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## 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 (\$10,00-15,000). 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 [swanngalleries.com](http://swanngalleries.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

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