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PRESS RELEASE

Phillips' Modern & Contemporary Art Day Sale to Highlight a Diverse Range of Blue-Chip Artists and Emerging Talents

Auction on 15 May to Feature Works by Helen Frankenthaler, Andy Warhol, Robert Motherwell, and André Derain Amongst Contemporary Artists Anish Kapoor, Mark Bradford, and Calida Rawles' Auction Debut



Helen Frankenthaler
Spirits of Wine, 1972
Estimate \$1,200,000 – 1,800,000



Anish Kapoor
Random Triangle Mirror, 2016
Estimate \$400,000 – 600,000
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NEW YORK – 30 APRIL 2024 – Phillips is pleased to present a focused selection of artworks in the upcoming Modern & Contemporary Art Day Sale on 15 May in New York. The auction presents a curated grouping of exceptional works from Post-War and Modern artists such as **Helen Frankenthaler**, **Robert Motherwell**, **Andy Warhol**, and **André Derain** as well as contemporary artists **Anish Kapoor**, **Eric Fischl**, and **Henry Taylor**. Additionally, the sale will feature works by some of the most sought-after artists working today, such as Calida Rawles and Jenna Gribbon, among others. The auction will commence with the Morning Session at 10am ET, followed by the Afternoon Session at 2pm ET, taking place at 432 Park Avenue. Comprised of over 270 lots, the public exhibition will be available for viewing from 4-14 May, with the complete online catalogue for the Morning Session accessible [here](#) and for the Afternoon Session [here](#).

Annie Dolan and **Patrizia Koenig**, Co-Heads of the New York Day Sale of Modern & Contemporary Art, said, "We are delighted to welcome collectors into our New York galleries for Phillips' Modern & Contemporary Art Day Sale, as we feature late 19th and 20th-century stalwarts alongside contemporary blue-chip and emerging artists. We are also pleased to present works from distinguished Private Collections and Estates, including those of Inger and Osborn Elliott, Eugene and Dorothy Prakapas, and the Turner Family Collection. Following Phillips' landmark exhibition *New Terrains: Contemporary Native American Art*, we are excited to foreground works by indigenous artists such as **Emmi Whitehorse**, **Jaune Quick-to-See Smith**, and **Fritz Scholder** in the Morning Session, and **Jeffrey Gibson** and **Raven Halfmoon** in the Afternoon Session. Both Whitehorse's and Gibson's works are currently on view as part of the 60th Venice Biennale."

Morning Session

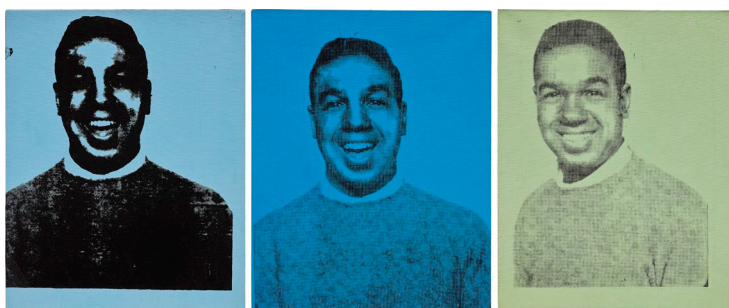
Leading the Morning Session is **Helen Frankenthaler's** *Spirits of Wine* from 1972 [illustrated page one], a captivating exploration of color, line, and space. This masterpiece, which has remained in the same collection since 1975, measures almost six feet tall and showcases Frankenthaler's innovative soak-stain technique. Her transition from thinned oil paint to diluted acrylic ten years prior removed residual halos and allowed her to seamlessly integrate different pigments – here seen in the green borders, giving way to orange fields and a pink central passage. *Spirits of Wine* has not been seen by the public since the landmark exhibition *America Now* held at the Minneapolis Institute of Art in 1976.



Robert Motherwell
Hollow Men Series, 1989
Estimate \$600,000 - 800,000

Hollow Men Series by **Robert Motherwell** from 1989 was painted just two years before the artist's death. Born out of the Spanish Civil War, Motherwell's renowned *Elegies* paved the way for this series, consisting of approximately 33 works and named after a 1925 poem by T. S. Eliot which explores themes of hopelessness and redemption following World War I. Rendered in varied shades of amber, the figures in *Hollow Men Series* embody a Surrealist tendency that defines Motherwell's late practice.

Andy Warhol's three 1963 portraits of cabaret singer Bobby Short capture the subject's vibrant personality in vivid colors. Warhol painted only nine canvases of Short; four of these paintings, along with the original photobooth strip upon which they are based, are now held in the permanent collection of the Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh. Warhol used photobooth strips as source material from 1963 to 1966, right before he discovered the Polaroid camera. Short, a symbol of New York culture, performed at the famous Café Carlyle for nearly 50 years, attracting audiences including royalty, movie stars, presidents, and socialites. Short's candid portrayal in Warhol's paintings cements Warhol as a pivotal figure in 20th-century portraiture.



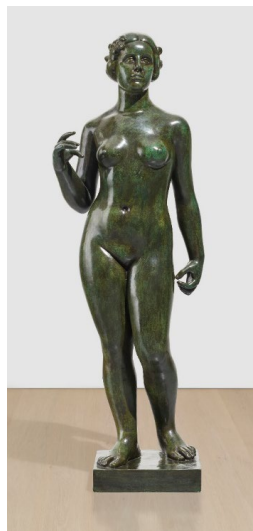
Andy Warhol
Three works: (i-iii) *Bobby Short*, 1963
Estimate \$600,000 - 800,000

Following the department's rebranding to Modern & Contemporary Art, Phillips will offer a selection of high-quality Impressionist and Modern artworks in the Morning Session. Fauvist paintings and drawings by artists such as **André Derain**, **Maurice de Vlaminck**, **Henri Matisse**, and **Raoul Dufy** will be complemented by a major bronze sculpture, *La nymphe aux fleurs*, by **Aristide Maillol**, and a petite yet significant early still life by **Pablo Picasso** from 1908, titled *Tasse et bananes*.

Presenting a distinguished selection of artworks from important estate collections, the sale includes Property from the Estate of Inger and Osborn Elliott, known for their contributions to New York City's cultural scene. Together, they amassed a remarkable collection, including rare early works by artists such as **Willem de Kooning**, **Wassily Kandinsky**, and **Milton Avery**, alongside many other innovators of modern and post-war art. In addition to the Elliotts' collection, Phillips is pleased to feature Property from the Estate of Eugene and Dorothy Prakapas, pioneering gallerists known for their adventurous curatorial approach. Proceeds from their collection will benefit the Eugene and Dorothy Prakapas Scholarship Fund at Yale University, honoring the memory of Thomas C. Mendenhall. Works from their Estate include those by **Picasso**, **Fernand Léger**, **Willi Baumeister**, and **Howard Hodgkin**.



André Derain
Les remparts à Montreuil-sur-mer, 1909
Estimate \$300,000 - 500,000



Aristide Maillol
La nymphe aux fleurs,
Conceived in 1931 and cast by
the Alexis Rudier Foundry in
Paris before 1952
Estimate \$600,000 - 800,000



Willem de Kooning
Still Life, circa 1929
Estimate \$150,000 - 250,000

Afternoon Session

A testament to Phillips' reputation as the auction house for cutting-edge contemporary art, the Afternoon Session will debut artists **Calida Rawles**, **Raven Halfmoon**, **Basil Kincaid**, **Jamea Richmond-Edwards**, and **Marco Pariani** to auction. Phillips is proud to showcase a diverse range of artworks by women artists: from emerging talent such as **Ambera Wellman**, **Tammy Nguyen**, **Jenna Gribbon**, **Issy Wood**, **Marina Perez Simão**, and **Caroline Walker**, to established artists **Barbara Kruger**, **Pat Steir**, **Lisa Yuskavage** and **Cecily Brown**.



Calida Rawles
Pillar, 2018
Estimate \$20,000 - 30,000

Kicking off the Afternoon Session is **Calida Rawles'** highly anticipated debut piece, *Pillar*, from her celebrated *Water Dancer* series. Rawles, known for her profound exploration of the Black female experience in America, brings her visionary perspective to life in *Pillar*, which envisions a liberated space within the depths of water. This debut coincides with Rawles' first museum solo exhibition at Pérez Museum, scheduled to open in June 2024. Another highlight is **Francesca Mollet's** *Sancreed*, 2020. This piece marks Mollet's first larger-scale work to come to auction since Phillips achieved the artist's auction record in October 2023.

Among the standout lots in the auction is **Jeffrey Gibson's** *MAKE ME FEEL IT*, 2015. Gibson brings a unique perspective to contemporary Native American art, drawing on personal experiences, cultural heritage, and social commentary to create works that resonate deeply with viewers. Gibson's work coincides with his selection to represent the United States at the prestigious 60th Venice Biennale.



Jeffrey Gibson (Choctaw/Cherokee)
MAKE ME FEEL IT, 2015
 Estimate \$40,000 - 60,000



Julie Curtiss
D'après l'Origine du monde, 2016
 Estimate \$120,000 - 180,000

The sale will offer a grouping of works that reprise art history through a uniquely contemporary lens, including

Julie Curtiss' *D'après l'Origine du monde*, 2016. A seminal example, the painting presents a crux in the artist's practice in which the braided hair motif for which she is now known became more stylistically defined. Confronting the legacy of Gustave Courbet's *Origine du monde*, Curtiss reinterprets the 19th-century icon by replacing the verisimilar fleshiness with her signature hair—thereby challenging the male gaze and complicating traditional notions of the body as a mere object of desire.



Titus Kaphar
Pushing Back the Light, 2012
 Estimate \$120,000 - 180,000

In a similar vein, **Titus Kaphar's** *Pushing Back the Light*, 2012, offers a profound reevaluation of Claude Monet's *Woman with a Parasol – Madame Monet and Her Son*, 1875. Originally exhibited at the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., in 2010 alongside the original, Kaphar's work emerges as one of his most significant pieces to appear at auction. Following the auction record Phillips achieved this spring for artist **Kehinde Wiley**, Phillips is excited to present *After Memling's Portrait of Jacob Obrecht*, 2013, one of only eight intimately scaled wood panel portraits the artist created as part of a series referencing 15th-century Flemish painter Hans Memling. Taking a key position in Wiley's oeuvre, the series was most recently exhibited at The National Gallery in London in 2021-22.

Included among the top lots is **Anish Kapoor's** *Random Triangle Mirror*, 2016 [illustrated page one], which showcases the artist's mastery of light and form.

Mark Bradford's *Starin' Through My Rear View*, 2006, is a discrete, domestically-scaled example of the artist's celebrated oeuvre and notably references the eponymous 1996 Tupac (2pac) Shakur song. Constructed from everyday materials

found on the streets of Los Angeles, including posters, advertisements, and flyers, Bradford's work is deeply rooted in the urban environment. This connection to his surroundings allows Bradford to reflect subtly on the history, social structures, and lived experiences of Los Angeles, both conceptually and physically.

Additionally, **Eric Fischl's** *Motel* is a significant diptych from the artist's seminal year of 1984. Fischl's enigmatic work captures the essence of suburban life, exploring themes of intimacy, desire, and isolation with his characteristic blend of ambiguity and emotional depth.



Mark Bradford
Starin' Through My Rear View, 2006
 Estimate \$350,000 - 450,000

Auction: 15 May 2024, Morning Session 10am EDT & Afternoon Session 2pm EDT

Auction viewing: 4 - 14 May

Location: 432 Park Avenue, New York, NY, United States, 10022

Click here for more information on the Morning Session: <https://www.phillips.com/auctions/auction/NY010424>

Click here for more information on the Afternoon Session: <https://www.phillips.com/auctions/auction/NY010524>

ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



Emmi Whitehorse (Diné)
Canyon Lake I, 2001
Estimate \$12,000 - 18,000



Caroline Walker
Washing Line, Early Morning, May, 2020
Estimate \$150,000 - 200,000



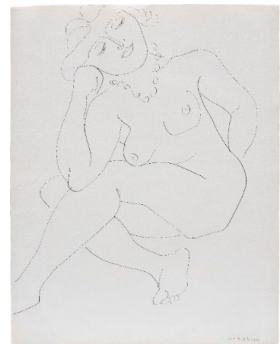
Francesca Mollett
Sancreed, 2020
Estimate \$40,000 - 60,000



Charles Alston
Black and White #7, 1961
Estimate \$150,000 - 200,000



Richard Serra
Untitled, 1987
Estimate \$400,000 - 700,000



Henri Matisse
Nu assis ou femme au collier, 1937
Estimate \$250,000 - 350,000



Eric Fischl
Motel, 1984
Estimate \$300,000 - 500,000

ABOUT PHILLIPS

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

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