

COLLECT THIS CATALOGUE! MODERN & CONTEMPORARY EDITIONS AUCTION CATALOGUE BECOMES AN EDITION ITSELF BY INCLUDING 4 ORIGINAL PRINTS BY 4 ORIGINAL ARTISTS: HILARY HARKNESS, JAMES HYDE, WILLIAM POPE. L AND KAY ROSEN

NOVEMBER EDITIONS IS DOUBLE THE SIZE OF SUCCESSFUL SPRING DEBUT FOR PHILLIPS de PURY & COMPANY MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY EDITIONS

AUCTION DATE: November 23
OPENING RECEPTION: November 20
VIEWINGS: November 18-23

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York – October 24, 2008 – Following the resounding success of Phillips de Pury & Company's inaugural Editions auction, the **Modern and Contemporary Editions** Department is pleased to announce the highlights of its auction on November 23. A total of 327 lots will be offered. This popular sale presents the best of both Modern and Contemporary Editions in the populist spirit of "Living with Art" and offers affordable works by major artists.

PHILLIPS de PURY PRINT PROJECT: COLLECT THIS CATALOGUE!

Riffing from **Abbie Hoffman's** 1971 classic anti-establishment primer *Steal This Book*, **Kelly Troester** and **Cary Leibowitz**, Worldwide Directors of the Modern and Contemporary Editions urge you to "Collect This Catalogue!" by stamping the slogan on the forthcoming auction catalogue cover. The innovative November 2008 Editions catalogue itself becomes a collectible art book by including four original prints by four original artists. These unique works have been generously created for Phillips de Pury & Company:

Hilary Harkness, *Big Chicken Dinner*
James Hyde, *Build-out*
William Pope.L, *Three Signs (triptych)*
Kay Rosen, *You Can Do Anything*

Each collectible print is an offset lithograph on Mohawk Beckett paper and published in an edition of 7,100 (plus 100 artist's proofs). In keeping with the revolutionary catalogues of Phillips de Pury & Company, the Editions catalogue includes not only one, but two innovations. The book features a second catalogue cover of **Ed Ruscha's** *Various Small Fires* (1970), a lot within this sale, but also an evocative symbol of the images carefully placed in dialogue with each other throughout the catalogue. These juxtapositions illuminate the Editions Department's intent to educate, highlight and innovate. Finally, the phrase intimates at the the world beyond the book: the sparks of social, political and economic change which are currently ignited.

Always a rich source of information, the Editions catalogue is now a collectible – and at \$60, it's a steal!

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MAKING MODERN CONTEMPORARY

A key highlight of this sale is **Jean Dubuffet's** first and most iconic image from his group of 20 lithographs *Assemblages* titled *Personnage au costume rouge (Figure in Red)*, offered with a presale estimate of \$40,000-60,000. A second example from the early 1960s and same series, *Le Noctambule (The Sleepwalker)*, is offered at \$18,000- 22,000. Dubuffet used textured plates created for the *Phenomena Series* and added outlines of figures which constituted this new series – *Assemblages*. *Personnage* comes from a private American collection and was bought directly from Heinz Berggruen in Paris when it was issued.

Also offered is **Alexander Calder's** *Score for Ballet 1-100, from VVV Portfolio*, estimated at \$15,000 – 20,000. This early engraving from 1942 depicts Calder's underlying idea of staging movement. As the artist recorded in 1933, "Just as one can compose colors or forms, one can compose motions." Normally unsigned, this print was signed by the artist at his 1972 exhibition at Perls Gallery, New York.

Joan Miro's *La Femme aux Bijoux* is presented with an estimate of \$20,000-30,000. Executed in 1968 in a signature palette of vibrant colors, this is a dense and rich example of his larger silicon carbide engravings (carborundum) printed in Paris in the late 1960s.

Marc Chagall's *Paravent*, 1963 is a proof impression of a large 4-panel lithograph made into a standing screen, with both sheets an impressive 54 x 40". This example consists of the two left panels printed on one sheet and the two right on another and still includes the cut marks where they were to be sized. Chagall's two lithographs are presented as one lot, estimated at \$50,000 – 70,000. One *Paravent* panel features a fantastical landscape of the sun hovering above classic Chagall lyrical motifs: a glorious still life table, the cityscape, a mother and child. The second panel depicts a lush domestic interior with a view of the Eiffel Tower. The object originally belonged to the printer Fernand Mourlot.

In Phillips de Pury & Company's Modern and Contemporary Editions May sale, **Pablo Picasso's** ceramic jug *Face with Black Nose* sold for a record-breaking \$43,000, smashing the longstanding, 18-year old auction record. In the forthcoming November sale, 16 Picasso editioned ceramics will be offered: pitchers, cups, jugs and platters with estimates ranging from \$800 – 25,000.

Additional modern artists offered include **Henri Matisse, Fernand Léger, Henry Moore** and **Marino Marini**.

Works from the artists **Louis Lozowick, Fairfield Porter** and **Grant Wood** provide retro views of urban and rural 20th Century Americana: picture-perfect landscapes which now read as idyllic visions of another time, not so long ago.

CONTEMPORARY FOR ALL TYPES OF COLLECTORS

Topping the list of Contemporary highlights is **Jean-Michel Basquiat's** powerful *Back of the Neck*, one of the few prints accomplished during the artist's lifetime. This work references Basquiat's core themes: the disembodied self and scattered identity. Reigning over the motifs within this powerful artwork is the signature crown; below this an illustration of "SPINE," a point of both strength and vulnerability. From a small edition of 24, this 100" print has hand-applied additions in gold paint. *Back of the Neck*, executed in 1983, is offered with a presale estimate of \$180,000-\$250,000.

Female artists make a strong showing in this sale, including the premiere introduction at auction of the seminal artist **Hannah Wilke**. Wilke's assemblage *Handle with care*, 1987, consists of a photograph depicting the artist in conversation with birds, suspended from a fully-functioning thermometer. This work from the inimitable-yet-seminal Wilke is offered at \$1,000-1,500.

A notable group of works from the Brazilian artist **Beatriz Milhazes** is presented, including *As irmãs*, with an estimate of \$14,000-18,000. Armed with an unabashedly decorative battery of floral motifs and vivid, graphic shapes, Milhazes' screenprints speak a complex language of color en par with her role model **Henri Matisse**. This is Milhazes' first time at auction for editioned works. (continues p. 3)

The diverse spectrum of female artists represented in this auction includes: **Elizabeth Peyton, Vija Clemins, Ellen Gallagher, Kara Walker, Katharina Fritsch, Candida Höfer, Uta Barth, Ida Applebroog, Magdalena Abakanowicz, Sue Williams, Kiki Smith and Louise Bourgeois**, et al.

A strong section of **Pop** works are included, featuring classic **Andy Warhol** screenprints (including those from the **Property of Bob Colacello, East Hampton**) and images by **Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Indiana, Claes Oldenburg** and **Eduardo Paolozzi**. Lichtenstein's iconic *Sweet Dreams Baby!* from the *11 Pop Artists Portfolio* is offered at \$70,000 - \$90,000.

A one-of-a-kind and previously unrecorded trial proof by **Ed Ruscha** *Untitled (Elephant)*, 1986 is offered with an estimate of \$12,000-18,000. One of Ruscha's 1969 standard stations *Cheese Mold Standard with Olive* is estimated at \$30,000-40,000. Fellow Californian **Wayne Thiebaud** is highlighted by the masterful woodcut *Dark Cake*, offered with a presale estimate of \$30,000-50,000.

Glenn Ligon's *Narratives (Disembark) Suite* is offered with a presale estimate \$5,000-7,000. This complete set of signed etchings indelibly pits an individual narrative against a controversial, historical framework via the typography of erstwhile slave posters.

Additional contemporary artists presented in this sale include: **Bruce Nauman, Richard Prince, Damien Hirst, Gerhard Richter, Willem de Kooning, Robert Rauschenberg, Jasper Johns, David Hockney, Chuck Close, John Baldessari, Brice Marden, Sol LeWitt, William Kentridge, Tal R and Peter Doig**, amongst others.

Phillips de Pury & Company signs off for now with a concluding message of encouragement (as the forthcoming catalogue begins):

— “Viva Editions!” —

Auction:

November 23 at 2 pm

Opening Reception:

November 20 from 6-8 pm

Viewings:

November 18-23

M-Sat 10 am-6 pm; Sun 12 pm – 2 pm

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