

# PHILLIPS

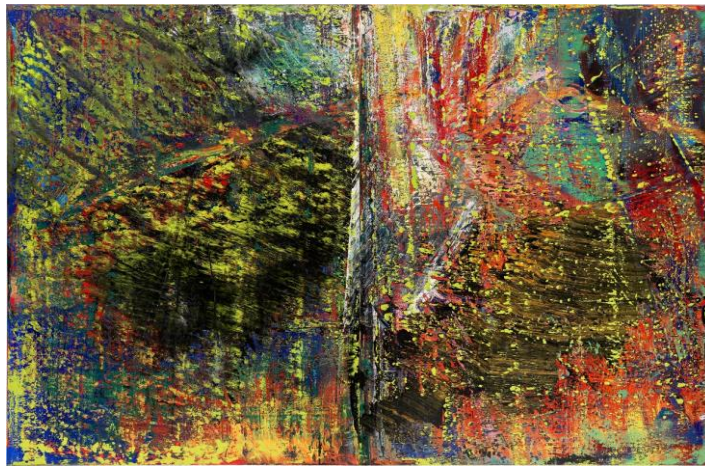
PRESS RELEASE

## Phillips Announces Highlights from the New York Evening Sale of 20th Century & Contemporary Art

Auction on 14 November to Feature Career-Defining Works by Artists Spanning the Breadth of the Category, Including Gerhard Richter, Joan Mitchell, Georg Baselitz, Henry Taylor, And More



Georg Baselitz  
*Ein Roter*, 1966  
Estimate: \$6,000,000-8,000,000



Gerhard Richter  
*Abstraktes Bild*, 1987  
Estimate Available Upon Request



Joan Mitchell  
*Blueberry*, c. 1962  
Estimate: \$9,000,000-12,000,000

NEW YORK – 31 OCTOBER 2023 – Phillips is pleased to announce highlights from the New York Evening Sale of 20th Century & Contemporary Art, with the full sale now available [online](#). Taking place on 14 November, directly following the highly anticipated dedicated auction, [Living the Avant-Garde: Works from The Triton Collection Foundation](#), the seasonal Evening Sale will feature a remarkable selection of thirty works by artists spanning the Modern, Post-War, and Contemporary movements, including Gerhard Richter, Georg Baselitz, Joan Mitchell, Pablo Picasso, and Henry Taylor. The exhibition at 432 Park Avenue will be open to the public from 4-14 November in the lead-up to the auction.

**Robert Manley, Deputy Chairman and Worldwide Co-Head of 20th Century & Contemporary Art**, said, “The sales assembled by Phillips this season are a true testament to the strength of our team, our relationships across the industry, and the depth and breadth of our expertise. Our strategy at Phillips has always been to embrace the entirety of the 20th and 21st centuries, matching the demands of our collecting community. With career-defining examples by Gerhard Richter and Joan Mitchell alongside such storied works from The Triton Collection Foundation, we are proud to present a group that so wonderfully encapsulates all that the market has to offer.”



Gerhard Richter  
*Abstraktes Bild*, 1987  
 Estimate Available Upon Request

Leading the auction is **Gerhard Richter's** exceptional *Abstraktes Bild*, [announced](#) earlier this season. Painted in 1987, the work is over thirteen feet wide and nearly nine feet tall, making this one of the largest works from Richter's oeuvre to ever be offered at auction. With Richter's unique use of the squeegee, a tool he began using for abstract work just one year prior, the artwork captures the movement of the artist's body through the painting process, and expands his wider philosophy of artistic creation as a vital and hopeful act. Besides the present work, there is only one other *Abstraktes Bild* created in 1987, of similarly epic scale, which resides in the Museu Coleção Berardo, Lisbon.

Evening Sale with important examples by some of the most significant figures in the movement. Among the top lots in the sale is **Joan Mitchell's** *Blueberry*, a work that perfectly exemplifies the artist's painting practice in the early 1960s, along with the formal innovations and emotional ferocity that brought her the respect of her international peers. Having proven herself as a formidable talent in the New York Abstract Expressionist scene of the 1950s, Joan Mitchell moved permanently to France in 1959 and set out to establish her reputation in Europe as an excellent painter in her own right. *Blueberry* stands as a record of Mitchell's determined self-expression, and represents her embrace of oil paint itself as her source of inspiration in the early 1960s. While she had some solo exhibitions in Paris in her first few years in France, it wasn't until her 1962 exhibition, *Joan Mitchell: Ausstellung von Ölbildern*, at Klipstein und Kornfeld, which included *Blueberry*, that Mitchell truly arrived at the height of her powers. Phillips' sale marks the first time that the work will be offered publicly at auction.

Post-War works of art figure prominently in the



Joan Mitchell  
*Blueberry*, c. 1962  
 Estimate: \$9,000,000-12,000,000



Georg Baselitz  
*Ein Roter*, 1966  
 Estimate: \$6,000,000-8,000,000

Self-portrait and icon at once, **Georg Baselitz's** *Ein Roter*, will also be featured in the Evening Sale. The work is a masterpiece from the artist's *Hero* series, and was painted in his West Berlin studio in 1966. Taking on the visual tropes of academic history painting, and the Romantic landscapes of Caspar David Friedrich, *Ein Roter* presents a hero for the Post-War era: an ambivalent figure devoid of national pride. The work's inclusion in a 1968 exhibition of Baselitz's work is markedly early for a *Hero* painting—the group was not shown comprehensively until 1973—suggesting that the artist held this painting in esteem as representative of the series.

Also among the Post-War works to be featured in the auction are **Helen Frankenthaler's** *Fire* and **Lynne Drexler's** *Seasonal Green*, both of which are being offered for the first time at auction. *Fire*, which has remained in the same private collection for fifty years, is now being sold to benefit the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College, and *Seasonal Green* presents the peak of Drexler's unique style of the late 1960s.



**Pablo Picasso's** *Tête d'homme et nu assis* is exemplary of many of the pictorial and thematic concerns that characterized the artist's late career. The work is one of the final variations on a subject that preoccupied the artist in the autumn of 1964 – Jacqueline Roque, his last love and muse. Executed the same day as a similar painting now held in Princeton University Art Museum, the present work shows Picasso contemplating his role as both a painter and lover.



Pablo Picasso  
*Tête d'homme et nu assis*, 1964  
Estimate: \$1,800,000-2,500,000

In a strategy long-embraced by Phillips, works by artists creating today will also be included in the sale, alongside these Modern and Post-War masters. Among such works are **Ambera Wellmann's** *Ritz*, **Lucy Bull's** *Dark companion*, **Jadé Fadojutimi's** *Quirk my mannerism*, and **Henry Taylor's** *Government Cheese*, the sale of which coincides with Taylor's widely acclaimed solo exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (which traveled from the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles). Painted in 2003 and based on his brother's mugshot, *Government Cheese* was prominently featured in Taylor's first museum solo exhibition at The Studio Museum, Harlem, in 2007.



Helen Frankenthaler  
*Fire*, c. 1964  
Estimate: \$2,000,000-3,000,000



Jadé Fadojutimi  
*Quirk my mannerism*, 2021  
Estimate: \$600,000-800,000



Henry Taylor  
*Government Cheese*, 2003  
Estimate: \$100,000-150,000



Lynne Drexler  
*Seasonal Green*, 1969  
Estimate: \$300,000-500,000



Lucy Bull  
*Dark companion*, 2020  
Estimate: \$400,000-600,000

**Auction:** 14 November 2023

**Auction viewing:** 4-14 November 2023

**Location:** 432 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022

**Click here for more information:** <https://www.phillips.com/auctions/auction/NY010723>

## ABOUT PHILLIPS

Phillips: where the world's curious and bold connect with the art, design and luxury that inspires them. As a leading global platform for buying and selling 20th and 21st century works, Phillips offers dedicated expertise in the areas of Modern and Contemporary Art, Design, Photographs, Editions, Watches, and Jewelry. Auctions and exhibitions are primarily held in New York, London, Geneva, and Hong Kong, with representative offices based throughout Europe, the United States and Asia. Phillips offers a regular selection of live and online auctions, along with items available for immediate purchase. Phillips also offers a range of services and advice on all aspects of collecting, including private sales and assistance with appraisals, valuations, and financial planning.

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*\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium; prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium.*

## PRESS CONTACTS:

NEW YORK – Jaime Israni, Head of PR and Corporate Communications, Americas [jisrani@phillips.com](mailto:jisrani@phillips.com)

PHILLIPS NEW YORK – 432 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022

PHILLIPS LONDON – 30 Berkeley Square, London, W1J 6EX

PHILLIPS HONG KONG – G/F, WKCD Tower, West Kowloon Cultural District, No. 8 Austin Road, West Kowloon

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