

ART + DESIGN



## SOTHEBY'S MAY AUCTION PREVIEW

Our Favorite Pieces up for Sale this Month

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Sotheby's, New York's famed auction house, has an impressive array of exhibitions and auctions this month. Sotheby's is holding a Prints auction on May 1<sup>st</sup>, an Artists' Jewelry auction from May 3<sup>rd</sup>-May 27<sup>th</sup>, the selling exhibition titled *Jean Debuffet: A Fine Line* on view from May 3<sup>rd</sup> through June 13<sup>th</sup>, Victor Vasarely: *Op Star*, another selling exhibition running from May 3<sup>rd</sup> through June 13<sup>th</sup> (showcasing the work of Victor Vasarely, who is considered the father of Op art), the Contemporary Art Auction taking place in May 14<sup>th</sup>, and the highly anticipated Sotheby's Impressionist and Modern Art sale on May 7<sup>th</sup>—not to mention that the entire collection will be featured in an exhibition from May 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 7<sup>th</sup>. With all of these legendary options in mind, [Grungy Gentleman](#) has uncovered the highlights of Sotheby's May auctions.

First up is Pablo Picasso's "Tête de Marie-Thérèse." Added to the auction by a noted private collection, this oil on canvas painting is one of Picasso's acclaimed works. Painted between June 4<sup>th</sup>, 1932 and March 1934, the estimated auction price is between \$15,000,000-\$20,000,000, so if you have exceptionally deep pockets and a passion for artistic legends, this is the piece for you. This painting is part of the Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale taking place on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Another highlight is Roy Lichtenstein's "Reverie" print, part of the Prints Auction held from May 1<sup>st</sup>-May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Created in 1965, this screen-printed color print was created on smooth wove paper and is signed in pencil by the artist. Added to the auction from a private German collection, this piece will auction for an estimated \$50,000-\$70,000.

Jeff Koons will also be a major feature at the Contemporary Art Auction on May 14<sup>th</sup>. A must see of his work is "Three Ball 50/50 Tank," executed in 1985, featuring famous basketballs, including Spalding Dr. J.K. Silver Series, Wilson Home Court and Wilson Final Four, enclosed in a glass tank filled with distilled water. The estimated auction price is \$4,000,000-\$6,000,000 for this distinctly modern sports piece. Sotheby's has also included Koons' "Popeye", as seen in the clip above, in the Contemporary Art Evening Auction on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Another prominent work from the Print Auction is Keith Haring's "Pop Shop III." Four screenprints in colors, created in 1989, were each signed with pencil and numbered as part of the artist's limited edition proofs. This item is 4 prints in one, each featuring bold colors and animated figures. This is estimated to action for \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Takashi Murakami's "Panda Geant" is another standout piece up for auction at the Contemporary Art Day Auction on May 15<sup>th</sup>. The larger than life-sized Panda-inspired design was created with acrylic, urethane, FRP and steel on a corian base. Executed in 2009, this is one work from a limited edition collection of 3 pieces and the estimated auction price is between \$700,000 and \$900,000.

What piece interests you most? Let us know in the comments section below and be sure to check out more pieces for sale in May on [Sotheby's](#). @