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PRESS RELEASE

## Phillips' London Photographs Auction Achieves £2.4 Million, With Strong Prices Achieved for Helmut Newton: Provocateur Photographs from the Collection of Simon de Pury

Several World Auction Records Achieved, Including Those for Seiji Kurata, Sangbin IM and Harry Cory Wright

London, 16 May 2024

Sale Total: £2,445,131 / \$3,098,225 / €2,849,800

Lots Sold: 137 | Lots Offered: 169

Sold by Lot: 81% | Sold by Value: 87%



**Vanessa Hallett, Deputy Chairwoman, Americas, and Worldwide Head of Photographs, and Peter Sumner, Deputy Chairman, Europe, and Senior International Specialist, Modern & Contemporary Art**, said, “We were thrilled by the enthusiastic response to Helmut Newton: Provocateur: Photographs from the Collection of Simon de Pury, which was 96% sold and marked a celebration of de Pury’s remarkable collection and enduring friendship with Helmut Newton. An unparalleled tribute to Newton’s legacy, this was the most exceptional collection of Newton photographs to grace the market. We saw great demand from the international collecting community for works including *Celia, Miami*, which sold for £107,950, *Leaving Las Vegas*, which sold for £88,900, and *Saddle II, Paris*, which sold for £73,660. Our journey with Simon has been truly inspiring and it has been an honour for Phillips to present these extraordinary works at auction.”

**Yuka Yamaji, Head of Photographs, Europe, and Rachel Peart, Head of Department, London**, said, “We are pleased with the result of £2.4 million achieved today. During the sale we saw great strength of bidding in the room, on the phone and online from over 300 collectors taking part in the sale from over 30 countries worldwide. Leading our top ten is Irving Penn’s remarkable *The Palm of Miles Davis, New York* which soared to £152,400, over three times the low estimate. Also featured in the top ten is Mario Testino’s celebrated 2001 portrait of Kate Moss which sold for £114,300, almost double the pre-sale low estimate, and Seiji Kurata’s 1975 *Tattooed Man*, which sold for £69,850, more than three times the pre-sale low estimate and a world auction record. The 19th edition of ULTIMATE saw Sangbin IM’s *Times Square* achieve a world auction record, testament to the demand for unique fresh-to-market works by exceptionally talented visual artists. We look forward to continuing this momentum as we prepare for our inaugural Editions, Photographs and Design auction in Hong Kong on 14 June.”

## Top Ten Lots

Lot	Description	Estimate	Price Achieved
58	Irving Penn, <i>The Palm of Miles Davis, New York, 1986</i>	£40,000 – 60,000	£152,400 \$193,106/€177,622
37	Mario Testino, <i>Kate Moss, London, 2001</i> <b>SECOND HIGHEST PRICE ACHIEVED</b>	£60,000 - 80,000	£114,300 \$144,830/€133,217
153	Helmut Newton, <i>Celia, Miami, 1991</i> <b>WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR THIS IMAGE</b>	£25,000 - 35,000	£107,950 \$136,783/€125,816
142	Helmut Newton, <i>Leaving Las Vegas, 1998</i> <b>WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR THIS IMAGE</b>	£40,000 - 60,000	£88,900 \$112,645/€103,613
130	Helmut Newton, <i>Saddle II, Paris, 1976</i>	£40,000 - 60,000	£73,660 \$93,335/€85,851
16	Seiji Kurata, <i>入墨の男 [Irezumi no otoko] Tattooed Man from Flash Up, 1975</i> <b>WORLD AUCTION RECORD</b>	£20,000 - 30,000	£69,850 \$88,507/€81,410
143	Helmut Newton, <i>Battleship, Monte Carlo, 1993</i> <b>WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR THIS IMAGE</b>	£15,000 - 25,000	£66,040 \$83,679/€ 6,970
144	Helmut Newton, <i>Monte Carlo, 1986</i>	£15,000 - 25,000	£66,040 \$83,679/€76,970
103	Nick Brandt, <i>Elephant Drinking, Amboseli, 2007</i>	£60,000 - 80,000	£57,150 \$72,415/€66,608
131	Helmut Newton, <i>Two Pairs of Legs in Silk Stockings, Ritz Hotel, Paris, 1979</i>	£18,000 - 22,000	£55,880 \$70,806/€65,128

## New Auction Records

Lot	Description	Estimate	Price Achieved
8	Sangbin IM, <i>Times Square, 2005</i> <i>*previous record price: 7,500 USD set in 2016</i>	£15,000 - 25,000	£15,240 \$19,311/€17,762
16	Seiji Kurata, <i>入墨の男 [Irezumi no otoko] Tattooed Man from Flash Up, 1975</i> <i>*previous record price: 56,250 GBP set in 2017</i>	£20,000 - 30,000	£69,850 \$88,507/€81,410
29	Harry Cory Wright, <i>West Across the Minch, Peterburn, Wester Ross, 2006</i> <i>*previous record price: 11,250 GBP set in 2011</i>	£6,000 - 8,000	£12,065 \$15,288/€14,062

\*Lots 3, 35 and 69 were sold after the lot closed, whilst the sale was ongoing and are therefore included in the total sale result.

Exchange Rate on 16 May 2024: GBP£1 = \$1.2671, €1.1655

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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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