



104 East 25th Street • New York, NY 10010
Telephone: 212.254.4710 • Fax: 212.979.1017
swanngalleries.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 1, 2019

Contact: Alexandra Nelson

Communications Director

212-254-4710 ext. 19

alexandra@swanngalleries.com

Pop Art Pops in Swann Contemporary Art Sale

Gerhard Richter leads auction



New York—**Swann Galleries' Contemporary Art** sale on **Thursday, May 16** is set to bring a myriad of Modern and Contemporary masters to market including Agnes Martin, Jackson Pollock, Gerhard Richter and Andy Warhol.

Pop Art is well represented by the two icons of the movement: **Andy Warhol** and Roy Lichtenstein. Warhol color screenprints include the 1986 *Letter to the World (The Kick)*, estimated at \$25,000 to \$35,000, and *Electric Chair*, 1971, at \$12,000 to \$18,000. Career-spanning works by Lichtenstein feature in the sale with *Art Critic*, color screenprint, 1996, expected at \$30,000 to \$50,000; the artist's 1966 porcelain enamel on steel *Sunrise* is set to bring \$12,000 to \$18,000; and his brush-and-ink work on paper *Storming the Castle*, circa 1950, is present at \$10,000 to \$15,000.

An untitled 1944-45 etching by Jackson Pollock, and Conrad Marca-Relli's *The Open Door*, oil on board, 1946, lead a run of Abstract Expressionist works at \$15,000 to \$20,000 apiece. Also of note is a run of color screenprints by Adolph Gottlieb including *Pink Ground*, 1972, offered at \$3,000 to \$5,000.

Pioneering appropriation artist **Richard Pettibone** features in the sale with *Roger DeCoster*, a 1973 oil-on-canvas replication of a photograph of a motocross racer. The work carries an estimate of \$7,000 to \$10,000.



A robust offering of works by Alex Katz makes an impression with the 2015 life-size color screenprint *Black Dress 2 (Cecily)* (\$12,000-18,000), a 2011 color woodcut of Katz's wife Ada, and *Study for Round Hill*, a 1977 pencil drawing (\$5,000-8,000 each).

A selection of Minimalism is distinguished by a 1990 untitled color woodcut by Donald Judd (\$10,000-15,000). Agnes Martin is present with *Paintings and Drawings: Stedelijk Museum Portfolio*, 1990, complete with text and 10 lithographs (\$4,000-6,000).



The sale is led by **Gerhard Richter**'s 2003 screenprint with 41 colors, *Eis 2*, based on the same-titled oil from 1989. Richter subverts the traditional practice of separating representational art from abstraction, producing a detailed under-painting before blurring and distorting the image. *Eis 2* is poised to sell for \$40,000 to \$60,000. Additional contemporary artists include Robert Longo, with *Noel C.*, a 1999 charcoal-and-pencil drawing (\$10,000-\$15,000) and two sculptures, *Richter 2* and *White Mud*, both 2010, by Polly Apfelbaum (\$1,500-\$2,500).

Multiples abound in the sale with Jeff Koon's metallic porcelain *Balloon Swan (Yellow)*, 2017 (\$10,000-\$15,000); Banksy's *10 Pound Banknote*, published by Santa's Ghetto for the 2004 exhibition of the artist's work (\$2,000-3,000); and *Artist's Hand*, 2017, electroplated rhodium on cast urethane resin, by Ai Weiwei and created for the Public Art Fund exhibition, "Good Fences Make Good Neighbors" (\$3,000-5,000). Also of note is *Two Pumpkins*, 2013, by Yayoi Kusama, two miniature cast-resin multiples of the artist's larger polka-dotted pumpkin sculptures, as well as Kara Walker's *Freedom, a Fable: A Curious Interpretation of the Wit of a Negress in Troubled Times*, 1997—a bound pop-up book created for the Peter Norton family Christmas art project (\$2,000-3,000).

Exhibition opening in New York City May 11. The complete catalogue and bidding information is available at swannngalleries.com and on the Swann Galleries App.

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

Captions:

[Lot 177](#): Andy Warhol, *Letter to the World (The Kick)*, color screenprint, 1986. Estimate \$25,000 to \$35,000.

[Lot 210](#): Richard Pettibone, *Roger DeCoster*, oil on canvas, 1973. Estimate \$7,000 to \$10,000.

[Lot 281](#): Gerhard Richter, *Eis 2*, color screenprint, 2003. Estimate \$40,000 to \$60,000.

Auction date: Thursday, May 16, at 1:30 pm

Exhibition dates: May 11, 12-5; May 13 to 15, 10-6; May 16, 10-12

Specialist: Todd Weyman • tweyman@swannngalleries.com • 212-254-4710 x 32

Press: Alexandra Nelson • alexandra@swannngalleries.com • 212-254-4710 x 19

Social media: @swannngalleries

#

PRINTED CATALOGUE & ADDL. DIGITAL IMAGES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Swann Auction Galleries is a third-generation family business as well as the world's largest auction house for works on paper. In the last 75 years, Swann has repeatedly revolutionized the trade with such innovations as the first U.S. auction dedicated to photographs and the world's only department of African-American Fine Art. More than 30 auctions and previews are held annually in Swann Galleries' two-floor exhibition space in Midtown Manhattan, and online worldwide. Visit swannngalleries.com for more information.