

## \$75.6 MILLION ASIA WEEK AT SOTHEBY'S NEW YORK

CLASSICAL CHINESE PAINTINGS TOTALS \$26.7 MILLION

— Top Lot of Asia Week Across All of New York:

\$6.6 Million for Zhang Daqian's

**Water and Sky Gazing After Rain in Splashed Color** —

CHINESE WORKS OF ART ACHIEVES \$34 MILLION

— Led by \$3.1 Million Ming Dynasty Blue & White Ewer —

\$15 MILLION FOR INDIAN & SOUTHEAST ASIAN ART

— Highest Total in a Decade —



New York Headquarters Welcomes 5,000+ Visitors,  
With Saturday at Sotheby's Still to Come

Asian Art Auctions Continue with Hong Kong Spring Sales,  
Opening 28 March

**NEW YORK, 23 March 2018** – Eight days of exhibition, five days of sales and ten auctions of Asian art brought Sotheby's New York a total of \$75.6 million, exceeding its pre-sale estimate of \$50 million. Works of arts spanning over 3,500 years were sold to collectors in Europe, Asia and the Americas, including 14 lots over a million dollars. Auctions of Asian Art continue in Hong Kong with the Spring 2018 Sale Series opening to the public next week.

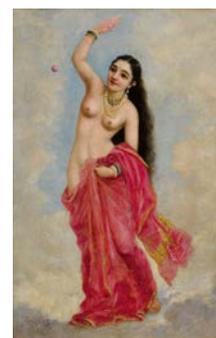
*Henry Howard-Sneyd, Sotheby's Chairman of Asian Art, Europe & the Americas, remarked: "We are delighted with the results from this week – one of the best-performing Sotheby's Asia Week sales series in recent history. Across all ten sales, with one more scheduled for tomorrow morning, we saw vigorous competition for works of art at all levels – approximately half of the works offered achieved above their high estimates, including several, such as the filigree gold ornament from the Portland Museum of Art and Zhang Daqian's monumental scroll, achieving multiples of their estimates."*

*Christina Prescott-Walker, Divisional Director for Asian Art at Sotheby's New York, noted: "Since the opening of our exhibition last week, we've welcomed over 5,000 visitors to our New York headquarters, filled with over a thousand works of art. From Imperial Chinese porcelain and modern paintings to exquisite Indian miniatures, we were thrilled to find our salesrooms packed with clients, even with a winter snowstorm brewing outside."*

#### MODERN & CONTEMPORARY SOUTH ASIAN ART

Sale Total: \$2,791,500

The first of three Indian & Southeast Asian Art auctions, Modern & Contemporary South Asian Art was led by Raja Ravi Varma's **Untitled (Tilottama)**, which achieved a robust price of \$795,000. Works by the artist – a National Art Treasure whose paintings are seldom offered at international auction – are cherished for their intersection of Western Academic Realism and Indian subject matter.



## MING: LUMINOUS DAWN OF EMPIRE

Sale Total: \$9,394,500



Dedicated to the first century of the Ming Dynasty, the first of the Chinese Works of Art auction at Sotheby's New York climbed to \$9.4 million, above its high estimate. The curated group was led by an **Exceptionally Rare and Important Blue and White Ewer**, Xuande Mark and Period. Emerging from the Detring / von Hanneken Collection – which has achieved \$3.8 million thus far, against a pre-sale estimate of \$752,500/1,033,500 – the elegant work of art from the 15<sup>th</sup> century sold to a private Asian collector for \$3,135,000.

## JINGYATANG: TREASURES OF CHINESE BUDDHIST SCULPTURE

Sale Total: \$3,033,000

The group of masterpieces of Chinese Buddhist sculpture from esteemed Asian private collection *Jingyatang* was highlighted by a **Carved Limestone Head of Avalokiteshvara**. From the Sui Dynasty, which lasted from 581 – 618 A.D., the bodhisattva of compassion found significant interest in the salesroom, selling for \$843,000, above its pre-sale high estimate.



## KANGXI: THE JIE RUI TANG COLLECTION

Sale Total: \$4,469,000



Personally selected by collector Jeffrey P. Stamen, 72 pieces of Kangxi porcelain from the *Jie Rui Tang Collection* sold for \$4.5 million, exceeding the pre-sale high estimate of \$3.8 million. The group was led by a **Large and Important Famille-Verte 'Investiture of the Gods' Rouleau Vase** from the Qing Dynasty, which established a new auction record for a Rouleau vase of this type; over the course of seven minutes, eight bidders competed for the *wucaï*-decorated vase, bringing the final price to \$1,575,000 (estimate \$400/600,000).

## INSPIRED: THE GERSON AND JUDITH LEIBER COLLECTION OF CHINESE ART

Sale Total: \$1,305,563

Assembled over seven decades, *The Gerson and Judith Leiber Collection of Chinese Art* was led by a **Rare Blue and White 'Luduan' Censer and Cover** from the Ming Dynasty. A direct reference for one of Mrs. Leiber's jewel-encrusted minaudières, the playful and majestic mythical creature soared above its pre-sale estimate of \$60/80,000 and fetched \$325,000.



## THE RICHARD R. & MAGDALENA ERNST COLLECTION OF HIMALAYAN ART

Sale Total: \$ 5,173,875



The top lot of this collection of rare and superb religious paintings spanning six centuries was a **Paubha Depicting a Krishna Temple**. From Nepal and dated 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> century, the large-scale painting attracted at least four bidders in the room and on the telephone; estimated at \$200/300,000, the painting sold to an institution for \$567,000.

## INDIAN, HIMALAYAN & SOUTHEAST ASIAN ART

Sale Total: \$6,911,250

With this final sale on Thursday afternoon, the Indian & Southeast Asian Art department at Sotheby's celebrated its highest results in over a decade. Their seasonal offerings of Indian, Himalayan & Southeast Asian Art were highlighted by a **Large and Rare Bronze Figure of Ekdashamukha Lokeshvara** from Tibet, 13th Century. The towering and glistening work of art sold to a private collector for \$1,635,000.



## THE CHEW FAMILY COLLECTION OF CHINESE PAINTINGS & CALLIGRAPHY

Sale Total: \$13,281,150



The top lot of Asia Week across all auction houses in New York emerged from the Chew Family Collection, which doubled its pre-sale estimate and totaled \$13.3 million. Zhang Daqian's vibrant **Water and Sky Gazing After Rain in Splashed Color**, an enormous scroll painting that made its public debut this March with exhibitions in San

Francisco, Los Angeles and New York, achieved \$6.6 million. This excellent price, a result of over five bidders competing for five minutes, is the highest price for a work by Zhang Daqian outside of Asia.

## FINE CLASSICAL CHINESE PAINTINGS & CALLIGRAPHY

Sale Total: \$13,453,250

Sotheby's New York's seasonal offering of Fine Classical Chinese Paintings achieved \$13.5 million, significantly above its high estimate of \$10.1 million. The sale was led by Zhou Chen's **Walking Along the Willow Bank**, an ink and color painting on silk from the Joe and Hellen Darion Collection. Estimated at \$100/150,000, the work attracted over eight collectors online, in the room and on the telephones. Following a fifteen-minute bidding battle, the 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> century painting sold to a private collector for a final price of \$1.9 million to applause.



FOR MORE NEWS FROM SOTHEBY'S

News & Video: <http://www.sothebys.com/en/news-video.html>

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/sothebys](http://www.twitter.com/sothebys)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/sothebys](http://www.instagram.com/sothebys)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/sothebys](http://www.facebook.com/sothebys)

Snapchat ID: sothebys

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/SothebysTV](http://www.youtube.com/SothebysTV)

Weibo: [www.weibo.com/sothebyshongkong](http://www.weibo.com/sothebyshongkong)

WeChat ID: sothebyshongkong

Sotheby's has been uniting collectors with world-class works of art since 1744. Sotheby's became the first international auction house when it expanded from London to New York (1955), the first to conduct sales in Hong Kong (1973), India (1992) and France (2001), and the first international fine art auction house in China (2012). Today, Sotheby's presents auctions in 10 different salesrooms, including New York, London, Hong Kong and Paris, and Sotheby's BidNow program allows visitors to view all auctions live online and place bids from anywhere in the world. Sotheby's offers collectors the resources of *Sotheby's Financial Services*, the world's only full-service art financing company, as well as the collection advisory services of its subsidiary, *Art Agency, Partners*. Sotheby's presents private sale opportunities in more than 70 categories, including S|2, the gallery arm of Sotheby's Global Fine Art Division, and two retail businesses, Sotheby's Diamonds and Sotheby's Wine. Sotheby's has a global network of 80 offices in 40 countries and is the oldest company listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE).

\*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

Browse sale catalogues, view original content, stream live auctions and more at [www.sothebys.com](http://www.sothebys.com), and through Sotheby's apps for iPhone, iPad, Android, Apple TV and Amazon Fire

# # #