



## *ARTCURIAL & CHARLIE LE MINDU*

### *The Flagship Auction*

Charlie le Mindu's Collection  
Auction, 5 October 2022, 3pm

Artcurial is thrilled to present the amazing world of Charlie le Mindu with a selection of his most iconic works that will go under hammer during next Paris Fashion Week. On 5 October collectors will have the opportunity to acquire one of the twenty-one works produced by the artist throughout his career, testifying of his creativity and virtuosity. Artcurial will present in particular the *Blonde Lips*, a true masterpiece worn by Lady Gaga in her *Bad Romance* music video.

PARIS – Artcurial will present on 5 October, in Paris, a selection of the most iconic works from Charlie Le Mindu, the artist that conceptualized the concept of Haute Coiffure.

Early in the 2000's, the young Charlie, aged 16, had already made his mark in a traditional hair salon in the small town of Bergerac before discovering the fascinating world of punk hairdressing in Bordeaux with Caroline Martial, who opened up to him the doors of an almost infinite creative universe. It was time for him to join the heart of Europe which was then beating in Berlin to the rhythm of electro music. Charlie carries his hair kit through Berlin clubs where he sets up pop-up salons. Six years of nightlife and Charlie leaves Berlin to join London. It is in this city, which has already revealed John Galliano and Alexander McQueen, that Charlie will design and develop the project of his life: Haute Coiffure.

The success is almost immediate, and the collections follow one another in an incredible surge of creativity. Gold Sabah, Metal Queen, Burka Curfew, Girls in Paradise... Every Charlie's show becomes a London Fashion Week event. Collaborating with other creative minds, Charlie begins his collaboration with Lady Gaga on Bad Romance, the clip with 1.5 billion views. A new page in his story opens in Los Angeles where he strings together projects at the frenetic pace imposed by the city of angels. He is recognized for his virtuosity, his professionalism and his altruism. In twenty years of career Charlie has set himself only one objective: to offer a moment of happiness to everyone, from the regulars of the small salon of Bergerac to the greatest artists of our time.

**« The works of Charlie Le Mindu are the very incarnation of the between Haute Coiffure and Haute Couture. We are very proud to be the first to offer at auction the work of this extraordinary visual artist. »**

- Clara Vivien,  
Fashion & Luxury Accessories, Artcurial

**« Artcurial and myself are delighted to give the opportunity to collectors around the world to join the adventure of Haute Coiffure by becoming the owner of some of my most significant works created in uncharted artistic territories. Those works bear witness to my artistic approach and collaborations I've been lucky enough to have with some of the most creative minds from our era. »**

- Charlie Le Mindu



**PINK FLAMINGO (2010)**  
Natural hair, cotton, silk  
Worn by Lady Gaga on multiple occasions during the promotion of the Born this Way album.  
Estimate on request



**FLUORESCENT SPECIES**  
Natural hair, fluorescent pigments  
Exhibition, Charliewood,  
Palais de Tokyo / New York / Miami, 2016  
Exhibition, Sculptures Capillaires,  
Base Sous-Marine, Bordeaux, 2016  
Estimate on request

**BLONDE LIPS**  
Natural hair, silk, polyurethane foam  
Collection, Girls of Paradise,  
Spring-Summer 2010  
Estimate on request



**MASK**  
Natural hair  
Exhibition, Charliewood  
Palais de Tokyo / New York / Miami, 2016  
Exhibition, Sculptures Capillaires  
Base Sous-Marine, Bordeaux, 2016  
Estimate on request



## *Blonde Lips, Icon from the Pop Culture*

The Blonde Lips are undoubtedly the most striking piece ever produced by Charlie le Mindu. If this work has attracted the attention of museums and collectors for more than a decade, it is because it bears witness to the role played by Charlie on October 6th, 2009, the date on which four of the greatest creative talents were to bring Art, Fashion and Music in a new decade. That day, Alexander Lee McQueen, Lady Gaga, Nick Knight and Charlie le Mindu announced that the next ten years were going to be marked by ecological awareness and the culmination of social media as a new paradigm.

On October 6, 2009, Alexander Lee McQueen presented what was to be his last fashion show in Paris. Once again the British fashion designer offers a show in the form of an apocalyptic spectacle placed under the theme of a nature that is undergoing the effect of climate change. The sea level rises and the bodies mutate, gills appear on the faces of the models perched on incredible shoes called Armadillos.

Aware of the advent of new media, Nick Knight offers Alexander McQueen the opportunity to broadcast the show live on the internet so that this exceptional moment is shared with as many people as possible. A moment that will end with the new title Bad Romance by Lady Gaga, new queen of pop and close friend of the couturier. Gaga announces the news to her community by posting a simple Tweet that would quickly go viral.

The rest is history: the success of the retransmission is such that the servers crash. The Bad Romance video clip directed by Francis Lawrence, which will later be broadcast on Youtube, reaches 1.5 billion views. The success is global. Lady Gaga appears wearing the Armadillos shoes and Charlie le Mindu's Blonde Lips. A unique work, from the Girls of Paradise collection, which instantly becomes iconic. The beginning of a long collaboration between Gaga and Charlie whose works will be unveiled during Gaga's public appearances.

*Video Clip, Lady Gaga, Bad Romance, 2009*  
*Fashion Show, Girls of Paradise, collection S/S, 2010*  
*Performance, Art Athina, Athènes, 2010*  
*Exhibition, Fondation Boghossian, Bruxelles, 2011*  
*Exhibition, The Power of Making,  
Victoria and Albert Museum, Londres, 2011*  
*Exhibition, ARRRGHH!, Gaîté-Lyrique, Paris, 2013*  
*Exhibition, A Queen Within, adorned Archetypes,  
Christie's NYC, 2013 / New Orleans Museum of Art, 2018 /  
Museum of Pop Culture, Seattle, 2019*  
*Exhibition, Hair Now, Erarta Museum,  
Saint Petersburg, 2015*  
*Exhibition, Sculptures Capillaires, Base Sous-Marine,  
Bordeaux, 2016*

**AQUA DRESS**  
Natural hair, cotton  
Created for the Lady Gaga special  
edition of the Paul O'Grady Show  
in (June 2011)  
Estimate on request



**LION'S MANE**  
Natural hair, cotton  
Estimate on request



**NAILS DRESS**  
Fake nails, natural hair, organza  
Collection, Burka Curfew,  
Spring-Summer 2012  
Estimate on request



## *L'Hydne Hérisson ou la matière en mouvement*

Inspired by the Lion's Mane, a mushroom from the northern hemisphere that can be identified by its long spines. It celebrates the hair as the material of movement by offering a polymorphic alternative to the static and immutable character of the work of Art.

Close to the creatures found in pop culture and science fiction, the work activates its magical character. The spectator then finds himself confronted with a phenomenon of incarnation not knowing if it is of divine, human or animal origin.

*Exhibition Charliewood  
Palais de Tokyo Paris -New York - Art Basel Miami*

*Exhibition Fondation Cartier, Soirées Nomades,  
Paris, 2014*

*Clip Alice Rosatti & Charlie le Mindu, Fantasy,  
Visionaire Magazine, 2016*

*Ballet Lib by choreographer Alexander Ekman,  
including Polina Semionova*

*Erarta Museum*

***« Having always been fascinated by hair and its movements, I consider hairdressing as an Art in its own right. Travelling and living in different places, I met people: I fell in love with cultures, of different eclectic personalities, of the electrical energy of cities and forces of nature, plural expressions and difference. I have explored weirdness, the boundaries of beauty and gender. I fed myself of this multiplicity of singularities, which gave me the inspiration and the strength to take hairdressing to new territories, to create hybrids such as Haute Coiffure, Tricophilic Art or hair choreographies. »***

- Charlie Le Mindu

## INFORMATIONS PRATIQUES

Public exhibition :  
From 28 September to 4 October 4th, 2022

Vente aux enchères :  
Wednesday 5 October 2022, 3pm

7 Rond-Point  
des Champs-Élysées  
75008 Paris

## MATÉRIEL PRESSE

High resolution images available on  
request

Full catalogue on [artcurial.com](http://artcurial.com)

## CONTACTS PRESSE

Director of External Relations  
Anne-Laure Guérin  
+33 (0)1 42 99 20 86  
[alguerin@artcurial.com](mailto:alguerin@artcurial.com)

Press Officer  
Déborah Bensaïd  
+33 (0)1 42 99 20 76  
[dbensaïd@artcurial.com](mailto:dbensaïd@artcurial.com)



CHARLIE LE MINDU

### *About Artcurial*

Founded in 2002, multidisciplinary Paris based auction house Artcurial confirmed its leading position on the international art market scene in 2021. With three sale venues in Paris, Monaco and Marrakech, the auction house achieved an overall sales total of 169 million euros in 2021.

Artcurial covers all the major specialist fields including Fine Arts, Decorative Arts, Collectors' Cars, Jewellery, Watches, Fine Wines and Spirits...

With a strong international bias, Artcurial maintains its presence abroad with offices in Brussels, Milan, Monte-Carlo, Munich, Vienna and Spain. In October 2015, Artcurial held its first sale in Hong Kong and Morocco.

[artcurial.com](http://artcurial.com)

# ARTCURIAL