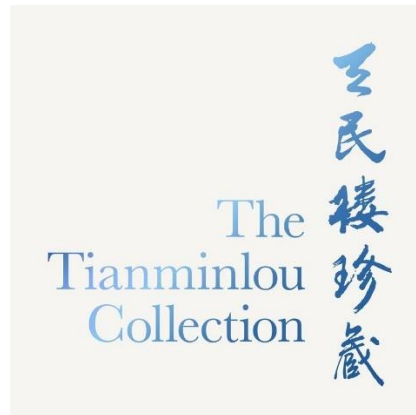


CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | HONG KONG | 28 SEPTEMBER 2023 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Christie's Hong Kong Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art Department Proudly Announces



A Dedicated Single-Owner Auction Featuring 15 Masterpieces from
One of the Most Esteemed Chinese Porcelain Collections

Comprising Iconic Examples from the Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties

Total Pre-Sale Low Estimate Exceeding HK\$120 Million

30 November | Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre



Hong Kong – Hong Kong – On 30 November, Christie's Hong Kong Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art Department will present **The Tianminlou Collection** – a dedicated single-owner sale featuring 15 exceptional pieces from one of the world's most esteemed collections of Chinese porcelain, with a pre-sale low estimate of over HK\$120 million. This exceptional group comprises 15 iconic examples of Ming and Qing porcelain, all widely published and exhibited, and for the first time, Yuan Dynasty pieces from this globally famous collection will be brought to the market.

The Tianminlou Collection was scrupulously amassed over several decades starting from the 1970s. Particularly renowned for its blue and white as well as imperial porcelain from the Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties, the collection has been showcased at numerous prestigious museums and art institutions, including the Shanghai Museum, the Hong Kong Museum of Art, and the Chang Foundation in Taipei.

CHRISTIE'S

Marco Almeida, Head of Department, Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art, Christie's Asia Pacific commented: *"It is a great honour for Christie's to be entrusted with these magnificent and significant pieces, from The Tianminlou Collection, one the most prestigious collections of Chinese porcelain ever assembled and arguably the finest in private hands. Encompassing the highest echelons of rarity, quality, and historical importance, The Tianminlou Collection is a true treasure trove for connoisseurs and appreciators of Chinese ceramics. Each and every exquisite example in this sale is of museum-quality, representing the epitome of craftsmanship from its respective period. This is an extraordinary and rare opportunity for collectors and connoisseurs to acquire a masterpiece of Chinese history."*

AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS - YUAN DYNASTY



Yuan blue and white vases have always been highly treasured by collectors, with vases of the elegant *meiping* form being especially desired. This exceptional and superb example stands out further due to the retention of its original cover, a feature that is often lost in other examples. During its time, it would have served as a wine container. The intricate designs are brilliantly painted in cobalt of vibrant sapphire-blue tones, using the expensive cobalt pigment imported from the Persian regions, which is characteristic of this period.

**A MAGNIFICENT AND SUPERBLY
PAINTED BLUE AND WHITE 'PEONY SCROLL' MEIPING AND COVER**
YUAN DYNASTY (1279-1368)
17 5/8 in. (44.7 cm.) overall height
Estimate: HK\$20,000,000 – 30,000,000

Magnificent in size, exceeding 42cm in diameter, this extremely rare 'plantain tree' barbed-rim charger showcases a combination of several decorative techniques. It features 'blue-on-white' motifs in the center, reverse 'white-on-blue' motifs on the well, and additional molded decorations. Chargers with such intricate designs would have required significant cost and time to produce, resulting in only small quantities being made for the upper echelon of society. The inclusion of the barbed-rim shape further adds complexity to the design, enhancing its appeal to collectors.



**AN IMPORTANT AND EXCEEDINGLY RARE
BLUE AND WHITE 'PLANTAIN TREE' BARBED-RIM CHARGER**
YUAN DYNASTY (1279-1368)
16 3/4 in. (42.5 cm.) diam.
Estimate: HK\$20,000,000 – 30,000,000

CHRISTIE'S

AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS - MING DYNASTY



China's rich ceramic-making history reached a new height during the Ming dynasty when exclusive imperial kilns were established to serve the Emperor and his family. The imperial kilns in Jingdezhen, particularly during the Yongle (r. 1403-1425) and Xuande (r. 1426-1435) reigns, upheld rigorous standards, discarding any piece with even minor flaws. This meticulous process ensured that only the finest works graced the palace, resulting in the scarcity of surviving imperial porcelain from these periods. The two highlights below epitomise the most coveted and exquisite imperial blue and white porcelain from the esteemed Yongle and Xuande eras, cherished by connoisseurs for centuries since the late Ming dynasty.



**AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE AND OUTSTANDING
BLUE AND WHITE 'LADIES IN GARDEN' BOWL**
XUANDE SIX-CHARACTER MARK IN UNDERGLAZE BLUE WITHIN
A DOUBLE CIRCLE AND OF THE PERIOD (1426-1435)
7 ¾ in. (19.7 cm.) diam.
Estimate: HK\$15,000,000 – 18,000,000



**A MAGNIFICENT AND EXCEPTIONAL BLUE AND WHITE
'GRAPES' BARBED-RIM CHARGER**
YONGLE PERIOD (1403-1425)
17 ½ in. (44.5 cm.) diam.
Estimate: HK\$8,000,000 – 10,000,000

CHRISTIE'S

AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS - QING DYNASTY

Imperial porcelain from the Kangxi, Yongzheng, and Qianlong reigns in the 18th century showcases the pinnacle of technical excellence in Chinese ceramic production. During this period, a wealth of new glazes, enamels, and decorative techniques emerged. The three highlights below exemplify the diverse range of decorative styles found on Yongzheng and Qianlong imperial porcelains, including monochrome glazes, gilt enamels on colored grounds, and exquisite blue and white designs.



A MAGNIFICENT BLUE AND WHITE 'FLOWERS OF THE FOUR SEASONS' MOONFLASK
YONGZHENG SIX-CHARACTER SEAL MARK IN UNDERGLAZE BLUE AND OF THE PERIOD (1723-1735)
16 ¼ in. (41.5 cm.) high
Estimate: HK\$18,000,000 – 26,000,000



**AN EXCEPTIONALLY RARE AND EXQUISITE PAIR OF BLUE-GROUND
GILT-DECORATED 'MELON AND VINE' DOUBLE GOURD-FORM
VASES**

QIANLONG SIX-CHARACTER SEAL MARKS IN IRON RED AND OF THE
PERIOD (1736-1795)
11 3/8 in. (29 cm.) high
Estimate: HK\$16,000,000 – 22,000,000



**AN EXCEPTIONALLY WELL CARVED CELADON-
GLAZED 'KU/ DRAGONS' VASE**

QIANLONG IMPRESSED SIX-CHARACTER SEAL
MARK AND OF THE PERIOD (1736-1795)
12 3/8 in. (31.6 cm.) high

Estimate: HK\$12,000,000 – 20,000,000

CHRISTIE'S

NOTES TO EDITORS

Image Download Link: please click [here](#)

Public Preview:

Hong Kong | 5 – 7 Oct | Christie's Hong Kong Galleries, 22/ F, Alexandra House, 18 Chater Road, Central

Taipei | 21 – 22 Oct | Taipei Marriott Hotel, Grand Ballroom 3/F, No. 199 Lequn 2nd Road

Beijing | 5 – 6 Nov | China World Summit Wing, Ballroom B1, No.1 Jianguomenwai Avenue

Shanghai | 9 – 11 Nov | BUND ONE, 4/F, No.1 Zhongshan Dong Yi Road, Shanghai

Hong Kong | 25 – 30 Nov | Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, No.1 Harbour Road, Wanchai

**Preview dates subject to change*

Live Auction:

Hong Kong | 30 Nov | Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, No.1 Harbour Road, Wan Chai

PRESS CONTACTS

Victoria Chang | +852 2978 5319 | victoriachang@christies.com

Flora Fung | +852 2978 6876 | florafung@christies.com

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 [fully on-chain auction platform](#) dedicated to exceptional NFT art and manages [an investment fund](#) to support innovative startups in the art market. Christie's is also committed to advancing [responsible culture](#) throughout its business and communities worldwide. To [learn more](#), browse, bid, [discover](#), and join us for the best of art and luxury at [christies.com](#) 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.*

###

FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:

