



## September auctions: Top picks

Investing in Modern  
Women Artists

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# Christie's

## Christie's Hong Kong: 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Century Evening Sale 26<sup>th</sup> September

**Contact** Ana Maria Celis for more details: [acelis@christies.com](mailto:acelis@christies.com)

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**Lot 13:**  
**(\$4,000,000 – 6,000,000 HKD)**  
**(\$520,000 – 770,000 USD)**

Tamara de Lempicka  
*Femme assise*

**c. 1925**

Oil on canvas

55 x 33.5 cm. 21 5/8 x 13 1/4 in.

A small work and a fantastic date by Lempicka. Perhaps not her most attractive painting, but with the best works reaching towards \$10m USD, this presents a chance for collectors to purchase a great oil for a low price (for the artist).

This exact piece last sold at auction for \$368,200 USD at [Christie's London in February 2015](#), her auction record has tripled since then. Additionally, two of her top five auction results are 1920s paintings.

Pending condition, we believe this to be an attractive purchase within the estimate.

[View lot ↗](#)



# Christie's

## Christie's New York: Post-War to Present 30<sup>th</sup> September

**Contact** Ana Maria Celis for more details: [acelis@christies.com](mailto:acelis@christies.com)

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### Lot 105: (\$150,000 – 200,000 USD)

Lois Dodd  
*Studio with Door*

**1972**

Oil on canvas

193.4 x 182.9 cm. 76 1/8 x 72 in.

One of the most significant works by Dodd to come to auction from her most desirable decade – 3 of her top 5 auction results are 70s paintings. Her auction record is \$378,000 USD, set by *Reflection of the Barn* (1971), which sold at [Christie's New York in October 2024](#). We expect *Studio with Door* to trade over the high estimate.

Dodd currently has a solo show at the Kunstmuseum Den Haag, in The Hague, which runs until 4th January 2026.

[View lot ↗](#)



**Lot 115:**  
**(\$300,000 – 500,000 USD)**

Alice Neel  
*Dick Bagley's Girlfriend*  
**1946**  
 Oil on canvas  
 76.2 x 40.6 cm. 30 x 16 in.

A nice early work by Neel, though these 40s paintings can often trade erratically at auction. Neel's [Portrait of Dick Bagley](#) (1946) painted the same year is in the Met's permanent collection. This provenance may push bidding higher.

If one finds the aesthetic of the earlier paintings appealing, this would be an attractive purchase within the estimate.

[View lot ↗](#)



**Lot 112:**  
**(\$2,500,000 – 3,500,000 USD)**

Joan Mitchell  
*Peinture II*  
**1964**  
 Oil on canvas  
 99.3 x 100.3 cm. 39 1/8 x 39 1/2 in.

This is a moderate sized, yet fantastic composition by Mitchell and a very solid date. Its colours are characteristic of her style from the mid 1960s.

Basis recent works to go to auction, we believe this painting to be an attractive purchase on the lower end to middle of the estimate, pending condition.

[View lot ↗](#)





**Lot 115:**  
**(\$300,000 – 500,000 USD)**

Ana Mendieta  
*Untitled (Silueta Series, Mexico)*  
**Conceived in 1977 and printed by the Estate in 1991.**  
**Ed. 16/20**  
 Chromogenic print  
 50.8 x 33.7 cm. 20 x 13 1/4 in.

This is a classic depiction by Mendieta, distinctly that of the artist and shown at a decent scale and edition size. However, this is a posthumous printing.

The estimate is in line with prior results, but we think Mendieta's work is still undervalued, especially given her upcoming [Tate Modern exhibition](#), which is set to open July 2026.

[View lot ↗](#)



**Lot 179:**  
**(\$60,000 – 80,000 USD)**

Jane Freilicher  
*Potato Truck*  
**1974**  
 Oil on canvas  
 172.7 x 202.6 cm. 68 x 79 3/4 in.

This is a strong and large example of Freilicher's later representational period, after transitioning out of Abstract Expressionism in the 1960s. Her works are included in over 44 institutional collections worldwide.

Three significant landscapes from this period have come to auction in the past two years, each exceeding their high estimates. *Potato Truck* is stronger than any of these three previously sold works. We expect it to sell towards the high estimate.

We own Freilicher's *The Electric Fan* (1957), in The Levett Collection.

[View lot ↗](#)

# Sotheby's Hong Kong: Modern & Contemporary Evening Auction 28<sup>th</sup> September



**Contact** Junnan Ma for more details: [junnan.ma@sothebys.com](mailto:junnan.ma@sothebys.com)

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**Lot 2:**  
(\$1,400,000 – 2,400,000 HKD)  
(\$180,000 – 308,000 USD)

Lalan  
*The Earth is Far Away*  
**1966**

Oil on canvas  
89 by 116 cm. 35 by 45 5/8 in.

This is a strong work by Lalan, at a good size and a not-so-typical colour palette for this date. This would be an attractive purchase within the estimate.

We now own two works by Lalan, both from the 1960s, which is generally considered to be her most significant period. As one of the most important and only major female Chinese artists of the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, we feel her works are a very strong buy long-term.

[View lot ↗](#)



**Lot 3:**  
(\$600,000 – 800,000 HKD)  
(\$77,100 – 102,800 USD)

Christine Ay Tjoe  
*Large Space of Shoots #1*  
**2020**

Oil on canvas  
80 by 100 cm. 31 1/2 x 39 3/8 in.

This is strong composition in Tjoe's most recent style, which crystallised around 2018. These works typically are the most desired and perform the best at auction.

A similar sized painting from this period has never sold at auction. However, we believe this to be an attractive purchase within the estimate based on how well her work from this period has been performing more generally. A purchase in this range would be either equal to or lower than what the work would cost today, if bought primary.

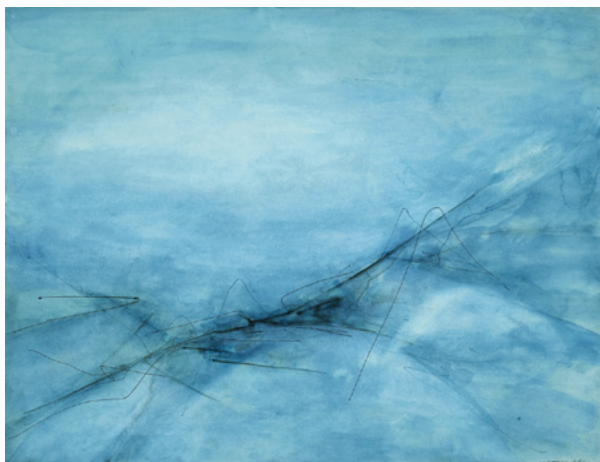
[View lot ↗](#)



# Sotheby's Hong Kong: Modern & Contemporary Day Auction 29<sup>th</sup> September

**Contact** Junnan Ma for more details: [junnan.ma@sothebys.com](mailto:junnan.ma@sothebys.com)

[View sale ↗](#)



**Lot 2:**  
**(\$1,400,000 – 2,400,000 HKD)**  
**(\$180,000 – 308,000 USD)**

Lalan  
*Untitled*

**1969**

Mixed media on paper  
50 by 65 cm. 19 4/5 x 25 3/5 in.

Only a handful of works on paper by Lalan from this period have come to auction. A similar, slightly larger work from c.1970 traded for \$97,200 at [Christies Hong Kong in November 2024](#).

This 1969 work is an attractive purchase in the middle to higher end of the estimate.

[View lot ↗](#)





# Phillips New York: New Now: Modern and Contemporary Art 25<sup>th</sup> September

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**Lot 46:**  
**(\$30,000 – 40,000 USD)**

Kennedy Yanko  
*Don't take my truth for ignorance*

**2023**

Paint skin and metal  
40.6 x 31.1 x 17.8 cm. 16 x 12 1/4 x 7 in.

This is a strong sculpture by Yanko at an appealing estimate. Though on the smaller side, it is a great size for domestic hanging – her works can often be larger and unwieldy.

She has been included in group shows at The Albertina Modern, Vienna (2025) and Brooklyn Museum, NY (2024). Her work is now included in more than 10 institutional collections worldwide, including the Albertina Museum, Vienna; Perez Art Museum, Miami and the National Museum of African History and Culture, Washington D.C.

We now own *Living Colour* by Yanko in the Levett Collection, which was purchased this year.

[View lot ↗](#)



**Lot 63:**  
**(\$20,000 – 30,000 USD)**

Claire Falkenstein  
*Untitled (Fusion)*

**c. 1970**

Welded copper and fused glass  
 9.2 x 24.1 x 12.7 cm. 3 5/8 x 9 1/2 x 5 in.

A strong, small-scale sculpture by Falkenstein and a great date. We expect this to trade towards the high estimate.

We have a similar work by her in The Levett Collection: *Sign of U (Small Sun)* (c. 1959-62). It is currently on view at FAMM, Mougins.

[View lot ↗](#)



**Lot 142:**  
**(\$10,000 – 15,000 USD)**

Nan Goldin  
*Self-Portrait on My Bed, The Lodge, Belmont*  
**1988**

Ed. 3/25

dye destruction print

40.6 x 60.6 cm. 16 x 23 7/8 in.

This is a great and particularly rare self-portrait by Goldin, at a nice edition size. It is an attractive purchase within the estimate – a price much lower than current gallery offerings for her work. We will be spotlighting Goldin in a future letter.

[View lot ↗](#)



## Featured gallery exhibition

### Emmi Whitehorse: Inside the White Cube

[Learn more ↗](#)*White Cube, Paris*

**10<sup>th</sup> September**  
**— 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

White Cube, Paris, recently opened a show of works by Native American painter, Emmi Whitehorse – this is their first exhibition of the artist, who is represented by Garth Greenan. There is a strong possibility that White Cube takes over representation or moves to co-represent Whitehorse with Garth. We saw exactly the same scenario with Howardena Pindell, who has now been co-represented by the two since May 2024.

Whitehorse has gone from strength to strength over the past two years: her top ten auction results have all occurred in the last 18 months. However, we believe this is not another example of a contemporary art bubble involving a recent MFA graduate, but instead an underrepresented artist finally receiving her deserved recognition.

She is a late-career artist with deep institutional representation, with works held in more than 50 public collections worldwide, including The Whitney Museum of American Art (acquired three works, most recently in 2023); the National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C (acquired 2022) and The Detroit Institute of Arts (acquired two works, most recently in 2023). She has not yet had a solo show at a major museum, though this is almost certainly not going to be the case for long. She has been included in group exhibitions at National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C. (2023); Whitney Museum of American Art (2019-22) and Springfield Art Museum (2012).

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Emmi Whitehorse

*Dream Site*

**2016**

Mixed media on paper mounted on canvas

101 x 129.9 cm. 39 3/4 x 51 1/8 in.



Emmi Whitehorse

*Crown Stems*

**2008**

Mixed media on paper mounted on canvas

100.3 x 130.2 cm. 39 1/2 x 51 1/4 in.



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