

Sotheby's Asia Week New York Sales Achieve \$52.4 Million

908 Lots Sold Across 6 Auctions
Over 4,000 Visitors to Our Exhibitions

73.9% of Lots Sold,
60.35% of Sold Lots Exceed Their High Estimates



Maqbool Fida Husain
Untitled (Four Women)
Estimate \$400/600,000
Sold for \$936,500



**A Monumental Grey
Schist Figure of Seated
Buddha**
Estimate \$200/300,000
Sold for \$300,000



**Exceptionally Rare and Large
Fine Blue and White Decorated-
Reserve 'Peony' Dish**
Estimate \$1/1.5 million
Sold for \$2,172,500



Zhu Da
Flowers, Birds, Fish and Fruit
Estimate \$2.5/3.5 million
Sold for \$3,132,500

NEW YORK, 20 March 2017 – *Henry Howard-Sneyd, Chairman of Asian Art, Europe & the Americas, noted:* “In a thriving market for Asian Art in New York, we saw a strong series of auctions across all categories comfortably exceed pre-sale expectations. Our offerings this week were particularly diverse, with great prices for works from an early 3rd century Gandharan Grey Schist Figure of a Seated Buddha from the Cleveland Museum of Art to a Ming Dynasty Anhua-Decorated Tianbai-Glazed Meiping, Bada Shanren’s album of classical Chinese paintings to Maqbool Fida Husain’s

modern untitled painting of four women. The stage is truly set for our Hong Kong sales at the beginning of April.”

MING: THE INTERVENTION OF IMPERIAL TASTE

Total \$11.3 Million

Estimate \$9.7/13.7 Million

Angela McAteer, Head of Chinese Works of Art in New York, commented: "This was a great way to start our Asian Art sales in New York. This auction of treasures from the Ming Dynasty is an indicator of the tremendous global appetite for the highest-quality Chinese porcelain."



92.9% of Chinese porcelain of the highest quality sold in the opening sale of Sotheby's Asia Week New York sales, with 61.5% selling over their high estimates. From an **Exceptionally Rare Anhua-Decorated Tianbai-Glazed Meiping** (left) to an **Exceptionally Rare and Large Fine Blue and White Reserve-Decorated 'Peony' Dish** (first page), this themed-sale of carefully selected masterpieces from the 300-year reign of the Ming Dynasty honored the technical mastery and artistic vision of Chinese artisans and their Imperial Courts. (separate release available)

IMPORTANT CHINESE ART

Total \$10.9 Million

Estimate \$9/12.9 Million

This season's offering of Chinese Works of Art was led by an **Exceptional 'Jian' 'Nogime Temmoku' Tea Bowl** from the Southern Song Dynasty. The beautifully-potted work of art, with iridescent 'hare's fur' striations was sought by several bidders in the room, driving the final price to \$1.1 million (estimate \$500/700,000). The top lots of this sale illustrated



the diverse selection of property available to collectors of Chinese Works of Art: **Two Extremely Rare Famille-Rose Figures of Ksitigarbha** from the collection of Joan Oestreich Kend sold for \$492,500, triple the low estimate, while a **Gold and Silver-Inlaid Bronze Tapir-Form Vessel (Zun)** attracted a great deal of interest, flying past its \$20/30,000 pre-sale estimate to fetch \$492,500 (right).

INDIAN, HIMALAYAN AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN WORKS OF ART

Total \$4.7 Million

Estimate \$3.4/5.1 Million

Anu Ghosh-Mazumdar, Head of the Indian and Southeast Asian Art department in New York, commented: "We curated our Indian, Himalayan and Southeast Asian Works of Art sale to today's market and were pleased to see it demonstrate continued momentum in our collecting category."



With bids flying in from the United States, the Middle East, India and beyond, today's sale of Indian, Himalayan and Southeast Asian Works of Art saw interest for works of art ranging from the 3rd to the 19th century. Works from important collections, including property from the Cleveland Museum of Art and selections from the Lanier Collection, sold particularly well. **A Gilt-Bronze Figure of Tara** from a private East coast collection was pursued by several collectors, soaring past its pre-sale estimate of \$80/120,000 to achieve \$588,500 (left). (separate release available)

MODERN & CONTEMPORARY SOUTH ASIAN ART

Total \$6.6 Million

Estimate \$3.2/4.5 Million

Yamini Mehta, International Head of Indian and South Asian Art, noted: "Our commitment to India, through our highlights exhibition at the beautiful Leela Palace in Delhi and special events in Mumbai, London and New York, bore fruit this week, and we look forward to continuing to shape this market in our New York and London salesrooms in the years to come."

91.4% sold, with 67.9% of lots selling above their high estimate, paintings from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries had a strong performance at the only auction of Modern & Contemporary South Asian Art this week. The cover lot of the sale, Raja Ravi Varma's **Untitled (Damayanti)**, an iconic image known to many Indian households, attracted over five bidders in the room, online and on the phones. Estimated at \$500/700,000, this stunning oil on canvas sold for \$1,692,500 (right). This morning's sale also found significant prices for works by Maqbool Fida Husain, Sayed Haider Raza, and a new auction record for Horace van Ruith. (separate release available)



FINE CLASSICAL CHINESE PAINTINGS & CALLIGRAPHY

Total \$14.4 Million

Estimate \$8/11.2 Million

Rongde Zhang, Head of Sale for Classical Chinese Paintings in New York, commented:

“Provenance, literature and exhibition history continue to fascinate collectors, both new and old.

This season, offerings from private American collections drew particular interest: Xu Beihong's 'Lion' was a unique example having remained in the same private collection for over eighty years, having been gifted directly by the artist.”



Sotheby's Classical Chinese Paintings department continues to go from strength to strength, with today's sale of Fine Classical Chinese Paintings & Calligraphy achieving \$14,365,750. Led by Zhu Da's **Flowers, Bids, Fish and Fruit**, an ink on paper album of twelve leaves that sold for \$3,132,500 (first page, estimate 2.5/3.5 million), 88.2% of lots sold, with 73.1% of lots selling above their high

estimate. Competition remained fierce throughout the sale with the second-to-last lot, Xu Beihong's **Lion**, fetching \$828,500, far above its pre-sale estimate of \$150/200,000 (left).

SATURDAY AT SOTHEBY'S: ASIAN ART

Total \$4.49 Million

Estimate \$2.2/3.3 Million

[Different Paths: Explorations in Ink](#)

Open through 24 March 2016

Sotheby's Asian Art Sales Continue in Hong Kong

Exhibition Open 31 March 2017

Auctions 1-5 April 2017

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*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium and are net of any fees paid to the purchaser where the purchaser provided an irrevocable bid.

Images are available upon request

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