



Press Release Hong Kong

For Immediate Release

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China Guardian Hong Kong Autumn Auctions 2018

To take place from 30 September to 3 October

Offering over 1,700 lots estimated in excess of HK\$ 800 m / US\$ 102.6 m

-- UNPRECEDENTED SCALE AND VALUE --



Exhibition: 30 Sep – 1 Oct | Auction: 2 – 3 Oct

Hong Kong, 26 September 2018

The China Guardian Hong Kong Autumn Auctions 2018 will take place from 30 September to 3 October at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. The sale series will present remarkable artworks from all around the globe. The auction series encompasses Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy, Asian 20th Century and Contemporary Art, Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art, Classical Chinese Furniture as well as Jewellery, Watches and Luxury Goods. **More than 1,700 lots will be offered with a total estimate in excess of HK\$ 800 million / US\$ 102.6 million, the highest ever at China Guardian (HK).** All lots will be exhibited at a public preview at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on 30 September and 1 October ahead of the auctions.

Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy

Two sales of Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy will be offered. The **Modern Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy** sale will present important works long preserved in private collections. Emerging from an Important Hong Kong Family Collection, Qi Baishi's *Flowers*, appearing at auction for the first time, marks the artist's significant change of style in his final years. Among other highlights from important Asian private collections is Zhang Daqian's *Landscape after Wang Meng* created in 1963 in celebration of the 50th birthday of the artist's friend and renowned collector Xu Bojiao. Also notable are Xu Beihong's *Magpies on a Tree Branch* and Ren Yi's *Landscape*. Following the success of Zhang Daqian's works from the Guxiangzhai Collection in 2017, China Guardian (HK) is delighted to offer another group of works from the same collection, including Zhang Daqian's 1971 splashed ink work *Mountains in the Mist*

after Classical Chinese painter Juran.

Classical Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy will feature an Important Hong Kong Private Collection amassed over nearly five decades. Highlights include calligraphy by He Shaoji and Yang Yisun, as well as paintings by Wang Wenzhi and Chen Zengshou. Also among the highlights are Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy from the Dan Han Lou Collection, which achieved remarkable results in Spring 2018. These include works from the former collection of late Qing dynasty official Yan Jingming, among them *Residence of Yan Jingming* painted by fellow late Qing official Wang Yingchang with inscriptions by eminent contemporary politician and scholars.



Lot 1521

ZHANG Daqian (1899–1983)

[Two Horses](#)

Hanging scroll; ink and colour on paper

130 × 63.5 cm | Dated Dinghai 1947

Estimate: HK\$ 12,000,000 – 18,000,000 /

US\$ 1,528,700 – 2,293,000



Lot 1737

WANG Yingchang (19th Century)

[Landscape of Muhuaiyangwushuwu,](#)

[Residence of Yan Jingming](#)

Handscroll; ink on paper

Frontispiece: 39 × 186.9 cm; art: 46.2 × 101cm;

colophon: 46.2 × 1,071 cm

Estimate: HK\$ 200,000 – 300,000 / US\$ 25,500 – 38,200



Lot 1531

QI Baishi (1864–1957)

[Flowers in Four Screens](#)

Mounted for framing; ink and colour
on paper

96 × 42.5 cm (per screen)

Estimate:

HK\$ 10,000,000 – 15,000,000 (4) /

US\$ 1,273,900 – 1,910,800 (4)

Asian 20th Century and Contemporary Art

This Autumn, the Asian 20th Century and Contemporary Art Department will present over 140 works featuring two themed sessions, namely “**The Flaming Era—World Artists in Paris**”, and “**Pop Art**”.

“**The Flaming Era—World Artists in Paris**” brings together significant works of Chinese artists who studied in France in the early 20th century, as well as the masterpieces of Western artists who were active in Paris during the same period. Among the 14 artists featured are Lin Fengmian, Wu Guanzhong, Pan Yuliang, Zao Wou-Ki, Yun Gee, Sanyu, Tsuguharu Foujita, Marie Laurencin, Moïse Kisling and Bernard Buffet.

The second theme, “**Pop Art**”, endeavours to present the unique vision and aesthetics of a new generation of artists who enrich their creative practice by turning to various media and by expanding their creations from two-dimensional to three-dimensional. Featured artists include Yoshitomo Nara, Takashi Murakami, Aya Takano, KAWS, Chen Fei and Chen Ke. Also notable is a work from Chinese modern artist Wang Huaiqing’s *Ming Furniture* series.

Lot 56

ZAO Wou-Ki (1921–2013)

[06.10.68](#)

Painted in 1968

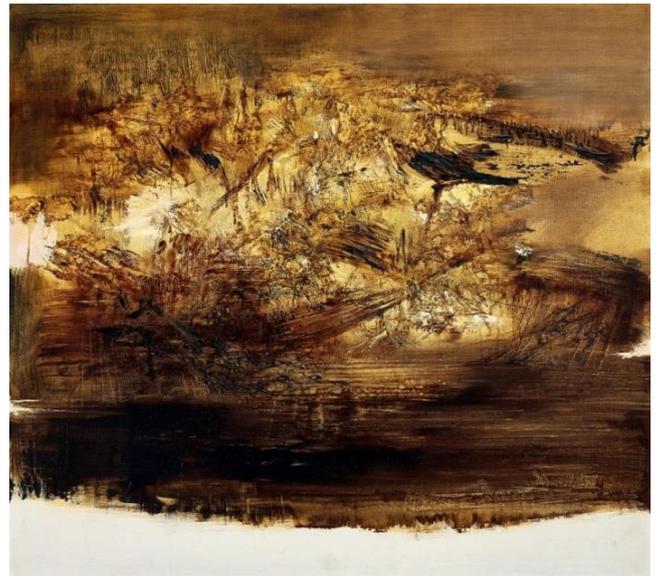
Oil on canvas | 97 × 105 cm

Estimate:

HK\$ 15,000,000 – 25,000,000 /

US\$ 1,910,800 – 3,184,700

Zao Wou-Ki uses coffee brown and dark brown in the top of the picture, with a wider, dark brown, horizontal brush in the middle and lower parts of the canvas to create something akin



to a magnificent sky and earth encompassing the centre of the picture. In the middle of the frame, the viewer can admire Zao’s skilful use of various techniques, including slapping, rubbing, pointing, and so on. The brush strokes sometimes resemble a whirlwind, sometimes a rumbling spring thunder, and sometimes a gentle scrape against the water, echoing the breathing rhythm of nature. In order to approximate monochrome painting, his brushstrokes change endlessly, just like traditional Chinese ink, evoking feelings with five different strokes: thin, thick, heavy, light, and pale.

In June 1968, when Zao painted *06.10.68*, his career was quite successful, but he was experiencing grief due to the loss of his loved ones. In this year, during the most horrifying times of the Chinese Cultural Revolution, his father, a banker, whom he admired and loved, passed away due to a series of harsh criticisms and denouncements. The same year, the mental illness of his then-wife, Chan May-Kan (May Zao) worsened, and one can only imagine what kind of

psychological pressure Zao Wou-Ki, as a husband, must have felt. The large, dark brown areas of *06.10.68* as well as the hurried, short strokes may reveal his complex mood at the time, including his deepest thoughts on his father's death back in his motherland. **This picture was used on the cover of the *Zao Wou-Ki Collection* published in 1993 and was included in the first exhibition of his works in the Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts in 1995. Its importance is self-evident.**



Lot 45

WU Guanzhong (1919-2010)

[Forgetful Snow](#)

Painted in 1996

Oil on canvas | 91 × 100 cm

Estimate:

HK\$ 12,000,000 – 18,000,000 / US\$ 1,528,700 – 2,293,500

In May of 1996, Wu Guanzhong and his wife, Zhu Biqin, went to Baihua Mountain in the outskirts of Beijing to admire the blossoming flowers and sketch. Deep in the woods on the top of the mountain, a frozen stream covered with thick snow caught Wu's eye. Wu once remarked, "This whiteness was

somewhat lonely, as if the spring forgot it, a leftover from the winter," showing the poetry within the art. The word "forgetful" expresses an old man's attachment to the past and embodies the expression of "emotions hidden in the form". While revealing the beauty of the lonely pile of snow, the artist shows the vitality of the surrounding plants and the breath of the coming spring to encourage himself to not worry about being forgotten. **In 1999, when it was completed, Wu personally selected this piece to participate in the large-scale, solo "Wu Guanzhong Art Exhibition" held by the National Art Museum of China, showing the high regard in which he held this work.**

Lot 63

Moïse KISLING (1891–1953)

[Nature Morte](#)

Painted in 1917

Oil on canvas | 54 × 65 cm

Estimate:

HK\$ 800,000 – 1,500,000 / US\$ 101,900 – 191,100

Out of his time in Montparnasse, 1917 was Kisling's happiest year; after his friend Amedeo Modigliani was acclaimed the "Prince of Montparnasse", art journalists began calling Kisling the "King of Montparnasse." *Nature Morte*, featured in this auction, was created in the late fall of 1917, two months



after his wedding. Kisling utilised his characteristic “chromatic brightness” colour palette. The Bleu de Manganese and yellowish corduroy in the right side of the background together with cardinal cloth on the left, for example, create a scene resembling a theatre stage. Blue and red form a high contrast between cool and warm tones, bringing a visual tension that demonstrates the artist's superior taste and skilfulness. In the foreground, the objects on the table – milk jug, grapes, peaches, the plate below them, and the adjacent verdant leaves – are all different in terms of their levels, but together they form a harmonious whole. Just as it is with traditional, classic still life paintings, these seemingly ordinary objects are actually symbolic. This is illustrated by the fact that the pattern of the red and white tassel tablecloth on the table is not common in France, but is of a typical, traditional Polish origin, revealing Kisling’s inner thoughts: a wandering expatriate missing his motherland who wants to show support and love for Polish culture. Blue and white porcelain fruit plates are very common in French homes. Here, it symbolises the richness of life (this meaning originating from the 16th-Century Age of Discovery, when the blue-and-white porcelain from the Far East was highly valued). A bunch of grapes on the plate represents redemption and harvest as well as Dionysus, the god of wine that brings joy to the people. **The whole picture is a newlywed man’s contemplation of marriage bliss and the rich, warm home prepared in expectation of the arrival of a new life, giving the work a special significance.**



Lot 106

Yoshitomo NARA (b. 1959)

[Submarines in Girl](#)

Painted in 1992

Acrylic on canvas | 100 × 150 cm

Estimate:

HK\$ 10,000,000 – 15,000,000

US\$ 1,273,900 – 1,910,800

Submarines in Girl marked a turning point in Nara’s career. The background of the painting is free of any

contextual particularities; the detailed houses and scenery included in his earlier works are nowhere to be found. In their place is a combination of yellow-green, blue, and pink hues that come together to form an innocent, minimalist space. The face of the little girl featured in the painting has been stretched to take up almost the entire canvas. It is almost as though her features have been pressed flat. The viewer’s gaze is immediately drawn to her two widely spaced, staring eyes as well as her lips, which are curled into a smile as if mocking something or someone. The artist has stuck a red flag on the top of the protagonist’s head, right in the middle of her clementine-coloured hair, making her head appear like a sports field or a world map, and three submarines shuttle back and forth on this flat surface, instantly linking together reality and fantasy – a nod to *Yellow Submarine* by the Beatles, who were prominent during Nara’s youth. **This work was not only recorded in the *Complete Works of Yoshitomo Nara*; the artist himself also specifically chose it for his *Self-selected Works Paintings* published in 2015. This adequately demonstrates that *Submarines in Girl* is one of the most important works in the artist’s 30-year-long career.**

Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art

This Autumn, the Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art Department is delighted to present over 700 lots divided into six sales, namely “Fine Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art”, “Virtue & Purity – A Selection of Fine Chinese Jade Carvings”, “Exquisite Beauty of Archaic Jade Carvings from a San Francisco Private Collection”, “Ancient Chinese Ceramics from the Tang to the Song Dynasty”, “Elegant Treasures from an American Private Collection” and “Refined Antiquities – Imperial Porcelains of the Qing Dynasty”. It is truly a rare opportunity for all to witness the tremendous artistic achievements representing different dynasties throughout the history of China.

Lot 735

[A Fine and Extremely Rare Blue and White Double-Gourd Vase,
Ruyiping](#)

Yongzheng Six-Character Mark and of the Period (1723–1735)

23 cm high

Expected to fetch in excess of HK\$ 30,000,000 /

US\$ 3,850,000

There are extensive innovations evident on various categories of Chinese porcelain during the reign of the Yongzheng Emperor, however those that stand the test of time and remain in existence until this day are considered

extremely scarce. The *ruyiping*, or *ruyizun*, as it was referred to by scholars in the olden days, was an artistic innovation during the Tang Ying administration. According to the publication “*Yinluizhai Shuo Ci*” by Xu Zhiheng, the author describes the vessel as a “*ruyiping*, standing approximately six to seven inches tall, mounted on a wide lower body rising steeply to a short, waisted neck, ending in a flared mouth; often produced in blue and white during the early Qing dynasty, but can also be found in elegant plain white glaze or with *anhua* decoration.” The present lot is, without a doubt, one of the most excellent examples of its type; the skilful workmanship is an absolute pleasant sight for the viewer. Painted beautifully in rich cobalt blue in the style of the Ming dynasty Xuande period, the artist showcases the finesse of his execution by using fluid brushstrokes to depict the elegant floral decorations on the jade-like lustrous porcelain body. Complemented by a pair of beautiful curved handles on the side, the vase is visually stunning in its boldness, yet retains a sophisticated flair. The base is further inscribed with a strict and formally written six-character “da Qing Yongzheng nianzhi” kaishu Imperial seal mark of the period. In summary, the present lot quintessentially reflects the demeanour and expressive thoughts of the Yongzheng emperor, all carefully reinterpreted in the course of its production and brought to life by masterful Imperial craftsmen.





Lot 569

[A Very Rare and Fine Blue and White “Bats in Cloud” Vase](#)

Qianlong Six-Character Mark and of the Period (1736–1795)

19.8 cm high

Estimate:

HK\$ 8,000,000 – 10,000,000 / US\$ 1,019,110 – 1,273,890

This vase is a unique example of porcelain made at the Imperial kilns at Jingdezhen under the supervision of Tang Ying (1682 – 1756) during the Qianlong period (1736 – 1795). Based on the research on public and private archives around the world, it appears that the current lot is the sole example with no other similar examples ever recorded. The present lot is an exclusively distinguished piece which is representative of the finesse of Tang Ying as the supervisor of Imperial porcelain production, as well as the majestic vision of the Qianlong emperor. It is a feat combining the incorporation of traditional styles with contemporary Qianlong flair to reach new heights in the Imperial porcelain production of that era. The cobalt blue is exquisitely fired to a sapphire-like clarity and is expertly applied in various hues of light and darkness, presenting the viewer with a three-dimensionality that has infectious attractiveness. The vase emanates a strong aura of inheriting the Ming tradition but is also recognisably of the known Yongzheng styles. Accompanied with its original wood stand and old box, the current lot is exceptionally rare is regarded as a Chinese porcelain of legendary status.

Classical Chinese Furniture

This Autumn, the Classical Chinese Furniture Department is delighted to offer a sale of **“Classical Furniture of the Ming and the Qing Dynasties”** as well as **“Fine Bamboo Carvings and Seal Art from Private Collections”**.

“Classical Furniture of the Ming and the Qing Dynasties” features properties from illustrious collections and works of great academic value previously included in prominent publications. Offerings range from furniture such as chairs and stools, tables, cabinets and table-top pieces such as chests, cases, boxes and screens. The ancient simplicity, clean lines and timeless charm of Ming furniture are juxtaposed perfectly with lavishly decorated Qing furniture, offering a spectacular display of fine craftsmanship ranging from carving, openwork, inlay decoration to gilding.

“Fine Bamboo Carvings and Seal Art from Private Collections” will present more than 50 pieces from long-time collections, including brushpots, incense holders, brush-rests, *ruyi* sceptres, most of them of the Early and Mid-Qing period, among them outstanding samples from Jiading and Jinling. The sale also highlights properties from the collection of the late Japanese legend Mr Toan Kobayashi, renowned for his devotion to Chinese epigraphy. Properties offered from the Kobayashi Collection this season date from the Yin and the Shang Dynasties, the Warring States Period and onwards.

Lot 433

[Huanghuali Couch Bed](#)
[\(Late Ming Period\)](#)

198 × 75 × 50 cm

Estimate:

HK\$ 2,500,000 – 3,500,000 /US\$

318,500 – 445,900



Lot 431

[Huanghuali Six – Post Canopy Bed \(Early Qing](#)
[Period\)](#)

232 × 160 × 222 cm

Estimate:

HK\$ 1,800,000 – 2,800,000 /

US\$ 206,400 – 387,000



Lot 475

[A Bamboo Incense Holder Carved with Dragon \(Ming](#)
[Dynasty\)](#)

24.50 cm high

Estimate:

HK\$ 280,000 – 380,000 / US\$ 35,700 – 48,400



Jewellery, Watches and Luxury Goods

This Autumn, China Guardian's Important Jewels and Jadeite Sale will offer more than 200 pieces of great variety ranging from rare and superb coloured gemstones, diamonds and jadeite jewellery to works from internationally renowned brands, with a total estimate in excess of HK\$ 240 million / US\$ 30.8 million, the highest ever for China Guardian (HK).



Lot 360

[“A Ray of Hope – The Ember Diamond”, a Magnificent 1.26-carat Fancy Reddish Orange Diamond and Diamond Ring](#)

Estimate upon request

Reddish orange diamonds are an extremely scarce occurrence in nature and this season China Guardian (HKg) is thrilled to present “The Ember Diamond”, a rare 1.26-carat natural fancy reddish orange diamond and diamond ring. Weighing 1.26 carats, it was acknowledged by the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) in 2010 as the largest it had ever graded and ranks among the handful of reddish orange

diamonds ever certified by the GIA that weigh over 1 carat.

Lot 359

[Important 3.01-carat Natural Fancy Greenish Blue Internally Flawless Diamond, Pink Diamond and Diamond Ring](#)

Estimate: HK\$ 7,200,000 – 8,000,000 / US\$ 917,200 – 1,019,100

According to The Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, only an estimated one in 200,000 diamonds discovered has a hint of blue. Blue diamonds are extremely rare and exceptionally beautiful. This special combination has made them coveted by diamond lovers and jewellery connoisseurs. As rare blue diamonds keep achieving record prices on the international market, this stone, combining blue and green - two of the rarest colours in diamonds - as well as internally flawless (IF) clarity and a weight of over 3 carats, promises to be an invaluable and most treasured addition to any top gem collection.



Lot 355

[19.69-carat Natural Colombian Emerald and Diamond Ring](#)

Estimate upon request

Natural emeralds usually possess surface-reaching fractures and / or liquid inclusions. The practice of filling fractures is widely accepted and adopted in the industry to enhance the apparent clarity of emeralds, which makes stones of good clarity and therefore no need for clarity enhancement extremely rare and coveted. Natural, untreated emeralds from Colombia, the most prestigious origin of emeralds, with exceptional clarity and a significant weight of 19.69 carats, like the one to be offered in

the upcoming auction, are extremely rare in Nature and highly prized by investors and gem connoisseurs.



Estimates do not include buyer's premium | Prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium

Press releases and hi-res images can be downloaded via the link:

Dropbox: <https://bit.ly/2Ih2Ool>

China Guardian Hong Kong Autumn Auctions 2018

Previews: 30 Sep – 1 Oct 2018 | 10am – 9pm

Venue: Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre Hall 5 BC

Auction Timetable:

2 Oct (Tuesday)		
Sale Room A	Refined Antiquities—Imperial Porcelains of the Qing Dynasty	10:30 am
	Elegant Treasures from an American Private Collection	11 am
	Ancient Chinese Ceramics from the Tang to the Song Dynasty	11:30 am
	Fine Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art	1 pm
	Exquisite Beauty of Archaic Jade Carvings from a San Francisco Private Collection	7 pm
	Virtue & Purity—A Selection of Fine Chinese Jade Carvings	7:30 pm
Sale Room B	Asian 20 th Century and Contemporary Art	11 am
	Important Jewels and Jadeite	3 pm
	Classical Furniture of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	6 pm
	Fine Bamboo Carvings and Seal Art from Private Collections	7 pm
3 Oct (Wednesday)		
Sale Room A	Modern Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy	10 am
	Classical Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy	7:30 pm