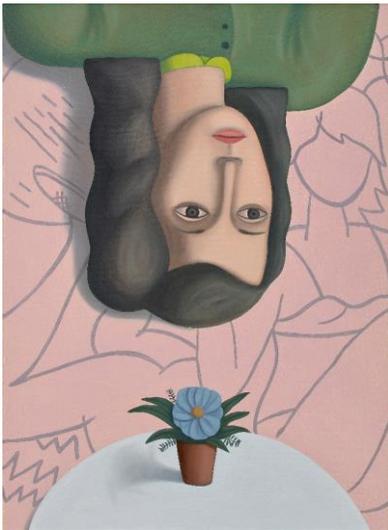


PHILLIPS

PRESS RELEASE

Phillips Announces Highlights for First New York Auction of 2020

New Now Sale on 4 March Features Works by Peter Halley, Ed Clark, Noah Davis, Kerry James Marshall, Njideka Akunyi Crosby, and More



Jonathan Gardner
Daisy, 2014
Estimate: \$20,000-30,000



Noah Davis
In Search of Gallerius Maximumianus, 2009
Estimate: \$60,000-80,000



Ebony G. Patterson
Untitled Species I, 2010-2011
Estimate: \$15,000-20,000

NEW YORK - 11 FEBRUARY 2020 – Phillips is pleased to announce highlights from the first New York auction of 2020, *New Now* on Wednesday, 4 March. The sale will feature nearly 200 works spanning the 20th and 21st centuries, showcasing a wide breadth of creative output from large scale painting to intimate drawings that span multiple genres including figuration, still-life, and abstraction. Highlights include works by emerging artists alongside more established names such as Ebony G. Patterson, Jonathan Lyndon Chase, Noah Davis, and Jonathan Gardner, as well as Peter Halley, Ed Clark, Njideka Akunyi Crosby, and Alex Katz among others.

“I’m thrilled to present this extraordinary group of works from top artists in 20th century and contemporary art alongside emerging artists,” states Samuel Mansour, Head of New Now, New York. “The New Now sales have come to be viewed as a bellwether of the market and, on the heels of our record breaking sale in September, we are confident that the momentum will continue into 2020. We are pleased to present such a great selection of fresh to market material, including Ed Clark’s *Untitled (Acrylic #1)* from his *Louisiana* series and Ebony G. Patterson’s *Untitled Species I*, as well as iconic works by the likes of Julian Schnabel and Noah Davis who is currently showing at David Zwirner. *New Now* embodies a forward thinking approach to collecting that resonates with our clients and remains a key growth category for Phillips.”

Among the top lots of the sale is Ed Clark's *Untitled (Acrylic #1)* from the *Louisiana* series of 1978. The work is the largest and one of the earliest paintings by Clark ever to come to auction. Employing his signature technique of translating a place into abstract form and color, Clark captures the beauty of returning to his home state of Louisiana. The canvas is comprised of three distinct sections – seemingly representative of the earth, air, and water of the Delta region – that also meld together, evoking the ways in which the Delta can seemingly be all three at once. This auction marks the first time that the work is being offered, after having been gifted by the artist to the present owner.



Ed Clark
Untitled (Acrylic #1) from the series *Louisiana*, 1978
 Estimate: \$200,000-300,000



Kerry James Marshall
Preliminary Sketch for Black Painting, 2002
 Estimate: \$30,000-40,000

Two preparatory works on paper that explore themes of identity through intimacy and the black American experience will also be offered in March – Kerry James Marshall's *Preliminary Sketch for Black Painting*, 2002, and Njideka Akunyili Crosby's *Untitled*, 2011. In an effort to rectify the absence of black subjects in Western art history, these artists introduce new figures with intimate narratives and complex social motifs. In Marshall's work, a precursor to his thought-provoking *Black Painting*, which is in the permanent collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, he displays a couple under the warmth of their covers. However, underlying this romantic scene, Marshall illustrates a December night in 1969 when Chicago Police invaded the home of the former chairman of Illinois' Black Panther Party and subsequently murdered him and his pregnant wife. Unarmed and vulnerable, this couple represents the common mistreatment of black Americans – even in the most unlikely and secure of spaces.

Refusing to accept invisibility, Njideka Akunyili Crosby's work readily showcases her own personal experience as a Nigerian immigrant living in America. The interior setting in *Untitled*, 2011, depicts the artist and her husband making love as her bolded black silhouette hovers over his abstracted white-skinned posterior. Parallel to Marshall's persistence in carving out a place for black figures in art history, Crosby attempts to extinguish persisting and destructive stereotypes about African Americans. Through sensitive and personal representation, she encourages the education and understanding of different cultures.



Njideka Akunyili Crosby
Untitled, 2011
 Estimate: \$40,000-60,000



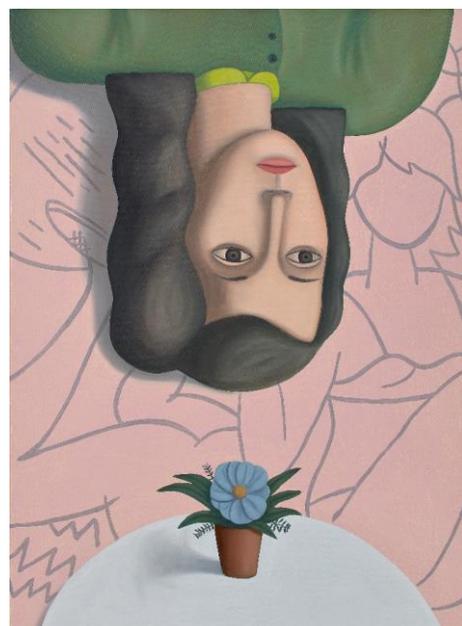
Ebony G. Patterson
Untitled Species I, 2010-2011
Estimate: \$15,000-20,000

Ebony G. Patterson's *Untitled Species I* hails from her seminal *Species* series (2020-2011), which explores concepts such as the transformation of the body and gender through the lens of Jamaican dancehall culture. *Untitled Species I* presents a glitter-encrusted male portrait, investigating the ways in which young black men shape their identity within Jamaican culture. Patterson boldly references skin bleaching, a century-spanning fashion in Jamaica, as well as addresses ideas on gender norms with her use of glitter and rhinestones, in addition to the painted red lips and floral embellishments used. The painting has been exhibited at the Studio Museum and The Perez Art Museum.

being challenged and overturned. Chase's compositions are comprised of black queer men that Chase incorporates to create a compositional fantasy informed by his own life experiences, pornography, books, social media, and dreams. The multi-limbed figure in his *Untitled* painting squats square up to the viewer but looking askance demanding to be recognized while refusing to present a definitive reading. Chase's portraits challenge the viewer to reconsider the underlying systems that have been internalized as "established norms" by society for too long.



Jonathan Lyndon Chase
Untitled, 2016
Estimate: \$10,000-15,000



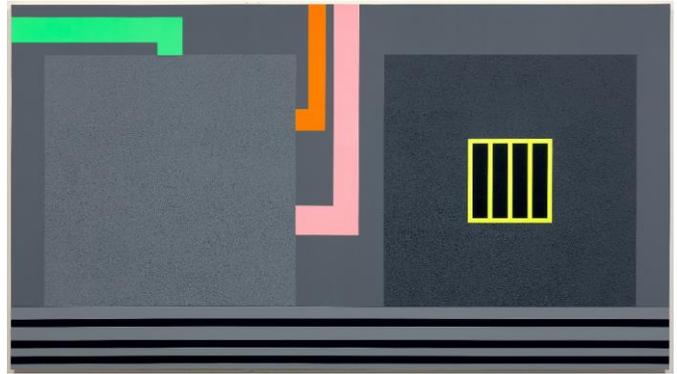
Jonathan Gardner's *Daisy*, painted in 2014, pays homage to 20th century references, including surrealist absurdity and cubist deconstruction in a decidedly contemporary and engaging composition. Depicting an inverted female bust hovering over a singular potted flower, *Daisy* illustrates how Gardner melds the influences of his canonical predecessors to form his own imminently recognizable and stunning aesthetic. Drawing from such influences as Matisse's cut-outs and Magritte's distinct objects in surreal interiors, *Daisy* distorts the viewer's perception of a narrative within the composition. His ability to synthesize a contemporary figurative aesthetic in the 21st century illustrates the persistent interest in the manner in which viewers (and an artist) perceive representational art and with it their own natural world.

Jonathan Gardner
Daisy, 2014
Estimate: \$20,000-30,000

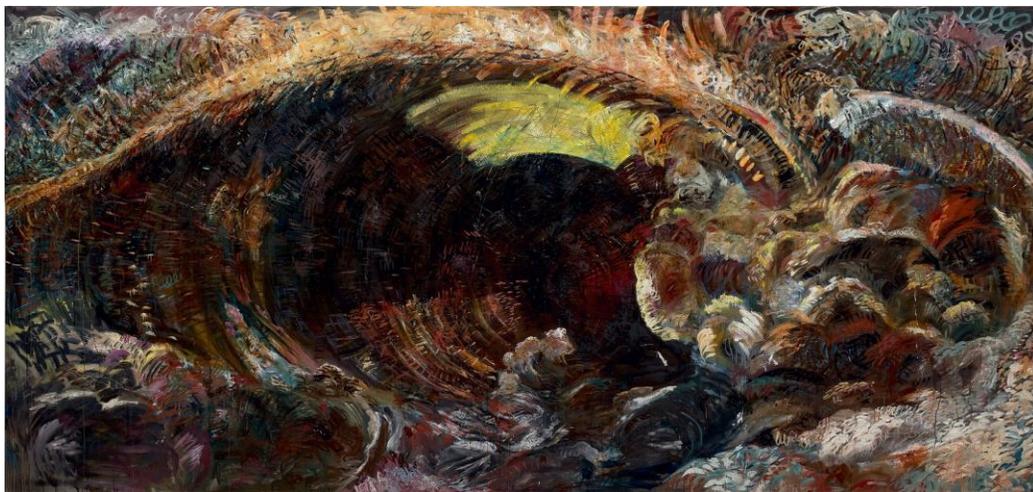
Additional Highlights



Alex Katz
Untitled (Still Life), circa 1955
Estimate: \$50,000-70,000



Peter Halley
Nowhere, 1992
Estimate: \$250,000-350,000



Pat Steir
The Wave (after Courbet, as though painted by an Italian Baroque Painter), 1986
Estimate: \$120,000-180,000



Julian Schnabel
Angela, 1982
Estimate: \$70,000-100,000



Nicolas Party
Untitled (Landscape), 2013
Estimate: \$60,000-80,000



Richard Prince
Untitled (Nurse), 2008
Estimate: \$100,000-150,000

Auction: 4 March 2020

Auction viewing: 24 February-3 March 2020

Location: 450 Park Avenue, New York

Click here for more information: <https://www.phillips.com/auctions/auction/NY010120>

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