

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Personalized Portrait by Matisse Leads Swann Print Auction



New York—With highlights spanning six centuries, **Swann Galleries'** auction of **Old Master Through Modern Prints** on **May 8** offered works by the greatest innovators in the field. The sale totaled more than \$2M.

Leading the auction was a gift from **Henri Matisse** to one of his favorite models, Nadia Sednaoui. The evocative aquatint *Grand Masque*, 1948, a stylized portrait of the young woman, is signed and inscribed to her by the artist. It sold for \$87,500, a record for the work. Another auction record was set for the artist's 1938 linoleum cut *Diane*, at \$20,000.

Tête de femme, de profil, 1905, an early drypoint by Pablo Picasso at just 24 years old, reached \$75,000. The portrait topped an extravagant selection of works by the master in a variety of media. The jaunty terre-de-faïence dish *Goat's Head in Profile*, 1952, and color linoleum cut *Le Vieux Roi*, 1963, each exceeded their high estimates to sell for \$21,250.



Additional twentieth-century highlights included Marc Chagall's color lithograph *L'Âme du Cirque*, 1980, which nearly doubled its high estimate to sell for \$42,500, a record for the work. Also by Chagall, *Carmen*, 1967, an after-print in vibrant hues, reached \$62,500.

The etching and drypoint portrait of *Jan Uytenbogaert, Preacher of the Remonstrants*, 1635, by **Rembrandt van Rijn**, previously in the collector of the German art director Rudolph Busch, nearly doubled its high estimate to sell for \$57,500. A rich selection of early self-portraits by the master was led by *Self Portrait*

in a Cap, Laughing, 1630, and *Self Portrait in a Fur Cap: Bust*, 1630 (\$27,500 and \$35,000, respectively).

Two elegant etchings by James A.M. Whistler performed well, led by *Rue de la Rochefoucault*, 1890, which was purchased by a collector for \$30,000, a record for the work. Another highlight was *The Two Doorways*, 1879-80, an intimate vista of Venice (\$25,000).

Vice President and Director of Prints & Drawings Todd Weyman noted that “85% of lots by Albrecht Dürer sold, showing resiliency in the old master prints market that Swann has come to dominate.” The visionary’s engraving *St. Eustace*, circa 1501, led the selection of fine prints at \$37,500.

The next fine art auction at Swann Galleries will be **Contemporary Art** on May 22, 2018. The house is currently accepting quality consignments for autumn auctions.

Additional highlights can be found [here](#).

Captions:

[Lot 424](#): Henri Matisse, *Grand Masque*, aquatint, inscribed to model Nadia Sednaoui, 1948. Sold May 8, 2018 for \$87,500, a record for the work. (Pre-sale estimate: \$50,000 to \$80,000)

[Lot 138](#): Rembrandt van Rijn, *Jan Uytenbogaert, Preacher of the Remonstrants*, etching and drypoint, 1635. Sold May 8, 2018 for \$57,500. (Pre-sale estimate \$20,000 to \$30,000)

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