

# CHRISTIE'S

SALE RESULTS | GENEVA | 12 MAY 2023

## THE ART OF F.P. JOURNE

**COLLECTION OF 39 LOTS 100% SOLD**  
**ACHIEVING CHF 13.7 Million / US\$ 14.1 Million**



**Geneva** – The first ever dedicated auction for a living independent watchmaker, The Art of F.P. Journe, was 100% sold at Christie's Geneva on May 12, realising CHF13,665,300 / US\$14,120,810 or approximately CHF350,000 per watch. Clients from 20 countries across 4 continents participated in the sale. EMEA represented 52% of buying, the Americas 28% and APAC 20%, while 29% of all buyers and bidders were millennials.

Each timepiece was a true work of art, a testament to Journe's relentless pursuit of perfection. The top selling lot of the sale was a platinum tourbillon souverain "souscription model" wristwatch, bearing number 2 out of 20, made circa 1999, sold for CHF 2,707,000/ \$3,042,941 (shown left).

The saleroom at the Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues applauded after each lot sold.

Remi Guillemin, Head of Watches Europe commented: *"The Art of F.P. Journe marks an incredible moment for independent watchmaking. The first auction dedicated to a single, living independent watchmaker, the auction showed the passion amongst collectors for F.P. Journe. With 100% of the lots selling, in a packed room with incredible energy and results, this sale showcases the desire of collectors for innovative projects, driven by their ever-increasing knowledge and desire. Our deepest thanks go to collectors who have followed and participated in the sale, and who made this project such a success."*

### **Sale Highlights – Tourbillon Souverain**

Arguably F.P. Journe's most famous wristwatch model is the *Tourbillon Souverain*, launched in 1999, the first ever tourbillon with a *remontoir d'égalité* – incorporating constant force throughout the winding process to compensate for the uneven force delivered by the mainspring to the escapement as it unwinds. Lot 2039 - *Tourbillon Souverain 'Souscription'* – an especially rare, historic and highly important platinum tourbillon wristwatch with brass movement, yellow gold dial, *remontoir d'égalité*

and power reserve. Signed F.P. Journe, No. 2/20, circa 1999, sold for CHF2,707,000/ US\$3,042,941, making it the top selling lot of the auction.

### ***Chronomètre à Résonance***

By achieving synchronicity without a physical linkage, resonance considerably reduces the effects of wrist and body movements. François-Paul Journe became the first watchmaker to incorporate this tremendous improvement in precision into the smaller available volume of a wristwatch, an incredible achievement of modern horology. This represented the second highest selling piece, Lot 2038 – Chronometre a Resistance “Pre-Souscription” – an exceedingly rare and early platinum chronometer wristwatch with resonance – controlled twin independent geartrain brass movement, pink gold dial and power reserve. Signed F.P. Journe, No.040/00R, circa 2000 which sold for CHF1,376,000 / US\$1,546,763.

### ***Centigraphe***

The *Centigraphe Souverain* was developed with the aim of producing the perfect chronograph for the world of automotive racing. This category was led by Lot 2032 – Centigraphe Souverain Formula Edition – an exclusive and highly desirable platinum ergonomic chronograph wristwatch with 100<sup>th</sup> of a second, 20<sup>th</sup> second, 10 minute registers, red chrome dial. Signed F.P. Journe, No. 096-CT, circa 2010. Sold for CHF529,200 / US\$594,874.

Catalogue available [here](#) dropbox available [here](#)

## **INTERNATIONAL PRESS CONTACTS**

### **289 CONSULTING PR TEAM:**

**Marine Lemonnier-Brennan**

[marine.lemonnier@289consulting.com](mailto:marine.lemonnier@289consulting.com)

+41 79 389 67 62

### **CHRISTIE'S EMEA:**

**Alexandra Kindermann**

[akindermann@christies.com](mailto:akindermann@christies.com)

+41 79 101 41 96

### **Aude Campanelli**

[aude.campanelli@289consulting.com](mailto:aude.campanelli@289consulting.com)

+41 78 637 16 91

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*\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium.*

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