

**B L A C K B I R D**

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IN ASSOCIATION WITH

**B A C S & R U S S O**

PRESS RELEASE

## **Phillips in Association with Bacs & Russo Announces Partnership with Blackbird**

### **for Significant Thematic Spring Auction in Hong Kong**

**Auction to take place at JW Marriott Hong Kong on 27 May 2019**

HONG KONG – 14 February 2019 – Phillips in Association with Bacs & Russo is pleased to announce a groundbreaking partnership with Blackbird and its founder Mr. TK Mak for a thematic evening sale in Hong Kong on 27 May, featuring exceptional sports watches. As the first time partnering with an Asia based collector, the auction will offer a prominent mixture of models and references from the modern and vintage eras, with an emphasis on the best quality and provenance.

Aurel Bacs, Senior Consultant, and Thomas Perazzi, Head of Phillips Watches, Asia jointly said: “Following the success of our Hong Kong sales over the previous four years, we are delighted to present an additional thematic auction this spring, highlighting the significance of Asia market in the world of watch collecting. Phillips has organized well recognised thematic sales including Rolex Milestones, Glamorous Day-Date, Daytona Ultimatum, Heuer Parade, Start-Stop-Reset, and the Winning Icons. And now we are pleased to be the first ever auction house partner for Blackbird and TK, welcoming an entirely new audience as we celebrate the convergence of collectors’ watches and the world’s most recognisable luxury performance sports cars. We look forward to welcoming the international community of watch collectors to the auction in Hong Kong.”

Mr. TK Mak, Founder and Chairman of Blackbird Automotive Group said: “It is a pleasure to be able to bring elements of our signature Blackbird aesthetic and design language to the auction market through this collaboration with Phillips in Association with Bacs & Russo. As a committed cross-discipline collector, I understand the need for a fresh, modern perspective on the visual identity of the traditional auction catalogue format, and look forward to being able to realise my vision for this. It’s a privilege to be able to work together with the highly regarded team from Phillips on all elements of the sale. With the best interests of the watch collecting world at heart, I look forward to sharing some of the philosophies behind Blackbird to the world through this medium.”

Phillips in Association with Bacs & Russo has been global market leader in watch auctions for three consecutive years, with multiple world records achieved. Launched in 2014 by Aurel Bacs and his partner, Livia Russo, the department was established in response to the ever-increasing need for today’s collectors to easily access scholarship, guidance and quality across the board. With salerooms located in Geneva, Hong Kong and New York, Phillips’ global team of experts aims to lead the market and the ever-increasing demand for the highest quality timepieces.

Mr. TK Mak founded his publishing company in 1998, before establishing Blackbird Automotive Group in 2013. In 2017, Blackbird Concessionaires was appointed the exclusive dealer for Ferrari sales and after-sales in Hong Kong and Macau, and in 2018 a new media division, Blackbird Watch Manual was launched to cover the world of horology. With a history in luxury sectors and brand consultation through his personal relationships with the most significant designers, connoisseurs and businesspeople of our time, Mr. Mak has earned a reputation for his discerning taste and ability to define trends, which extends to his position as one of the region’s top collectors encompassing vintage watches, contemporary art, important design objects, historic racing cars and memorabilia.

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**Phillips Hong Kong Spring Sale 2019: Thematic Evening Sale of Sports Watches**

Date| **27 May 2019** Location| **JW Marriott Hong Kong, 88 Queensway, Admiralty, Hong Kong**

#### **ABOUT BLACKBIRD AUTOMOTIVE GROUP**

Blackbird Automotive Group is a multi-faceted automotive and luxury business entity, encompassing publishing, branding and creative services, together with maintenance and restoration of high-end automobiles, as well as logistics, transportation services, and professional race simulator training, alongside acting as the exclusive dealer for Ferrari in Hong Kong and Macau.

Visit [www.blackbird-automotive.com](http://www.blackbird-automotive.com) for further information.

#### **ABOUT PHILLIPS IN ASSOCIATION WITH BACS & RUSSO**

The team of specialists at Phillips Watches is dedicated to an uncompromised approach to quality, transparency, and client service, achieving a sale total of \$ 108 million in 2018 – its third consecutive year as the worldwide market leader in watch auctions.

A selection of our recent record-breaking prices:

1. Paul Newman's Rolex "Paul Newman" Daytona reference 6239 (CHF 17,709,894/US\$17,752,500) – New York Auction: Winning Icons – 26 October 2017 – Highest result ever achieved for any wristwatch at auction.
2. Patek Philippe reference 1518 in stainless steel (CHF 11,020,000 /US\$11,112,020) – Geneva Watch Auction: FOUR – 12 November 2016 – Highest result ever achieved for a Patek Philippe wristwatch at auction.

#### **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](http://www.phillips.com) for further information.

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

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