

ARTCURIAL

Urban Anthology URBAN ART ICONS : A PRIVATE COLLECTION

Sale on 28th February 2017 at 7pm, in Paris



Kaws, *Companion (Original Fake)*, 2010, painted fiberglass, private collection, estimate: € 150,000 - € 250,000 / \$ 175, 000 - \$ 285,000

Exhibition

From Saturday 25th to Monday 27th 2017

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Paris – For the first time, on 28th February 2017, the Artcurial Urban Art department is presenting a sale entirely dedicated to the dispersion of a private collection. Entitled « Urban Anthology », this set of 23 works offers a prospective of the most iconic urban artists from the last decades. From historical graffiti from the 1990's by the American Rammellzee to a Pablo Picasso-inspired Banksy, a monumental two-meters high *Companion* by Kaws, these major urban art pieces are the reflection of the conviction and audacity animated by the choices of this collector.

In order to magnify the precursory spirit of the collector who gathered these works together, Artcurial wished to stage the collection in a place symbolizing creation. The pieces were photographed at the National Dance Centre in Pantin, a concrete building dating from the 1970's, when graffiti art appeared in New York. They blend seamlessly with the venue's singular architecture, revealing themselves throughout the visit.

« We wanted to put forward the diverging aesthetics of the set as the common thread, in a particular universe, namely the National Dance Centre. This is not "street art", it is primarily an aesthetic: pop, underground, challenging. »

Arnaud Oliveux, Auctioneer,
Urban Art department, Artcurial

« A major piece in urban art is one that is a prolongation of pop art, one which pushes you to redefine your daily urban environment, intrigues with a detail, a colour, a proportion. »

Fabien Naudan,
Vice-president, Artcurial



Rammellzee, "Tughnote" Trixter Bolt from 4 Assassin, 1985, mixed technique on oil, private collection, estimation: € 20,000 - € 30,000 / \$22,000 - \$ 33,000

An urban art anthology

Named «Urban Anthology from a private collector», this private collection gathers together the most iconic urban art artists, brought together by a passionate collector. An Urban Art and Contemporary Art enthusiast, he met with the most celebrated members of the movement, purchasing the very best pieces found on the market. These major works document the various stages of urban art.

Within the collection, three pieces by the American Rammellzee – on canvas, wood and Plexiglas– illustrate historical graffiti from the 1990's. The oldest one, named *Tughnote Trixter Bolt from 4 Assassin*, dates from 1985 (estimate: €20,000 – €30,000 / \$22,000 – \$33,000). Modern urban scenes are represented by essential figures, including Americans, such as Shepard Fairey. Six of his famous stencils appear in the collection, such as the large scale *OBEY Eye* estimated €35,000 – €45,000 / \$38,500 – \$49,500, and *Your Eyes Here* (estimate: €30,000 – €50,000 / and \$33,000 – \$55,000). A one of a kind Kaws piece is also up for auction: a monumental version of the famous *Companion (Original Fake)*. More than two meters in height, it is the first time a figure of this size is sold at auction in the world (estimate: €150,000 – €250,000 / \$165,000 – \$275,000).

The art of deflection

The coherence of the set? The art of deflection. The 23 pieces in this collection intrigue and lead us to wonder. Behind their apparent aesthetic simplicity, they deliver a more complex message, often a criticism of society by the artist.

A diversion symbolized by the marble and wood stele entitled *Picasso Quote* engraved with the Pablo Picasso quotation: "Bad artists imitate, great artists steal", on which Banksy scratches out the Catalan painter's signature, etching his own below (estimate: €100,000 - €200,000 / \$110,000 - \$220,000). With *Rodeo Girl*, the British artist tackles two icons of the popular American culture: the rodeo and the pin-up by presenting this toothless and overlapping a bomb of painting, irreverent symbol of the Art contestant (estimate: €200,000 - €300,000 / \$220,000 - \$330,000).

This art of diversion is also found in the works of Stephen Sprouse *Orange, Rose and Speaker Stack* (estimate: €5 000 - €7 000 / \$ 5 500 - \$ 7 700). This "Warhol child," whose style is permeated with irreverent punk and pop, mixed fashion and art by reinventing the Louis Vuitton monogram, in 2000's.

Among the dissident artists in this collection, Barry McGee is to be noted, a well-known figure State side for his sharp criticism of advertising and consumer society with *Untitled*, a four-meters wide work composed of 76 elements.

Chris Johanson, Kenny Sharf, Ryan McGinness and Jules de Balincourt also figure in the collection.



Shepard Fairey, *Your Eyes Here*, 2010, pochoir, peinture aérosol et collage sur toile, collection particulière, estimation : 30 000 - 50 000 € / 33 000 - 55 000 \$ (left)
Shepard Fairey, *OBEY Eye*, 2010, pochoir, peinture aérosol et collage sur toile, collection particulière, estimation : 35 000 - 45 000 € / 38 500 - 49 500 \$ (right)



Banksy, *Picasso Quote*, 2009, sculpted marble and wood, private collection, estimate: €100,000 - €200,000 / \$110,000 - \$220,000



Banksy, *Rodeo Girl*, 2009, pencil and oil on canvas, private collections, estimate: €200,000 - €300,000 / \$220,000 - \$330,000

A 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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