

ARTCURIAL

30 WORKS FROM THE MICHELE MORGAN COLLECTION

Auction on 30th and 31st May 2017 at 7pm & 3pm
And 20th June 2017 at 6pm in Paris



Moïse Kisling, *Portrait de Michèle Morgan*, 1942, oil on canvas, provenance: Michèle Morgan succession, Paris, estimate: € 40,000 - 60 000 / \$44,000 - 66 000

Exhibition

Impressionist & Modern Art

From Friday 26th to Monday 30th May 2017

Fashion Arts

Friday 16th to Monday 19th 2017

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Paris – Following Artcurial's success after the 2009 dispersion of the great French cinematographer Gerard Oury's collection under the gavel of Francis Briest, the auction house is delighted to offer collectors the chance to acquire works directly from the collection of Michèle Morgan, the famous French actresses, who was also his companion.

- Firstly, on the 30th and 31st May, during the impressionist and modern art auction, a set of Raoul Dufy, Aristide Maillol and Marcel Gormaire paintings, drawings and watercolours of the Michèle Morgan collection will be dispersed. Two even more personal works are to be mentioned: A portrait of the actress by Moses Kisling and a painting received by Michèle Morgan for her interpretation prize at the 1946 Cannes Festival
- On 20th June, during the Fashion Arts sale, Artcurial will showcase works by Michèle Morgan herself. Her lesser-known talents as a painter were the subject of several exhibitions, organised by Marcelle Oury, the mother of her companion and close friend of Raoul Dufy.

These auctions will be the opportunity for Artcurial to pay tribute to a great French actress, who passed away in December of last year and to pay tribute to her passion for painting.

« Throughout her life, the actress entertained an intimate rapport with the artists that she loved and understood. Pictorial art was a need, a simple pleasure. « ... the joy of the eyes, the pleasure of invention », as she liked to say.

It is our turn today to feel this joy, discovering what « the most beautiful eyes of the silver screen » admired. »

Bruno Jaubert, director
Impressionist and Modern Art department, Artcurial



Michèle Morgan devant *La frise aux personnages* d'André Lhote © DR ; André Lhote, *La frise aux personnages*, 1930, gouache paint and pen on paper, provenance: Michèle Morgan succession, Paris, estimate : €3 000 - 4 000 / \$3 300 - 4 400

Michèle Morgan Collection

30th and 31st May 2017

On May 30th and 31st, during the Impressionist and Modern Art auction, Artcurial will present works selected directly from the Michèle Morgan (1920-2016) collection. An art lover, the French actress collected numerous paintings, aquarelles and drawings throughout her life, guided by Marcelle Oury, the mother of the man who shared her life since 1959, the cinematographer Gérard Oury.

In 1942, Michèle Morgan is already a movie star since the resounding success of the legendary *Quai des brumes* in 1938, co starring Jean Gabin. She leaves Paris, occupied since 1940, for Los Angeles. There, she meets Franco-Polish artist Moses Kisling, also settling on the west coast of the United States, and agrees to pose for him. This is a true revelation for the young woman, who is completely fascinated by the painter's work. Marcel Gromaire, Aristide Maillol, André Lhote, Charles Lapicque and Raoul Dufy: Back in France, the actress who frequents the artistic circles of Montparnasse, meets and spends time with contemporary artists and develops a passion for their work.

From her collection, Artcurial will offer a selection of major works, such as *Le portrait de Michèle Morgan* created in 1942 by Moïse Kisling in Los Angeles (estimate: €40,000 – 60,000 / \$44,000 – 66,000) alongside several Raoul Dufy paintings, including the *Vernet-les-Bains* and *Beer* aquarelles, estimated each €40,000 – 60,000 / \$44,000 – 66,000. Also to be noted are the Aristide Maillol drawings *Femme accroupie* or *Homme nu debout* (estimate: €500 – 700 / \$550 – 770 each), or a Marcel Gromaire aquarelle created in 1967, *Cinq personnes à la plage* (estimate: €3,000 – 4,000 / \$3,300 – 4,400).

Amongst the pieces the actress received as gifts is the Henri de Waroquier oil on wood panel *Eglise d'Ile-de-France* (estimate: €1,000 – 1,500 / \$1,100 – 1,650). In 1946, during the first edition of the Cannes Film Festival, Michèle Morgan is given the award of Best Female Interpretation for her role in *La Symphonie pastorale* by Jean Delannoy. She was given the painting which from that day on, was always in her possession.

Pieces signed by the actress

20th June 2017

On June 20th, during the Fashion Arts auction, Artcurial will reintroduce to collectors and amateurs another lesser known aspect of Michèle Morgan's personality: her talent as a painter. Several pieces signed by her hand will be up for auction.

Indeed, following her encounter with Moses Kisling in 1940, the actress feels the imperative need to pick up brush and pencil, and start to create. Marcelle Oury, an intimate friend of Raoul Dufy and great collector, passionately encourages Michèle Morgan's artistic vocation and even organises her first personal exhibition.

Works titled *Composition* representing colourful geometric gouache on paper and oil on canvas or panel motifs. They are each estimated at €500 – 1,000 / \$550 – 1,100.



Raoul Dufy, *Vernet-les-Bains*, 1941, aquarelle on paper, provenance: Michèle Morgan succession, Paris, estimate: € 40,000 - 60,000 / \$44,000 - 66,000



Henri de Waroquier, *Eglise d'Ile-de-France*, huile sur panneau, provenance : succession Michèle Morgan, Paris, estimation : 1 000 - 1 500 € / 1 100 - 1 650 \$



Michèle Morgan, *Composition*, gouache sur papier, provenance : succession Michèle Morgan, Paris, estimation : 500 - 1 000 € / 550 - 1 100 \$



Michèle Morgan, *Composition*, 1986, oil on canvas, provenance : succession Michèle Morgan, Paris, estimation : 500 - 1 000 € / 550 - 1 100 \$

ABOUT ARTCURIAL

Founded in 2002, Artcurial, a multidisciplinary auction house based in Paris, reinforcing its leading position in the market of the international art in 2015.

With 3 sale venues in Paris, Monte-Carlo and Hong Kong, the House totals 210.1 million euros in sales volume in 2016, doubling its turnover in 5 years (+10% compared to 2015).

It covers the whole spectrum of major specialties: Beaux-Arts to decorative arts, collector automobiles, jewellery, collector timepieces, fine wines and spirits...

Resolutely turned toward the international market, Artcurial asserts its network abroad with representation offices in Brussels, Milan, Monte-Carlo, Munich and Vienna as well as a presence in Beijing and Tel Aviv, and biannual exhibitions in New York. In October 2015, Artcurial organised its first sale in Hong Kong and in Morocco.



HD visuals available upon request

Estimates in dollars provided for information purposes only

Catalogues available online at www.artcurial.com

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