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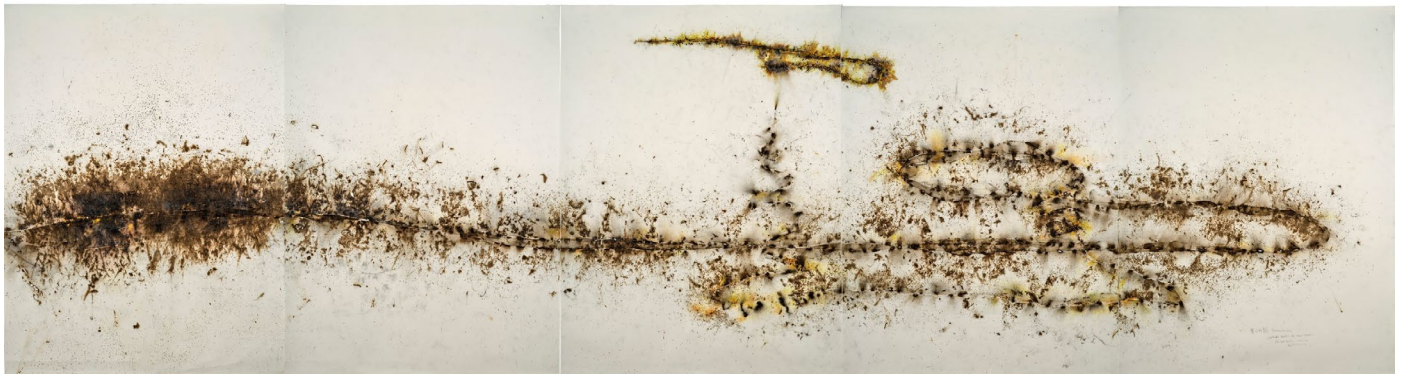
PRESS RELEASE

Phillips' Hong Kong Fall Sales Present Exceptional Works Across 20th Century & Contemporary Art

Evening Sale on 6 October to be Led by Yoshitomo Nara, Nicolas Party, Liu Ye, Zao Wou-Ki and Cai Guo-Qiang

Day Sale on 7 October to Feature Strong Examples by In-Demand and Emerging Artists

Multiple Asia Auction Debuts Across Evening and Day Sales



HONG KONG – 25 September 2023 – Phillips is pleased to announce that their Hong Kong Sales of 20th Century & Contemporary Art are now available for viewing online. The [Evening Sale](#) will take place on 6 October, and the [Day Sale](#) will take place on 7 October at the company's new Asia Headquarters in the West Kowloon Cultural District. Featuring an exceptional group of Modern works by 20th Century Chinese masters, alongside lots by Post-War, Contemporary and Ultra-Contemporary artists, the sales represent a great depth of cross-category offerings to cater to the diversifying taste of today's collectors. The public exhibition of the works will open on 28 September and will be on view through 6 October.

Jonathan Crockett, Chairman, Asia, Phillips, said, "Our carefully assembled Hong Kong Fall Auctions of 20th Century & Contemporary Art bring some of the rarest works from each artist's oeuvre to the fore and continue to spotlight artists from around the world who are newer to the secondary market in Asia. To ensure that Asian artists

get their deserved spotlight, this season, we have increased the proportion of works by Asian artists across Evening and Day Sales. Alongside the extraordinary work by Yoshitomo Nara leading the auctions, we have outstanding works by a broad spectrum of Asian masters including Liu Ye, Zao Wou-Ki, Cai-Guo Qiang, Lee Ufan, Chu Teh-Chun, Zeng Fanzhi, Yayoi Kusama, and Park Seo-Bo. Also standing in dialogue are works by a new generation of Asian artists such as Chris Huen Sin Kan, Fang Yuan, Oh de Laval and Elaine Chiu.”

Leading Highlights from the Evening Sale

As [previously announced](#), leading the Evening Sale is a fresh-to-the-market work by **Yoshitomo Nara**, [No Means No](#). Created in 2006, the work exemplifies the height of Nara’s artistic prowess from its rarest period. This exceptional canvas has been featured in various exhibitions around Europe, most notably one of the artist’s most significant site-specific exhibitions up to date named *Yoshitomo Nara + graf: A-Z Project*. As testament to *No Means No*’s superb quality, Nara’s other stylistically and thematically linked canvases executed in the same year have already found homes in the most prestigious international institutions.

Nicolas Party’s top ten results at auction have all been set in the past three years, which is indicative of the continuing strength of the artist’s market. As [previous announced](#), *Still Life with an Olive* highlighted in this season’s Evening Sale is an exquisite example of Party’s captivating interpretation of everyday objects and scenes. First unveiled at the artist’s 2013 solo show at The Modern Institute in Glasgow, the present work is one of a few oil works by the artist to ever be offered at auction.



Liu Ye
The End of Baroque, 1998
acrylic on canvas, 200 x 170 cm.
Estimate: HK\$18,000,000 -
28,000,000/US\$2,310,000-3,590,000

Iconic Works by 20th Century & Contemporary Chinese Masters

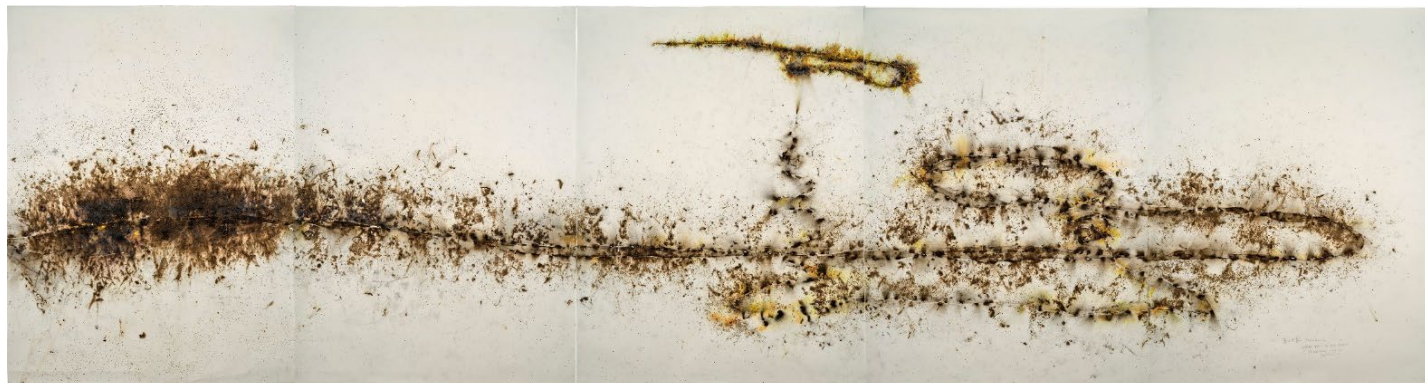


Zao Wou-Ki
10.05.76, 1976
oil on canvas, 115.8 x 88.7 cm.
Estimate: HK\$12,000,000 - 20,000,000/
US\$1,540,000-2,560,000

Among the Evening Sale highlights is **Liu Ye**’s monumental *The End of Baroque*. Its size is formidable and rare: less than 30 works of such height have come to auction, and none of this scale has been seen on the market this year. The visual lexicon of this work is undeniably rich and layered, as with the rest of Liu’s creations. Inexplicably, the view is surrealistically framed by white windows that swing out towards the vista outside. To our bottom left is a solitary figure who looks on, unperturbed by this seascape, surreal and catastrophically beautiful. Painted in 1998, a few years after the artist’s return to his native China, *The End of Baroque* signals the close of an era and the dawn of new beginnings.

The Evening Sale also includes a strong selection of abstract works by 20th Century Chinese masters, led by **Zao Wou-Ki**’s *10.05.76*. Painted in 1976, the present work moves away from the signature central-axis composition of the Hurricane period and the wild, flowing style of cursive calligraphy that characterised the 1960s. In contrast to the rich colour layerings of Zao’s previous works, *10.05.76* heavily features hefty areas of earthy paint meticulously deployed with the artist’s new approach of evoking thin ink washes to achieve soft tonal gradations. In the early 1970s, Zao was advised by his friend the poet Henri Michaux to re-explore Chinese ink and paper, and to leave behind his preferred large format canvases with their vast expanses of space that demanded hours in the studio. In part to care for his increasingly bed-bound and ailing wife

May (who passed away in 1972), in part due to his own inner-turmoil and desperation for a new creative outlet to distract himself.



Cai Guo-Qiang

Ye Gong Hao Long (Mr. Ye Who Loves Dragons), 2003
gunpowder on paper, in 5 parts, overall 400 x 1500 cm.
Estimate: HK\$9,000,000 - 14,000,000/ US\$1,150,000-1,790,000

This summer, **Cai Guo-Qiang**'s work was the subject of his major retrospective exhibition in Tokyo. A spectacular example of the artist's signature methodology, Cai's *Ye Gong Hao Long (Mr Ye Who Loves Dragons)* offered in this season's Evening Sale is one of two 'gunpowder drawings' produced during the Explosion Project for Tate Modern in London commemorating Chinese New Year in 2003. At once conceptual, performative, and visual, *Ye Gong Hao Long (Mr Ye Who Loves Dragons)* features a dragon caught mid-air, its undulating silhouette formed by blotches of ash and gunpowder, and it surpasses any categorial constraints, fluctuating between ephemerality and permanence. From the 1990s onwards, dragons have become a constant motif of Cai's, and notably, the long, winding characteristic of his gunpowder paintings and explosions recall the traditional Chinese dragons, representing auspicious symbols of strength and fortune in the East.

Auction Debut Season in Asia

A testament to the company's reputation as the auction house for cutting-edge contemporary art, Phillips is delighted to introduce several new names to the Asian market for the first time, including Ebecho Muslimova, Miriam Cahn, Robin F. Williams, Sarah Cunningham, Elaine Chiu, Honor Titus, and El Anatsui.

Renowned for her vividly cerebral portraits of commanding female figures, **Robin F. Williams**' paintings explore the complex interplay between gender and power in American visual culture. *Leave Britney Alone* presented in this season's Evening Sale is based on Britney Spears' captivating [performance](#) of 'I'm a Slave 4 U' which headlined the 2001 MTV Video Music Awards.



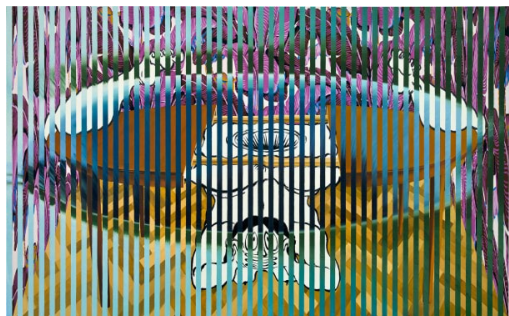
Robin F. Williams

Leave Britney Alone, 2019
oil on canvas, 109.2 x 152.4 cm.
Estimate: HK\$1,200,000 - 2,200,000/ US\$154,000-282,000

Making her first major auction debut, **Ebecho Muslimova** achieved recent acclaim after her solo exhibition in London and her first institutional show in New York in 2021. During her time as an undergraduate, the artist created *Fatebe* (Fat + Ebe [her nickname])—initially conceived as a caricature of herself to reflect the artist's state of mind and the world around her. In her current practice, *Fatebe* has matured beyond a simple self-portrait and *FATEBE SINKHOLE* presented in the Evening Sale is a sardonic display of the female nude.

Boldly unapologetic throughout her impressive career spanning across five decades, Swiss-born artist **Miriam Cahn** does not shy away from the depiction of controversial imagery in her thought-provoking body of work. Taking inspiration from the world around her under the influence of the feminist movements of the 1970s and 80s, Cahn's enigmatic figurative canvases are often set in nightmarish dreamscapes, filled with visceral depictions of violence, horror, and tragedy. *o.t.* offered in this season's Evening Sale is a dazzling large-scale example of the artist's multi-standing nude figures showcasing a powerful physical expression of violence and victimisation.

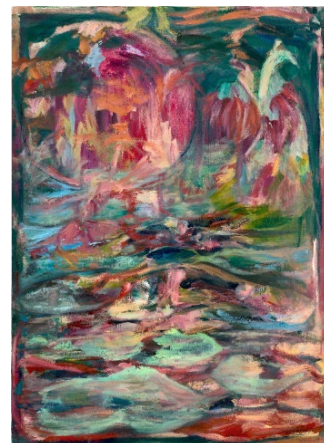
Born in 1993, British artist **Sarah Cunningham** has captured the attention of the art world, celebrated as an artistic force to be reckoned with for her gestural paintings of psychological landscapes imbued with poetic and intuitive approaches. Arresting in its stylistic virtuosity, *Lunar Phase* offered in the Day Sale is a prime example Cunningham's semi-abstract landscapes composed of richly vibrant colours and expressive swirls of paint.



Ebecho Muslimova
FATEBE SINKHOLE, 2020
 acrylic and oil on canvas, 152.4 x 243.8 cm.
 Estimate: HK\$250,000 - 450,000/ US\$32,100-57,700



Miriam Cahn
o.t., 2017
 oil on canvas, 185 x 180 cm.
 Estimate: HK\$1,000,000 - 2,000,000/
 US\$128,000-256,000

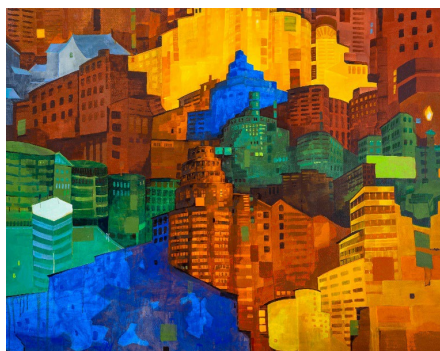


Sarah Cunningham
Lunar Phase, 2020
 oil on canvas, 179.8 x 130.1 cm.
 Estimate: HK\$ 350,000 - 550,000/US\$44,900-70,500

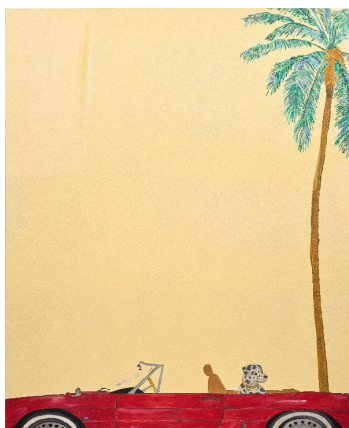
This season's Day Sale marks Hong Kong artist **Elaine Chiu**'s international auction debut, with a brilliantly vibrant painting *A Wonderful World* created for the sale. At just 27 years old, she has already cemented an impressive reputation as one of the city's most exciting young talents, with her impactful work earning her a coveted spot on Forbes' 30 Under 30 Asia list for 2023 in the arts category.

Also marking his auction debut in Asia in this season's Day Sale is **Honor Titus**, a self-taught American artist whose paintings often depict faceless figures in minimal urban landscapes, reflecting the sense of isolation and loneliness that results from a condition of anonymity in the urban environment.

Regarded as one of the most significant living African artists working on the continent, the Ghanaian artist **Ei Anatsui** is the recipient of the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement of the 56th International Art Exhibition of the Biennale di Venezia, 2015. A wonderful editioned example of the Anatsui's bottle cap tapestries, which the artist has devoted his artistic practice to since the late 1990s, *Diaspora* offered in this season's Day Sale captures Anatsui's signature wide, shimmering curtains in compact form.



Elaine Chiu
A Wonderful World, 2023
 acrylic on canvas, 115 x 145 cm.
 Estimate: HK\$40,000 - 60,000/ US\$5,100-7,700



Honor Titus
Tom Hanks at Lassens, 2019
 oil on canvas, 218 x 180 cm.
 Estimate: HK\$300,000 - 450,000/
 US\$38,500-57,700

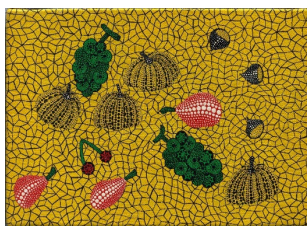


Ei Anatsui
Diaspora, 2012
 archival dyes printed on cotton, hand stitched, 135 x 135 cm.
 Estimate: HK\$200,000 - 300,000/ US\$25,600-38,500

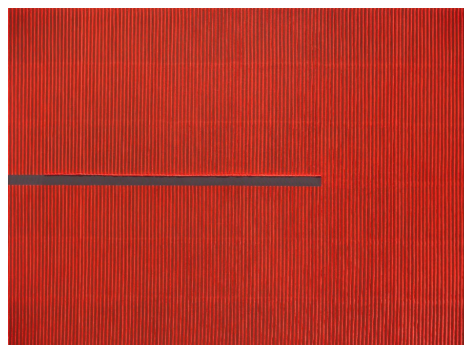
Other Highlights from the Day Sale



Zeng Fanzhi
Landscape, 2005
oil on canvas, 145 x 223 cm.
Estimate: HK\$2,500,000 - 3,500,000/ US\$321,000-449,000



Yayoi Kusama
A Field of Phantom, 1995
acrylic on canvas, 16 x 23 cm.
Estimate: HK\$2,000,000 - 3,000,000/ US\$256,000-385,000



Park Seo-Bo
Ecriture No. 110507, 2011
mixed media and Korean paper on canvas,
169 x 230.5 cm.
Estimate: HK\$1,800,000 - 2,800,000/
US\$231,000-359,000

Images: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/vbvz01b9m3ggazinisuxh?rlkey=hjegdgp7tzcyt87ztjfgd7kn&dl=0>

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Hong Kong Fall Sales of 20th Century & Contemporary Art

Evening Sale: 6 October 2023, 7 pm HKT

Day Sale: 7 October 2023, 11am HKT

Public Exhibition: 28 September – 6 October 10am-7pm HKT

Location: G/F-3F, WKCDA Tower, West Kowloon Cultural District, No. 8 Austin Road West, Kowloon, Hong Kong

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ABOUT PHILLIPS

Phillips is a leading global platform for buying and selling 20th and 21st century art and design. With dedicated expertise in the areas of 20th Century and Contemporary Art, Design, Photographs, Editions, Watches, and Jewelry, Phillips offers professional services and advice on all aspects of collecting. Auctions and exhibitions are held at salerooms in New York, London, Geneva, and Hong Kong, while clients are further served through representative offices based throughout Europe, the United States and Asia. Phillips also offers an online auction platform accessible anywhere in the world. In addition to providing selling and buying opportunities through auction, Phillips brokers private sales and offers assistance with appraisals, valuations, and other financial services. Visit www.phillips.com for further information.

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