

# OLD MASTERS WEEK NEW YORK, JANUARY 2013





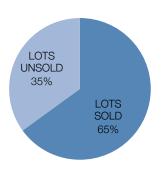
## OLD MASTER WEEK RESULTS

Although the general outcome was not bad, the results reflect a low market where high quality or rare artworks are very scarce. The Old Master week comprised 4 auctions at Sotheby's and 5 at Christie's,

TOTAL SALE:	\$157,134,098	
NUMBER OF LOTS SOLD:	702	

where in general the results were better. Artists like Fra Bartolommeo, Sandro Botticelli, Pompeo Batoni and Hans Memling achieved record prices, however some important artworks failed to find a buyer, some without even having bids. The BI rate was very high compared to the general art market meaning that buyers lacked interest in the artworks offered either because they were un-extraordinary or because the prices were estimated very high. Most of the sold lots achieved prices below \$50,000 confirming that the top end of the Old Master's market is almost disappearing because of the absence of high quality pieces.

**BIRATE** 



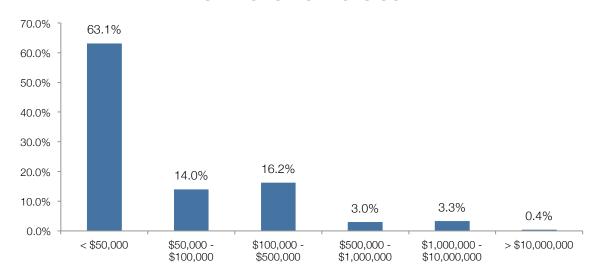


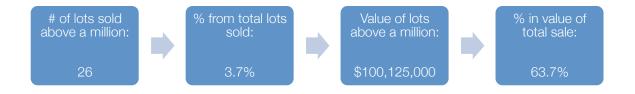
#### AVERAGE AND MEDIAN PRICES











#### TOP LOTS SOLD

Baccio Della Porta, Called Fra Bartolommeo (1472-1517)	The Madonna and child	\$ 12,962,500	Christie's
Pompeo Batoni (1708-1787)	Susanna and the Elders	\$11,394,500	Sotheby's
Alessandro Filipepi, Called Sandro Botticelli (1444-1510)	'The Rockefeller Madonna': Madonna and child with young Saint John the Baptist	\$10,442,500	Christie's
Scipione Pulzone, Called II Gaetano (1544-1598)	Portrait of Jacopo Boncompagni, in armor	\$ 7,586,500	Christie's
Claude Gellée, Called Claude Lorrain (1600-1682)	A wooded landscape	\$6,130,500	Christie's
Joseph Mallord William Turner (1775-1851)	Heidelberg with a rainbow	\$4,562,500	Sotheby's
Hans Memling (1430-1494)	Christ blessing	\$4,114,500	Sotheby's
Jean-Baptiste-Siméon Chardin (1699- 1779)	The embroiderer	\$4,002,500	Christie's



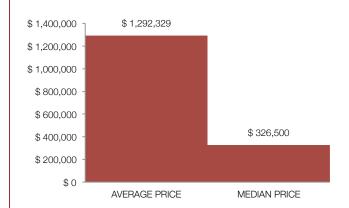
## RENAISSANCE

The Renaissance sale at Christie's achieved good results, the sale was dedicated to European artworks from 1300 to 1600. Overall there were a few surprises accomplishing

TOTAL SALE:	\$42,646,850
# LOTS ABOVE A MILLION	5

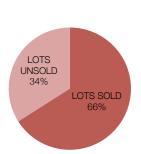
unexpected prices like Botticelli's Madonna; known as 'The Rockefeller Madonna' because of its provenance, this particular sale doubled its expected price. Another surprise was a portrait from II Gaetano that tripled its presale estimate. Although it was a small sale (only 50 lots offered) the BI rate was considerably high at 34%. The 5 lots sold above a million dollars averaged 80% of the total sale in value.

#### AVERAGE AND MEDIAN PRICES







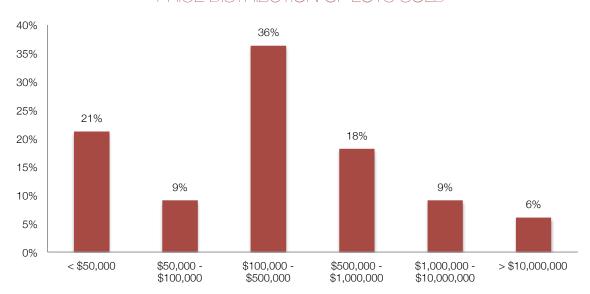


**BIRATE** 



## RENAISSANCE

### PRICE DISTRIBUTION OF LOTS SOLD



#### TOP LOTS SOLD

Baccio Della Porta, Called Fra Bartolommeo (1472-1517)	The Madonna and Child	\$ 12,962,500
Alessandro Filipepi, Called Sandro Botticelli (1444-1510)	'The Rockefeller Madonna': Madonna and Child with young Saint John the Baptist	\$10,442,500
Scipione Pulzone, Called II Gaetano (1544-1598)	Portrait of Jacopo Boncompagni in Armor	\$ 7,586,500
Lucas Cranach li (1515-1586)	The Virgin and Child with Infant Saint John the Baptist Sleeping	\$ 1,762,500
Raffaello Sanzio, Called Raphael (1483- 1520)	Saint Benedict Receiving Maurus and Placidus	\$ 1,202,500



## DRAWINGS

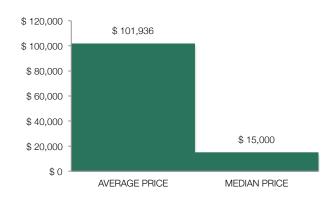
The following analysis comprises the drawing auctions from both houses. Although the results are not extraordinary

in value they are an important part of the Old Masters week because they represent the lower-mid market, most of the artworks were sold in the \$10,000-\$50,000 price range. Though the average BI rate was high (28%) it

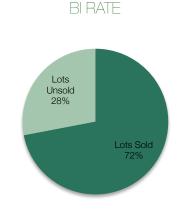
TOTAL SALE:	\$19,163,876
# LOTS ABOVE A MILLION:	3

was the lowest in all the Old Masters week meaning that this might be the most liquid sector. It is worth mentioning the extraordinary prices achieved by lots from Claude Lorrain and Gainsborough, which were estimated in the mid six figures range and sold for 6 and 2.4 million respectively.

#### AVERAGE AND MEDIAN PRICES



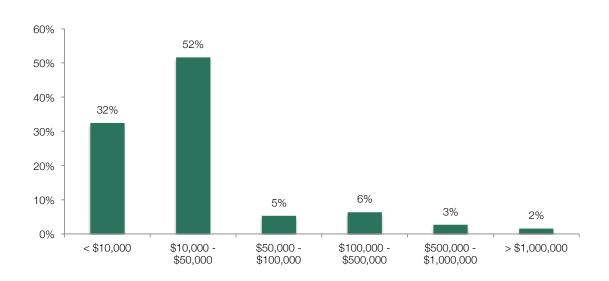






## DRAWINGS

#### PRICE DISTRIBUTION OF LOTS SOLD



#### TOP LOTS SOLD

Claude Gellée, called Claude Lorrain (1600-1682)	A wooded landscape	\$ 6,130,500	Christie's
Thomas Gainsborough (1727-1788)	Portrait of Caroline, 4th Duchess of Marlborough,	\$ 2,434,500	Christie's
Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres (1780-1867)	Comtesse Charles d'Agoult, and her daughter Claire d'Agoult	\$ 1,930,500	Christie's
Girolamo Francesco Mazzola, Il Parmigianino (1503-1540)	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		Christie's
William Blake (1757 – 1827)	The gambols of ghosts with their affections previous to the final judgement	\$ 722,500	Sotheby's



## OLD MASTER'S MARKET IN PERSPECTIVE

The objective of this section is to compare the general results of the Old Masters week with some of the recent auction results from November also in New York. The average BI rate was considerably higher in the Old Master sector indicating risk to sellers. Traditionally the Old Master's sector has always been considered a low return and low volatile sector, however as good quality artworks seem to be scarce in the auction market this proposition might start losing credibility.

	Impressionist and Modern Art	Post-War and Contemporary	Latin American Art	Old Masters
TOTAL SALE	\$401,388,700	\$1,051,782,900	\$41,037,900	\$157,134,098
# LOTS OFFERED	611	1,174	508	1,081
BI RATE	29.3%	18.4%	30.5%	35%

It can be observed that both the average and median prices are very low in the Old Master's market confirming the idea that the top-end market is practically nonexistent when compared with other art sectors. The average median price confirms that half of the Old Master transactions are below \$31,250 USD, meaning that the low-end sales are dominating the auction market. In the top-end market the demand is growing at a faster rate than the offer making prices go up in extraordinary ways like in the case of Botticelli's Madonna. However there are very few examples like this, making the Old Masters sector a lot less attractive for buyers.

