



## GALERIE KORNFELD · BERN

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GALERIE KORNFELD AUKTIONEN AG

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To select members of the media

### MEDIA RELEASE JUNE AUCTIONS 2019

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#### **Records at Kornfeld – Sales for The Museum of Modern Art in New York**

On June 13 and 14, Galerie Kornfeld's traditional auctions were held. With a total of CHF 36 million for the whole auction series yet another outstanding result was achieved; the total thereby exceeded the pre-sale estimate by CHF 2 million.

The top-selling lot with an estimate of CHF 1 million was the rare still life, "Tee und Schmelzbrötchen – auch Teegedeck" (1873) by Albert Anker. Chased by three bidders, the final price was CHF 3.425 million exceeding the previous record for a still life by Anker by almost CHF 1.5 million! A great surprise was the extremely rare graphic work, "Zwei Menschen – Die Einsamen, The Lonely Ones – Two Human Beings" (1899) by Edvard Munch (estimate CHF 1.25 million). With a result of CHF 2.545 million following an intense battle, it hammered to a bidder in the room. This is the highest price ever paid for worldwide for a woodcut by Munch, proving once again Galerie Kornfeld's market strength for extraordinary works on paper. In addition to the two record prices, Marc Chagall's "Le Rêve au cirque" (result CHF 1.865 million), Nicolas de Staël's painting "Honfleur" (result CHF 1.704 million), Wassily Kandinsky's small 1926 oil painting "Spalte / Fissure" from his Bauhaus period (result CHF 1.405 million) and the rare bronze luster by Diego Giacometti (result CHF 1.1175 million), a total of six works, exceeded the magical one million mark.

Again, in 2019, Galerie Kornfeld was the "auction house of trust" of The Museum of Modern Art in New York. Two works from the museum collection were offered in Bern and sold – the beautiful pencil drawing by Pablo Picasso, "La Source / Femme au chien" (1921), achieved the excellent result of 252'000.- against an estimate of CHF 200'000.-, the charcoal drawing, "Maisons près de la mer" (c. 1865), by Claude Monet (estimate CHF 60'000.-) even achieved CHF 108'000.-. The works were sold by the museum to create funds for new acquisitions.

With a total short of CHF 2.4 million, the Old Master Prints and Drawings auction was a great success. CHF 324'000.- for "The Three Trees" by Rembrandt and CHF 192'000.- for an early 15th century carved Annunciation were the top-selling lots.

All results including Buyer's premium, excluding taxes

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