



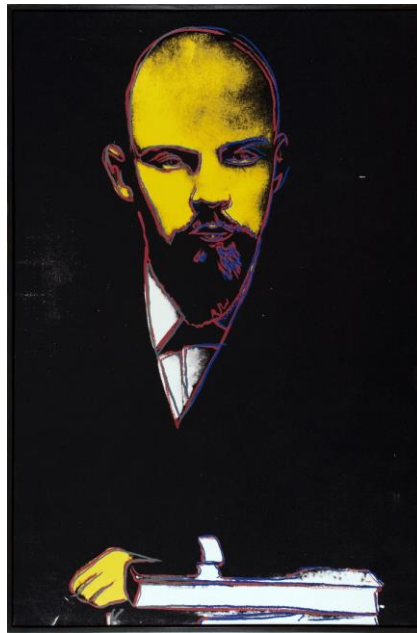
PRESS RELEASE

**Phillips Announces**

## ***Andy Warhol's Lenin***

**A Selling Exhibition of Works from the Archive of Galerie Klüser**

**Open to the Public from 26 September to 4 October 2019**



**Andy Warhol**  
*Lenin, 1986*  
acrylic and silkscreen on canvas

LONDON - 1 AUGUST 2019 - Phillips is pleased to announce *Andy Warhol's Lenin*, a selling exhibition that brings together original works on canvas, collages and works on paper from the Archive of Galerie Klüser. As Andy Warhol's publisher and gallerist, Galerie Klüser has been at the forefront of the global art scene and the collection represents a historical artefact of the American pop artist's relationship to portraiture. Bernd Klüser was instrumental in exposing Warhol to Lenin's image at a later stage in the artist's career. As this series of nine works demonstrates, Bernd Klüser encouraged Warhol to experiment through different media to develop the portrait image. The exhibition opens to the public from 26 September to 4 October 2019, and highlights will be on display in Phillips' Berkeley Square galleries during the September Editions auction preview from 5 to 12 September.

Warhol's last series of pictures before he died took Lenin as its subject. Bernd Klüser's collaboration with the artist concerning this subject started in the spring of 1986, when he showed Warhol an unusual photograph of Lenin. The

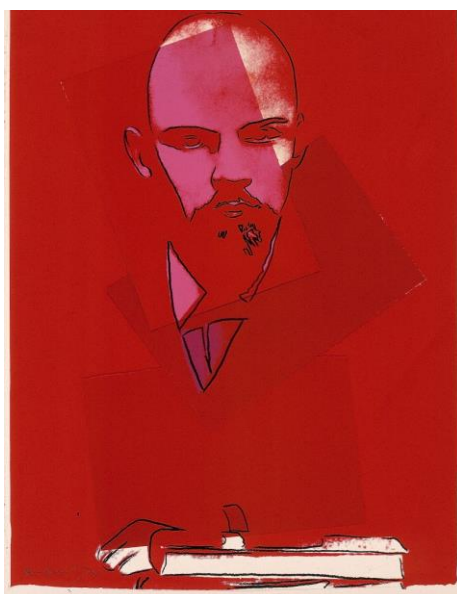
photograph portrayed Lenin as a self-assured, forceful young man; a pile of book indicating his occupation as an intellectual and political theorist.

**Bernd Klüser** recalls, “We had already been planning for two years to cooperate on a project which was to strike out in a new direction: instead of reproducing the stereotyped icons of everyday life in America, Warhol would be confronted with an image which went against the grain of his usual preoccupations. By virtue of both its content and its formal quality, the photograph of Lenin seemed ideal for this purpose.”

Warhol understood the defining myths of his generation and how reproduced images served to both reflect and shape contemporary life. By appropriating the silkscreen as a fine art medium, Warhol forever altered printmaking in the late twentieth century. *Andy Warhol's Lenin* comprises eight prints and silkscreens, and one work on canvas from this series.

**Anne Schneider-Wilson, Senior Specialist, Editions**, said, “We are proud and excited to host this exceptional group of works from The Klüser Collection. To be able to show nine works from the *Lenin Series*, which Bernd Klüser Galerie commissioned Andy Warhol to produce in 1986, is exceptional. This series of works marks an ambitious project just before Warhol's death in 1987, truly capturing the depth of his exploration of different media and experimental working practice.”

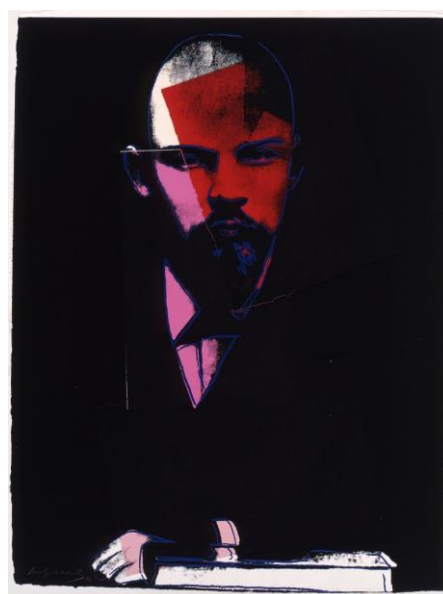
Across four decades, Bernd Klüser has worked closely with a number of artists including Enzo Cucchi, Tony Cragg, Jannis Kounellis, Mimmo Paladino, and Andy Warhol, since the founding of Galerie Schellmann & Klüser” in 1978—which first focused on Joseph Beuys’ prints and editioned artworks—to the creation of Galerie Bernd Klüser in 1985.



**Andy Warhol**  
*Lenin, 1987*  
collage, silkscreen on hand made paper



**Andy Warhol**  
*Lenin, 1986/7*  
silkscreen on paper (violett Monoprint)



**Andy Warhol**  
*Lenin, 1986/7*  
collage, silkscreen on hand made paper

**Exhibition:** 26 September – 4 October, 2019

**Location:** 30 Berkeley Square, London

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