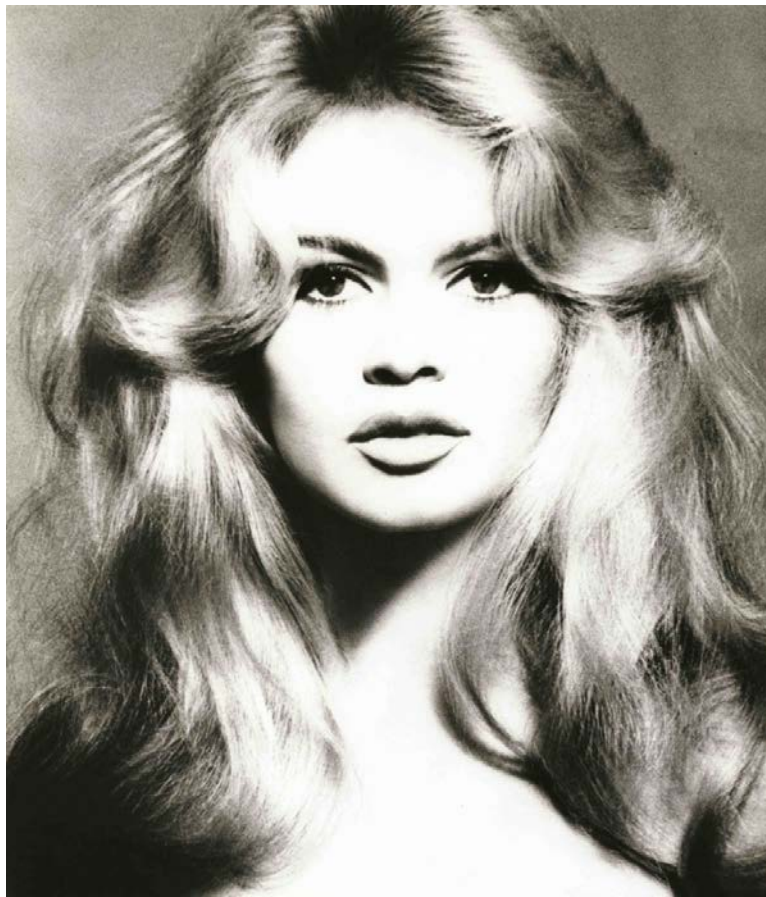


PHILLIPS

PRESS RELEASE

Phillips to Showcase Works by Master Photographers in October Auctions

**Evening and Day Sales Include Works by Gilbert & George,
Richard Avedon, Robert Frank, Diane Arbus, and Herb Ritts**



Richard Avedon

Brigitte Bardot, hair by Alexandre, Paris, January 27, 1959

Estimate: \$220,000-280,000

NEW YORK - 15 SEPTEMBER 2016 - Phillips is pleased to announce its first Photographs sales of the fall season, taking place over the course of three sessions in October. Comprised of 257 lots in total, the Evening Sale will be held on 5 October at 6pm EST, followed by the Day Sale on 6 October at 11am and 3pm EST. Two private collections will figure prominently, including *An Influential Vision: The Collection of Ruth Ansel*, as well as *Property of a Corporate Collection, New York*. Among the sale highlights of the Evening Sale are Richard Avedon's luscious *Brigitte Bardot, hair by Alexandre, Paris, January 27, 1959* (illustrated above), Gilbert & George's exceptionally rare, *Day*, 1978, an early print of Robert Frank's *City Fathers, Hoboken, New Jersey, 1955-1956*, the portfolio *Americans in Kodochrome*, which charmingly captures the aesthetic of early snapshot photography, and an edition of Hans Bellmer's *Les jeux de la poupée (The Games of the Doll)*, 1949 in superb condition.

Sarah Krueger, Phillips' Head of Sale, Photographs, said, "After our successful spring sales earlier this year, we are thrilled to have the opportunity to bring works of such a high caliber to collectors in October. Strong examples by leading photographers will be on offer, including an impressive selection of works that showcase the legacies of Richard Avedon and Diane Arbus."

Richard Avedon's *Brigitte Bardot, hair by Alexandre, Paris, January 27, 1959*, (illustrated page 1) is the cover lot of the catalogue and is expected to bring \$220,000- 280,000 in the Evening Sale. Taken in January 1959 for inclusion in the March issue of *Harper's Bazaar*, this portrait captured a time when Bardot was quickly escalating to a new peak with her career, after catapulting into the public sphere in 1956. Avedon meanwhile, was approaching a 15-year anniversary at the magazine and was in the process of creating his first book, *Observations*. His tightly cropped and straight-on portrait emphasizes the intensity of Bardot's sensuality and was selected by Avedon for *Observations*, forever marking the print as one of his early masterworks.



Gilbert & George b. 1943 and 1942
Day, 1978
 Estimate: \$600,000-800,000

Leading the Evening Sale is Gilbert & George's *Day*, 1978, estimated at \$600,000- 800,000 (illustrated left). Composed of sixteen panels portraying the duo, contrasted with an image taken from the streets near their East End apartment, *Day* is a stunning example of Gilbert & George's highly sought-after work produced in the late-1970s. From their series *1978*, *Day* is one of the last works by Gilbert & George to feature the singular color palette that defined their early work—a cool black and white, set against a vibrant red. The upper, black and white panels in *Day* depict four possibly transient men on the street, their backs to the camera concealing any identifying characteristics. Juxtaposed with this is the duo's hallmark enlarged self-portrait in red; the very opposite of anonymous, their faces and identities irrefutable. Combined, the gridded composition creates a work of intrigue that is both striking in subject and monumental in size.

An early print of Robert Frank's *City Fathers, Hoboken, New Jersey, 1955-1956*, (illustrated right) is among the most iconic images in the artist's oeuvre and is expected to bring \$200,000- 300,000 in the Evening Sale. Upon receiving a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1955, Frank travelled across the country with the intention of observing and recording the infrastructure upholding American society. *City Fathers*, along with 82 other images, was carefully sequenced in Frank's seminal book *Les Américains*, printed by French publisher, Delpire in 1958. The following year, *The Americans* was published in the United States. Based on the social and political climate of the time, the book was met with resistance and was strongly criticized for being "Anti-American." The *New Yorker*, however, recognizing Frank's astute observations, called the work a "beautiful social comment" that exposed "the special quality of American life with brutal sensitivity." Sixty years later, *The Americans* remains one of the most influential bodies of work in the history of the medium.



Robert Frank b. 1924
City Fathers, Hoboken, New Jersey, 1955-1956
 Estimate: \$200,000-300,000



Diane Arbus 1923-1971

Seated female impersonator with arms crossed on her bare chest, N.Y.C., 1960
Estimate: \$25,000-35,000

Examples of work by American photographers can be found in offerings by Diane Arbus in the Evening Sale including her iconic *Child with a toy hand grenade in Central Park, N.Y.C., 1962* which has a pre-sale estimate of \$70,000- 90,000 (*illustrated page 4*) and Garry Winogrand's whimsical portrayal of two dogs walking each other through a New York City park in the Day Sale, estimated at \$8,000-12,000. Additional works by Arbus include *Seated female impersonator with arms crossed on her bare chest, N.Y.C., 1960* (*illustrated left*). Estimated at \$25,000- 35,000 in the Evening Sale this image is one from a series of photographs of female impersonators that Arbus started taking in 1959. Another print of the image is included in the current major retrospective at the Met Breuer, *diane arbus: in the beginning*, which focuses on her fundamental early work from the years 1956-1962.

Two works from Irving Penn's *Small Trades* series are also included in the auction. *Porter, New York, 1951*, and *Patissiers, Paris, 1950*. Estimated at \$40,000- 60,000 each, they are iconic examples from the series, which lasted two years, stretching over London, New York and Paris. Penn asked everyday tradesmen to appear at his studio and, in lieu of direction, he asked his subjects

to occupy the space as they wished, allowing their personalities to slowly emerge under his patient eye.

Never before offered at auction, a portfolio of 93 dye transfer prints titled *Americans in Kodachrome* (*one print illustrated right*) is expected to bring \$100,000- 150,000 and represents just a sample of the thousands of images taken between 1945 and 1965 from across the United States that were submitted to professional printer Guy Stricherz at the end of the twentieth century. Kodak's release of Kodachrome film marked the beginning of accessible and popular color photography. The process—easy, affordable, and remarkably stable—was a marvel, forever changing the face of picture making. The images that comprise *Americans in Kodachrome* showcase a wide array of relationships between the photographs and those captured within them. Incredibly rare, only two complete sets of the portfolio exist, including the present lot.



Various Photographers

Americans in Kodachrome, 1945-1965
[one example of 93 prints illustrated here]
Estimate: \$100,000-150,000

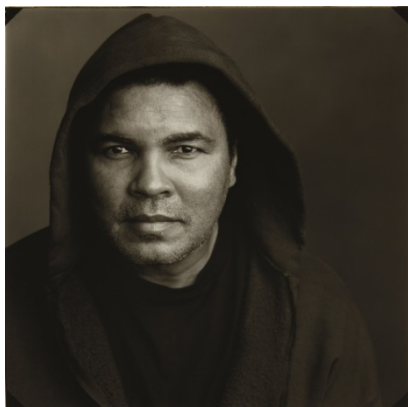
Edward Steichen's *George Washington Bridge, New York, 1931* (*illustrated page 5*) is among the earlier prints that will be on offer. When asked to submit a mural for the opening exhibition of the Museum of Modern Art's new location at 11 West 53rd Street, Edward Steichen chose an image of the George Washington Bridge. At the time, he was the chief photographer for Condé Nast Publications and the most recognized, highest paid photographer in the world. For this project, he chose an image of steel, enlarged to the immense size of 10' high by 8' wide. Though taken from a slightly different vantage point than the photograph used for Steichen's mural, the present lot is an equally modern vision of man's advancement through the technological achievement of industry.

Also included in the Evening Sale is Vik Muniz's contemporary interpretation of the iconic *Starry Night* from his 2012 series, *Pictures of Magazines 2*. Expected to bring \$50,000- 70,000, this will be the first time the image has been offered at auction.

Works from Prominent Collections

An Influential Vision: The Collection of Ruth Ansel will highlight Phillips' Day Sale of Photographs on 6 October. Over the course of a vibrant and long-standing career, Ruth Ansel has come to define visual culture. Starting at *Harper's Bazaar* in 1962, she collaborated with industry greats such as Richard Avedon, Diane Arbus, Lee Friedlander, and Bill Brandt, amongst others, to create leading content and design. Following her departure in 1971, she has continued to work with illustrious publications such as *The New York Times Magazine* and *Vanity Fair*, where she reshaped the magazine's visual identity. Comprised of thirty-five lots, many of these images are fresh to the market, including those that were produced under her art direction. Highlights from her collection include Diane Arbus' *Toddler being held in garden, N.J.*, 1968 on offer for \$25,000- 35,000, and Annie Leibovitz's *Muhammad Ali, New York*, 1996 (illustrated below, left), estimated at \$12,000- 18,000. For the dedicated press release about *An Influential Vision: The Collection of Ruth Ansel*, please [click here](#).

Ten impressive photographs from a New York corporate collection will also span the Evening and Day sales. Included in this selection are two works by Robert Mistrach from 2003 - *Untitled #451-03* (illustrated below, right) and *Untitled #114-03*, each estimated for \$40,000- 60,000. The works, from a series entitled *On the Beach*, depict the sand and sea (respectively) and are embedded with deep introspection on the state of humanity and its vulnerability. The level of detail in these works is masterful, with every footprint and wave resonating with the viewer standing before them.

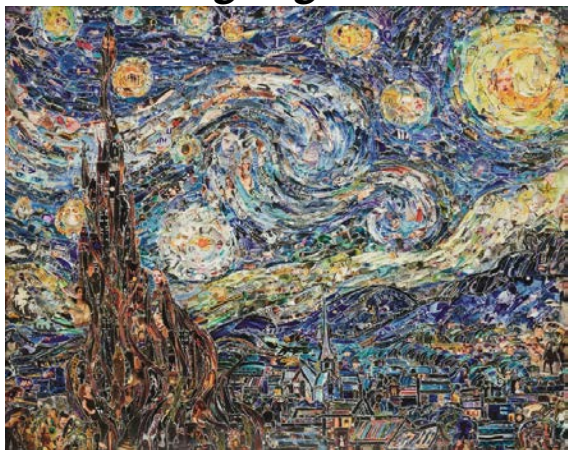


Annie Leibovitz b. 1949
Muhammad Ali, New York, 1996
Estimate: \$12,000-18,000



Richard Mistrach b. 1949
Untitled #451-03, 2003
Estimate: \$40,000-60,000

Additional Highlights



Vik Muniz b. 1961
Starry Night, after Van Gogh from *Pictures of Magazines 2*, 2012
Estimate: \$50,000-70,000



Diane Arbus 1923-1971
Child with a toy hand grenade in Central Park, N.Y.C., 1962
Estimate: \$70,000-90,000



Edward Steichen 1879-1973
George Washington Bridge, New York, 1931
Estimate: \$50,000-70,000



Herb Ritts 1952-2002
Versace Dress, Back View, El Mirage, 1990
Estimate: \$100,000-150,000

Auction: Evening Sale: Wednesday, 5 October 2016, 6pm | Day Sale: Thursday, 6 October 2016, 11am & 3pm

Auction viewing: 26 September- 5 October | Monday to Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 12pm-6pm

Location: 450 Park Avenue, New York

Link to more information: <https://phillips.com/auctions/auction/NY040216>

###

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 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, and is committed to supporting contemporary arts and culture through a worldwide programme of Arts Partnerships.

Visit www.phillips.com for further information.

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

PRESS CONTACT: NEW YORK - Jaime Israni, *Public Relations Specialist*

jisrani@phillips.com

+1 212 940 1398

HEADQUARTERS: LONDON- 30 Berkeley Square, London W1J 6EX | **NEW YORK-** 450 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022

VISIT US AT: www.phillips.com

FOLLOW US ON: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Vimeo](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Pinterest](#) | [Tumblr](#) | [LinkedIn](#)