

SOTHEBY'S PARIS SALES CONCLUDE FOR THE SEASON, HAVING REALISED A YEAR TO DATE TOTAL OF €87.3 MILLION (\$138 million / £69 million)

- PARIS 2008 YTD TOTAL REPRESENTS A 104% INCREASE OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR

PARIS, THURSDAY JULY 3 2008 – Sotheby's summer season of sales concluded this evening, bringing total sales for Sotheby's Paris thus far this year to €87,326,898 (\$138,063,826 / £69,171,636) an increase of 104% on the same period last year.

Guillaume Cerutti, Président-Directeur Général, said: *"The tremendous results we have seen this year at Sotheby's Paris confirm, beyond any doubt, that Paris is now fast in the ascendant as a major selling centre for quality material in all categories, including those of Impressionist, Modern and Contemporary Art."*

The global nature of today's art market means that buyers from across the world are now happy to transact in Paris just as they do in London and New York. All of which is evidenced in the broad global spread of buyers we have seen active in our saleroom. This year, 18% of the lots sold by Sotheby's Paris went to buyers from the Americas, 7% to buyers from Asia, and 71% to buyers from across Europe (including Russia). Activity from French buyers remained strong."

Statistics:

- **Growth in sales value, not volume:**

YTD auction sales total €87,326,898 – a 104% increase over the same period last year (of €42,747,040 million). Notably, this year's vastly increased total was generated by exactly the same number of sales as was held over the same period last year (13).

- **Strength of single-owner collections:**
Of the 13 sales held at Sotheby's Paris this year, no fewer than six were single owner collections.
- **Selling categories in which Sotheby's France leads the field in 2008:**
Contemporary Art
Impressionist and Modern Art
Old Master and 19th-century Paintings
Furniture and Works of Art
Tribal Art
Books and Manuscripts
Silver
- **Broad geographical spread of buyers:**
Buyer breakdown – by lot – for all sales held at Sotheby's Paris thus far this year:
18% Americas (up on 14% last year)
34% France
37% Rest of Europe (inc. Russia)
7% Asia (up on 4% in 2007)
3% Middle East (up on 2% in 2007)
- **Increase in average lot value:**
The average value of the lots sold through Sotheby's Paris thus far this year stands at €58,530 – a 78% increase on last year (€33,000)
- 5 lots sold for over €2 million
9 lots sold for over €1 million
25 lots sold for over €500,000

Key moments:

Sales this year in Sotheby's Paris saleroom have been punctuated by exceptional prices, and exceptional records:

In Contemporary Art:

Georges Mathieu's *L'abduction d'Henri IV par l'archevêque Anno de Cologne*, 1958 Sold for €1,152,250

RECORD FOR THE ARTIST AT AUCTION

Joan Mitchell's *La Ligne de la rupture*, 1970-71

Sold for €3,840,250

SECOND HIGHEST PRICE FOR THE ARTIST AT AUCTION

Jean-Michel Basquiat's *Sans titre*, circa 1983

Sold for €1,992,250

RECORD FOR ANY WORK BY THE ARTIST SOLD IN FRANCE

In Furniture and Works of Art:

Pair of Celadon craquelé pot-pourri vases from the Kangxi dynasty, mounted in Louis XV period gilt bronze, 1740-1750

Sold for €2,272,250

AUCTION RECORD FOR A PIECE OF MOUNTED PORCELAIN

Old Master and 19th-Century Paintings and Sculpture

Jean-Léon Gérôme, *Corinthe*, circa 1903/4

Sold for €456,750

AUCTION RECORD FOR A SCULPTURE BY THE ARTIST

Pompeo Batoni, *Portrait du Baron François de Chambrier (1739-1781), Chambellan du Roi de Prusse*, 1771

Sold for €660,750

AUCTION RECORD FOR A WORK BY THE ARTIST

In African and Oceanic Art:

Important Salt Cellar, Sapi-Portuguese, Sierra Leone, 1488-1530

Sold for €1,296,750

AUCTION RECORD FOR A 16TH-CENTURY AFRICAN IVORY

In Books and Manuscripts:

9 exceptional manuscripts by André Breton, sold from the collection of Simone Collinet

Manifeste du surréalisme, Poisson Soluble, 7 notebooks in autograph manuscript

Sold for €3,616,250

AUCTION RECORD FOR ANY SINGLE GROUP OF LITERARY AUTOGRAPH MANUSCRIPTS EVER SOLD AT AUCTION

In 20th-century Decorative Arts

Jean Royère, 'Boule', or 'Polar Bear', 1963

Sold for €516,750

AUCTION RECORD FOR THE ARTIST

François Pompon, 'White bear', 1925

Sold for €264,750

AUCTION RECORD FOR THE ARTIST