

Press Release London

For Immediate Release

London | +44 (0)20 7293 6000 | Sarah Rustin | sarah.rustin@sothebys.com |
Leyla Daybelge | leyla.daybelge@sothebys.com | Kelly Signorelli-Chaplin | kelly.schaplin@sothebys.com
Matthew Weigman | matthew.weigman@sothebys.com
New York | +1 212 606 7176 | Diana Phillips | diana.phillips@sothebys.com
Lauren Gioia | lauren.gioia@sothebys.com

SOTHEBY'S LONDON OLD MASTER & BRITISH PAINTINGS EVENING AND DAY SALES REALISE A COMBINED TOTAL OF £25,450,675/ \$39,805,531/ €29,706,739

Sotheby's 2011 Global Old Master & British Paintings Auction Sales Reach A Total Of
£163.8 million / \$255.7 million

TEN RECORDS ACHIEVED FOR ARTISTS AT AUCTION ACROSS THE EVENING & DAY SALES

Including: Jan Havicksz Steen's *An Elegant Company in an Interior with Figures Playing Cards at a Table* Sold for £4,857,250 /\$7,588,967/€5,670,857

The most important works by Johann Zoffany to appear on the market in a decade
£6,761,250 /\$10,563,777/ €7,893,784

LONDON, Friday 9th December, 2011 – Sotheby's London Old Master & British Paintings Day Sale realised £5,376,175 / \$8,441,132 / € 6,269,688 - the third-highest total for a Sotheby's Day Sale in this category - bringing the December Old Masters sales series to a combined total of £25,450,675/ \$39,805,531/ €29,706,739, comfortably within the pre-sale estimate of £22,515,000 – 31,254,000 million. Ten record prices at auction were achieved across the Day and Evening Sales.

Alex Bell, Sotheby's Co-Chairman, Old Master Paintings, Worldwide, said: "These strong results bring Sotheby's global sales of Old Master & British Paintings in 2011 to a year-end total of £163,875,057 / \$255,747,567, representing an eleventh successive year of leading in Old Master Paintings auction sales. Our international sale strategy of offering carefully selected works, matched with attractive estimates, has continued to be well received by our international buyers – an increasing proportion of whom are from new markets."

Andrew Fletcher, Sotheby's Director and Specialist in Old Master Paintings said: "We are extremely pleased that our offering of sensibly priced, fresh-to-market works have resulted in a sale total that ranks as the third-highest total for a Day Sale of Old Master and British paintings at Sotheby's. Following on from our Evening auction sale of a pair of exceptional paintings by Johann Zoffany, again in our Day Sale we saw the market respond with great enthusiasm to British Paintings, and we have also witnessed very strong demand for Early Italian works."

Sotheby's Old Master & British Paintings Evening Sale

The top lot of the Evening Sale was a pair of paintings by Johann Zoffany - the most important works by the artist to appear on the market in recent years - *The Garden at Hampton House, with Mr and Mrs David Garrick taking tea* and *The Shakespeare Temple at Hampton House*, which fetched £6,761,250 /\$10,563,777/ €7,893,784 (pre-sale est. £6-8 million). A further sale highlight was Jan Havicksz Steen's masterpiece *An elegant company in an interior with figures playing cards at a table*, which was sold for £4,857,250 /\$7,588,967/ €5,670,857 (est. £4.5-6 million*) and established a new record at auction for the artist.

Notable Evening Sale Prices Achieved:

Lucas Cranach the Younger's *Young Lady Three Quarter Length, in a Green Velvet and Orange Dress and Pear-Embroidered Black Hat* fetched the above-estimate sum of £1,385,250/ \$2,164,315/ €1,617,284 (pre-sale est. £800,000-1,200,000).

Andrea Solario and Studio's oil on panel *Ecco Homo* sold for more than four times its high estimate, fetching £385,250 / \$601,915 / €449,781 (pre-sale est. £60,000-80,000).

A Continental School, early 19th Century *Landscape with Bengal Tigers* sold for more than double its pre-sale high estimate, fetching £301,250/ \$470,673/ €351,710 (pre-sale est. £80,000-120,000).

Strong Evening Sale Prices Achieved for British Painting

Offered at auction for the first time, **Joseph Wright of Derby's** *Virgil's Tomb by Moonlight* fetched the well above high estimate sum of £1,497,250/ \$2,339,303/ €1,748,045 (pre-sale est. £600,000-800,000). An instantly recognisable masterpiece of the British Romantic movement the work was painted in 1779 and is one of a distinguished group of paintings inspired by the artist's travels in Italy.

Notable Day Sale Prices Achieved:

Jan Van Kessel's *Still life with a vase of flowers and a watch*, circa 1652, sold for £385,250 almost five times its pre-sale estimate of £60,000-80,000.

Reynaud Levieux's *The rest on the flight into Egypt* realised £121,250, over two and a half times its presale high estimate of £30,000-50,000.

Strong Day Sale Prices Achieved for British Painting

Henry Fuseli's oil on canvas *Hüon rescuing Angela from Angulaffer, from Wieland's Oberon*, sold for £385,250, exceeding its estimate of £60,000-80,000 by nearly five times.

George Stubbs' equestrian portrait *Lord Grosvenor's Sweet William in a Landscape*, realised £349,250, against an estimate of £50,000-70,000.

Further Records Achieved for Artists At Auction:

In addition to the record price achieved for Jan Havicksz Steen, nine records for artists at auction were achieved.

- **Cornelius Engebrechtsz's** *The Crucifixion with the Virgin Mary, Saints Mary Magdalene, John the Baptist, Peter and an unidentified male saint* sold for £121,250, against a pre-sale estimate of £100,000-150,000.
- **Reynaud Levieux's** *The rest on the flight into Egypt* realised £121,250 against an estimate of £30,000-50,000.
- **Domenico Puligo's** *Holy family with the Madonna supporting the standing Christ child on a stone ledge* was sold for £115,250, surpassing its estimate of £50,000-80,000.
- **Jan Christiaensz Micker's** *The tower of Babel* realised £82,850, exceeding its pre-sale estimate of £30,000-£50,000.
- **Rodrigo de Villandrando's** Portraits of *Philip IV of Spain* and *Isabel de Borbón* were sold for £61,250 against an estimate of £40,000-60,000.
- **Lorenzo Sabatini's** *Holy family with the sleeping Christ child*, fetched £51,650, against an estimate of £30,000-£50,000.

- **Gervasio Gatti's** *Portrait of a young boy, half length with his hand resting on a ledge beside an open book*, realised £25,000, within its pre-sale estimate of £20,000-£30,000.
- **Master of Villalobos'** Birth of the Virgin was sold for £25,000, within its pre-sale estimate of £20,000-£30,000.
- **Willem Reuter's** *A townscape with a bishop healing the sick and injured in front of a church*, realized £17,500 against an estimate of £15,000-20,000.

IMAGES AVAILABLE VIA EMAIL

*Estimates do not include buyer's premium

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