

Art Market *Fairs & Auctions*

OBJECT LESSONS

An Italian Baroque #MeToo icon, Gerhard Richter's hands, a machine for sitting (do not dare to call it a chair) and a Chinese vase that could make a record—if the buyer pays up this time



Octovien de Saint-Gelais, Epistres d'Ovide (around 1493)

DR JÖRN GÜNTHER RARE BOOKS, TEFAF NEW YORK, 28-30 OCTOBER
€1.2M

This collection of Ovid's *Heroides*, translated into French for a teenaged Anne of Brittany, queen consort of France, includes the epic tales of Ariadne, Dido and Ononoe written from their perspectives as women suffering cruel fates wrought by greedy men. Anne, too, was despairing of her destiny after being forced to marry Charles VIII in order to secure the annexation of Brittany, which inspired Saint-Gelais to create this singular compilation, including eight full-page illuminations by the Master of the *Chronique scandaleuse*, one of which portrays Anne surrounded by her ladies in waiting. After passing privately through the hands of renowned medievalist collectors like Charles Steirn and Comte Albert de Naurusis, the manuscript makes its market debut at Tefaf. **M.C.**



Lucian Freud, Still Life with Zimmerlinde (around 1950)

CHRISTIE'S, LONDON, 4 OCTOBER: POST-WAR AND CONTEMPORARY ART EVENING AUCTION
ESTIMATE £400,000-£600,000

House plants play a prominent role in Lucian Freud's paintings; their leaves and stems often used to abstract effect in his compositions. The heart-shaped leaves of the zimmerlinde (or house lime) make repeat performances—in 1948, he depicted his first wife, Kitty Garman, peering out from behind a zimmerlinde branch in the *Girl with Leaves*. The following year, while still married to Garman, he met Lady Caroline Blackwood to whom this oil on canvas is dedicated: "For Caroline with all my love Lucian" is written on raw canvas at the lower left. Originally in Blackwood's collection, it was bought by the grandmother of the current owner in the 1950s. **A.B.**



Benedict Chukwukadibia Enwonwu, Ogolo (1989)

AFRICA NOW, BONHAMS, LONDON, 4 OCTOBER
ESTIMATE £200,000-£300,000

Considered the father of Nigerian Modernism, Enwonwu is well known for his monumental portraiture. Depicting a masked male figure, *Ogolo* was painted shortly after the death of the artist's brother, the funeral services for whom included a traditional masquerade ritual. The work is similar to the *Spirit of Ogolo*, which sold at Bonhams in 2016 for £218,500. That was, however, before Tutu (one of the artist's most significant portraits) appeared at the auction house in February. Though Tutu was estimated to fetch a price within the same range, it went for £1.2m to an unknown bidder, shattering the auction record for a work by any Nigerian Modernist and doubtless driving hopes upward for *Ogolo*. **M.C.**



Josef Hoffmann, Sitzmaschine armchair, produced by J&J Kohn (around 1907)

ALEXANDRE GUILLEMAIN AT PAD LONDON, 1-7 OCTOBER
AROUND €26,000

The *Sitzmaschine*—literally, a machine for sitting—was designed by the Wiener Werkstätte co-founder Josef Hoffmann in 1905 for the Purkersdorf Sanatorium in Vienna, and has since become an emblem of Vienna Secession design. The reclining chair was designed to be easy to produce and, says the dealer Alexandre Guillemain, "it is the first object to claim a functionalist approach. Its geometric forms and the simplicity of its conception presage the founding principles of the Modern movement." This example is from the first edition—other chairs from the edition are in the collections of the V&A Museum, the Musée d'Orsay and MoMA, among others. **A.B.**



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Auction March 13, 2019

INQUIRIES: Grace Fitts | 267.414.1254 | gfitts@freemansauction.com

ROMAN MARBLE HEAD OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT AS HELIOS
CIRCA 2ND CENTURY AD
Estimate: \$10,000-15,000

ROMAN MARBLE TORSO OF THE "SPINARO"
1ST CENTURY AD
Estimate: \$30,000-50,000

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