80,000 | Gerrit Adriaensz. Berchheyde, Haarlem, looking south-east with Saint Bavo's church, estimate: €30,000–50,000

The Old Master department is headed by **Manja Rottink** who joined Christie's Amsterdam in 2005. Most recently she has been instrumental in the re-discovery of two intimate Rembrandt portraits *Portrait of Jan Willemsz. van der Pluym and Jaapgen Carels*, sold for £11,235,000 / \$14,268,450 / €13,122,480 in July 2023 in London.

The Old Masters section of MADE IN HOLLAND offers a wonderful early still life with fruits, a Wan-li dish and a spouted pewter 'Jan Steen' jug, painted by Jan Davidsz de Heem (1606-1684) in 1627. It is amongst the earliest dated works by the famous Dutch master. It was painted when the young De Heem had moved from Utrecht to Leiden, establishing himself as an independent artist. The composition still shows the influence of Balthasar van der Ast, who may have been his teacher, but also preludes De Heem's future as one of the greatest still life painters of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century.

This striking view of Haarlem's Grote Markt with the church of St. Bavo's and the Vleeshal is amongst Gerrit Berckheyde's (1638-1698) most celebrated townscapes. The Grote Markt was the commercial and civic hub of the city and its principal buildings represented Haarlem's religious, political and commercial institutions, which embodied the city's identity and source of pride in the Golden Age. Gerrit Berckheyde is considered, along with Jan van der Heyden, as one of the greatest of all Dutch painters of townscapes. The artist lived next to the St. Bavo from 1680 onwards.

## 19th CENTURY ART





Hendrik Willem Mesdag, Bomschuiten on open sea, Scheveningen, 1896, estimate: €40,000–60,000 | Isaac Israels, A young lady reading in the Jardins des Tuileries, 1903 – 1907, estimate: €60,000–80,000

**Sophie Bremers** joined Christie's Amsterdam in 2008 and today she heads the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Art department and is a much-appreciated charity auctioneer in the Netherlands. 19<sup>th</sup> Century Art encompasses nearly 90,000 artists, including those from the Symbolist, Orientalist, Realist, Dutch and Academic schools, just to name a few.

Hendrik Willem Mesdag (1831-1915) was one of the most celebrated leaders of the so-called "The Hague School" and he was praised for his unbiased depiction of the sea, straight from nature. Mesdag differed from his colleagues in choosing only the sea as his subject, which was a radically new phenomenon, shocking the art world at the time. These typically Dutch seascapes would become very quickly popular, not only in The Netherlands but also in Belgium, France, the UK, the US and Canada. The present work *Bomschuiten on open sea*, *Scheveningen* is a beautiful example of Mesdag's work in which he depicts the interesting effects of light on water and the sky.

Paris, the cultural capital of Europe during the fin-du-siècle, was an important source of inspiration for the renowned Dutch impressionist Isaac Israels (1865-1934). Isaac was often inspired by the beauty of the young 'Parisiennes' whom he encountered in one of the many parks, as we can see in the present lot. The pastel is an excellent example of Isaac's Parisian style which may be considered the finest of his career. We see his well-known palette of relatively light colours and his rapid treatment of the subject, however to him the most important remained the characteristic portrayal of a situation.

## 20TH/21ST CENTURY ART

**Jetske Homan van der Heide** established 1987 the Modern Art department at Christie's Amsterdam. At the time she signed responsible for the very successful Belgian Art and CoBrA auctions running until the late 2000s. Internationally Jetske is regarded as the leading expert on Dutch and Belgian pre-war art as she spent her research on the subject since her university years at Groningen.

This joyful painting titled *Souvenir de Dordrecht* dating from 1907 was recently part of the Kees van Dongen exhibition at Singer Laren. Kees van Dongen was among the pioneering Dutch artists who around 1900 joined the international Avant Garde movement in Paris. *Souvenir de Dordrecht* was most probably painted after his visit to Rotterdam in 1907. It not only reflects Van Dongen's artistic prowess but also carries a sense of nostalgia and connection to the place it portrays.

The vibrant colours and the sketchy textures harmoniously come together to create a vivid depiction that resonates with both art enthusiasts and those familiar with the charm of Dordrecht.





Kees van Dongen, Souvenir de Dordrecht, 1907, estimate: €80,000–120,000 / Rineke Dijkstra (b. 1959), Kolobrzeg, Poland, 26 July 1992, 1992 estimate: €15,000-20,000

**Luuk Hoogewerf** joined in 2019 as Junior Specialist in the Post-War and Contemporary Art department in Amsterdam. Luuk previously worked at the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam and Museum Boijmans van Beuningen in Rotterdam. As Head of Sale of the highly successful Made in Holland sales, Luuk has a breadth of knowledge of the art market.

Huilend meisje dated 1953, is painted a bit rougher compared to Karl Appel's (1921-2006) earlier works. The brushstroke has become more lively, rapid, and confident. It gives the painting a whole lot of expressive energy. This artwork is a true masterpiece on its own. It perfectly shows both what the CoBrA movement cared about and the unique artistic style it had (illustrated front page / estimate €300,000-500,000).

In memory of **Elvira Jansen** who passed away on 1 September and had been a member of the Amsterdam Post War and Contemporary art department since 2011, we are sharing here her favorite work of the sale. *Kolobrzeg, Poland, 26 July 1992*, is in her opinion the most iconic work within the oeuvre of Rineke Dijkstra (b. 1959). Often compared to Botticelli's Venus, because of the contrapposto and the sea motive, this teenage girl shows her unease in front of Dijkstra's camera, who would pretend she was still adjusting her camera settings to capture her subjects unaware, non-posed, revealing their true selves.

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Notes to Editors

MADE IN HOLLAND Online sale 26 September to 10 October 50 YEARS Christie's Amsterdam 1973-2023

EXHIBITION Highlights from the online auction will be on view from 26 Sept – 9 Oct (MON-FRI), 10:00AM – 5:00 PM

#### **About Christie's**

Founded in 1766, Christie's is a world-leading art and luxury business with a physical presence in 46 countries throughout the Americas, Europe, Middle East, and Asia Pacific, and flagship international sales hubs in New York, London, Hong Kong, Paris and Geneva. Renowned and trusted for our expert live and online-only auctions, as well as bespoke Private Sales, Christie's unparalleled network of specialists offers our clients a full portfolio of global services, including art appraisal, art financing, international real estate and education. Christie's auctions span more than 80 art and luxury categories, at price points ranging from \$500 to over \$100 million. Christie's has sold 8 of the 10 most important single-owner

collections in history, achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction, launched the first <u>fully on-chain auction platform</u> dedicated to exceptional NFT art and manages <u>an investment fund</u> to support innovative startups in the art market. Christie's is also committed to advancing <u>responsible culture</u> throughout its business and communities worldwide. To <u>learn more</u>, browse, bid, <u>discover</u>, and join us for the best of art and luxury at <u>christies.com</u> or by downloading Christie's apps.

\* 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.