

# Sotheby's EST. 1744

Milano | Wanda Rotelli | +39 02 29500202 | [wanda.rotelli@sothebys.com](mailto:wanda.rotelli@sothebys.com)

Media Release  
immediate release

For

**COLLECTORS AWARD QUALITY  
AND  
TAKE THE AUCTION TOTAL TO  
€17,500,500**

**96.7% BY VALUE  
88.6% BY LOT**



**AN EVENING ANIMATED BY LIVELY BIDDING WAS CROWNED BY  
TWO UNIQUE MASTERPIECES BY  
MARIO SCHIFANO  
WHICH REGISTERED TWO WORLD RECORDS.**

**WORLD RECORD FOR SERGIO LOMBARDO  
WORLD RECORD FOR GASTONE NOVELLI  
WORLD RECORD FOR ATANASIO SOLDATI**

**RECORD FOR A CERAMIC *CONCETTO SPAZIALE* IN THE SHAPE OF A RUGBY BALL  
BY LUCIO FONTANA  
RECORD FOR A CHESSBOARD (*DAMA*) BY ALIGHIERO BOETTI  
ITALIAN RECORD FOR HANS HARTUNG  
ITALIAN RECORD FOR CONRAD MARCA-RELLI**

**THE 1925 METAPHYSICAL PAINTING BY GIORGIO DE CHIRICO DOUBLED  
THE LOW ESTIMATE FETCHING €876,500**

### **MARIO SCHIFANO**

Among the stars of the sale were two unique works by Mario Schifano *Agosto 7, 1961*. This enamel, oil and charcoal on paper applied to canvas, 160 by 130 cm, is a historical painting exhibited in numerous fundamental exhibitions including that of Palazzo della Pilotta in Parma in 1974 and more recently in Tokyo, Spoleto, the Marconi Foundation in Milan, GNAM in Rome, the Accademia di Brera in Milan, Venice in 2016 and finally in London in 2018. The work came from a private Roman collection.

The other Schifano work, *Con Anima*, is one of just two and is dated 1965, the first years in which the artist moved away from monochrome works and established important relationships with renowned gallery owners such as Sidney Janis, Ileana Sonnabend and Giorgio Marconi.

*Con Anima* was also in the collection of Goffredo Parise who described the artist as follows:  
"The prince, a true Ahmed from a thousand and one nights was Mario Schifano ... now a

celebrated painter... he was an extremely handsome boy, a monkey, homeless, immediately brilliant, who painted with lightning speed..."

### **SERGIO LOMBARDO**

An active member of the Roman Pop Art scene, Sergio Lombardo, was included in the catalogue with a masterpiece in terms of technique and size. *J.F. Kennedy*, dated 1961/63; was sold for €275,000, from an estimate of €80,000 - €100,000, achieving a record for artist by a long mile.

### **GASTONE NOVELLI**

Another significant record was achieved by Gastone Novelli with *Nel cieco spazio* from 1964, which was already exhibited in New York at the Alan Gallery and came from a private Italian collection. In 1964, the same year in which the work was created, Novelli won an award at the Venice Biennale. The work fetched €360,500 from an estimate of €100,000 - €150,000.

### **ANASTASIO SOLDATI**

*Composizione* from 1936/37 was exhibited at the Venice Biennale in 1952 and at the Civic Gallery of Modern Art in Turin in 1969. After 1933 Soldati abandoned figurative painting and moved on to a style of subtle and pure geometry. From an estimate of €40,000 - €60,000 the work was acquired for €97,500 realising the record for the artist.

### **RECORD FOR TYPOLOGY OF WORK**

From the ceramic sculptures of the Hockemeyer Collection we note the *Concetto Spaziale* from 1966. This engraved polychrome glazed ceramic, nicknamed the 'Rugby Ball', was acquired for a record €648,500 (est. €100,000-150,000).

The *Dama*, meaning chessboard, by Alighiero Boetti from 1969 and of private provenance, one of the two most perfectly executed *Dama* and the only one with numbers, soared from an estimate of €60,000 - €80,000 to a total of €300,000.

### **HANS HARTUNG**

The magnificent large-scale 1961 work *T1962E21* by Hans Hartung - 95 by 250 cm - which was already exhibited in Monaco and the Saint-Paul de Vence Foundation with an estimate of €200,000 - €300,000 was sold for €612,500.

## **CONRAD MARCA-RELLI**

Another Italian record was achieved for the large canvas by Conrad Marca-Relli from 1959, recently exhibited at the Museo 900 in Milan in the show *New York New York Italian art: The rediscovery of America*. The oil collage on canvas, estimated at €80,000 - €120,000, was sold for €218,750.

## **GIORGIO DE CHIRICO**

Among the modern works was *Intérieur métaphysique* by Giorgio De Chirico, which was formerly in the Collection of Léonce Rosenberg. This oil on canvas from 1925 explores the characteristics of metaphysical painting through new figurative solutions. The painting was fiercely fought over in the room and on the telephones and almost doubled its estimate of €380,000 - €450,000, achieving €876,500.

## **CERAMICHE ITALIANE DALLA COLLEZIONE HOCKEMEYER**

The beautiful Hockemeyer Collection of Italian ceramics, which had already been exhibited at the Estorick Collection in London, tripled its pre-sale estimate, culminating in the sale of the large and rare baroque plate by Lucio Fontana, representing a battle which, from an estimate of €160,000 - €200,000 was sold for €504,500. The collection was almost 100% sold.

### DOWNLOAD IMAGES

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/y978w19ixnalqxp/AABdzi1d4uv\\_7r95SuBGillrEa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/y978w19ixnalqxp/AABdzi1d4uv_7r95SuBGillrEa?dl=0)

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.