

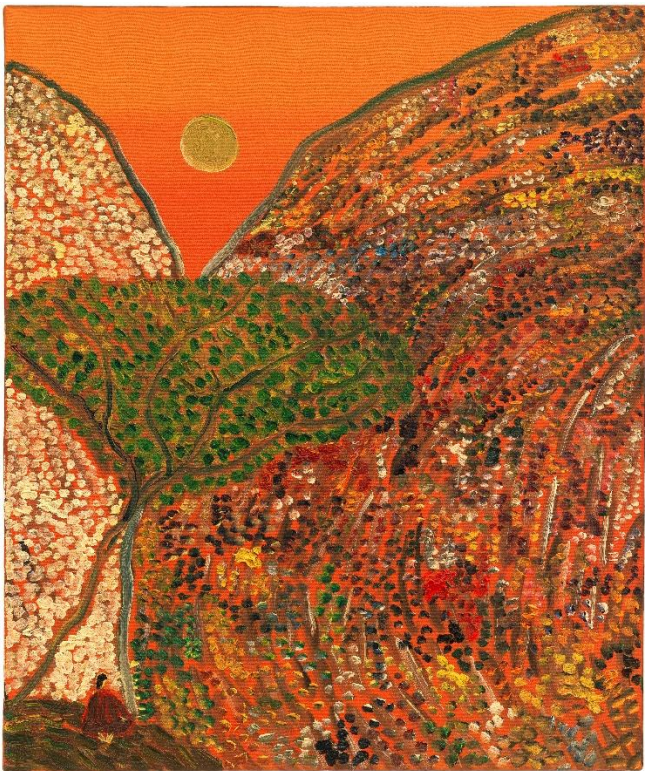
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PRESS RELEASE

PHILLIPS ANNOUNCES HIGHLIGHTS FROM JUNE SALE OF MODERN & CONTEMPORARY ART IN HONG KONG

The Live Sale on 2 June Featuring Works by Matthew Wong, Lee Ufan, Chen Yifei, Yayoi Kusama, Ju Ming, and More

Two Online Auctions Open for Bidding This May - June, Including a Sale Featuring Standout Voices in Contemporary Art and Another Dedicated to Prints by Zao Wou-Ki



Matthew Wong

The Recluse, 2017

oil on canvas, 61 x 50.8 cm.

Estimate: HK\$5,500,000 - 8,500,000/US\$705,000 - 1,090,000

HONG KONG – 15 May 2026 – Phillips is pleased to present highlights from its upcoming [Modern & Contemporary Art Sale](#), taking place at 4pm HKT on 2 June at its Asia headquarters in Hong Kong's West Kowloon Cultural District. The auction will be on public view from 24 May to 2 June, offering collectors and art enthusiasts the opportunity to experience the works firsthand. Complementing the live sale, [Modern & Contemporary Art: Online Auction, Hong Kong](#), featuring standout voices in contemporary art, such as Katherine Bernhardt, Yoshitomo Nara, Eddie Martinez, and Julian Opie, will be open for bidding from 20 May to 3 June. Additionally, [Modern & Contemporary Art: Online Auction, Hong Kong](#), dedicated to prints by Zao Wou-Ki from a single-owner collection assembled by an important Asian collector, will run from 29 May to 9 June.

Highlights from the Modern & Contemporary Art Sale on 2 June

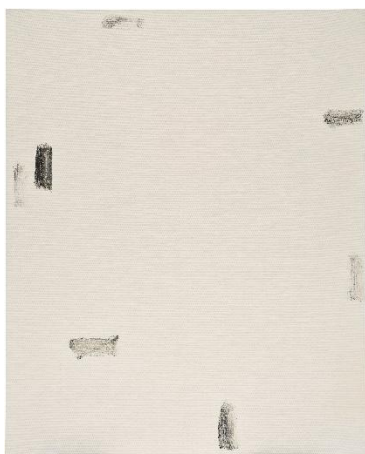
The sale is led by Matthew Wong's *The Recluse* (illustrated page 1), a powerful work that distills the emotional depth and lyrical intensity emblematic of the artist's practice. The painting unfolds as a hushed, saturated landscape in which solitude is not merely suggested but profoundly felt. Thick passages of impasto surge from the flanking mountains toward a radiant sun, animating the surface with both physical and emotional charge. At the centre, a solitary figure stands as a poignant emblem of Wong's enduring exploration of the tension between inner life and the external world, between isolation and communion, introspection and vastness. Executed just one year before the artist's widely acclaimed solo debut at Karma Gallery in New York, *The Recluse* anticipates the clarity of vision and expressive confidence that would soon bring Wong international recognition.



Chen Yifei
Bridge Reflection (Suzhou), 1987
oil on canvas, 87 x 106.8 cm.
Estimate: HK\$800,000 - 1,200,000/
US\$103,000 - 154,000

Additional highlights include Chen Yifei's *Bridge Reflection (Suzhou)* from his celebrated Water Villages series, offering a poetic vision of Suzhou poised between romanticism and realism. Rendered in layered oil paint and subtly softened with sandpaper, its mist-filled surface evokes nostalgia, while the bridge serves as a metaphor for the convergence of personal memory and Eastern and Western visual traditions. Lee Ufan's *With Winds* also featured prominently, embodying the artist's quiet poetry of suggestion. Through delicate brushwork balancing presence and void, the work draws viewers into a meditative space between gesture and silence.

Adding a vibrant burst of energy to the sale are works by two of Japan's most influential women artists: an iconic soft sculpture by Yayoi Kusama, and one of Chiharu Shiota's most recognisable *State of Being* sculptures, incorporating a cartographic map.



Lee Ufan
With Winds, 1991
pigment suspended in glue on canvas,
161.9 x 130.2 cm.
Estimate: HK\$800,000 - 1,200,000/
US\$103,000 - 154,000



Yayoi Kusama
Castle of Visionary Flowers, 1988
mixed media sculpture, 40 x 30 x 13.5 cm.
Estimate: HK\$350,000 - 650,000/
US\$44,900 - 83,300



Chiharu Shiota
State of Being (Map), 2020
metal frame, maps and wire thread,
71 x 35 x 35.4 cm.
Estimate: HK\$380,000 - 580,000/
US\$48,700 - 74,400

Another standout highlight of the sale is a signature sculpture from Ju Ming's renowned Taichi Series, in which the artist distills the philosophy and movement of Tai Chi into powerful, pared-down form, capturing stillness within motion. Also featured is Atsuko Tanaka's *Untitled*, created following her involvement with the Gutai movement. Translating the ephemeral energy of her Electric Dress performance into painting, the work's entangled circular forms and uneven lines evoke a dynamic tension between rhythm and instability.

Diane Dal-Pra creates paintings that reinterpret the compositional clarity and spatial discipline of the Renaissance through a contemporary lens, drawing on classical balance, architectural framing, and illusionism. Within these carefully structured frameworks, she inserts everyday domestic elements to explore themes of memory, care, and concealment.



Ju Ming
Taichi Series – Sparring, 1995
 bronze, 46.5 x 28 x 29.5 cm.
 Estimate: HK\$350,000 - 550,000/
 US\$44,900 - 70,500



Atsuko Tanaka
Untitled, 1986
 synthetic polymer paint on canvas, 27.5 x 22 cm.
 Estimate: HK\$260,000 - 350,000/ US\$33,300 -
 44,900



Daine Dal-Pra
After dinner, before bedtime, 2021
 oil on linen, 162 x 130 cm.
 Estimate: HK\$500,000 - 700,000/
 US\$64,100 - 89,700

Highlights from Modern & Contemporary Art: Online Auctions in Hong Kong

Phillips is pleased to present a single-owner, no-reserve online sale featuring a focused selection of prints by Zao Wou-Ki. Spanning four decades from the 1950s through the 1990s, the offering traces the evolution of the artist's abstract language through a medium that is both versatile and deeply experimental. After settling in Paris in the late 1940s, Zao Wou-Ki immersed himself in the city's dynamic artistic milieu, where printmaking played a crucial role in shaping his practice. For the artist, it was not merely a means of refining gesture, but a true laboratory for exploring colour, rhythm, and space. Together, these works offer a compelling counterpoint to his paintings and works on paper, revealing the sustained energy, innovation, and expressive depth that defined his career.



Katherine Bernhardt
Lies, 2020
 acrylic on canvas, 183 x 152 cm.
 Estimate: HK\$200,000–300,000/ US\$25,000-38,000
 To be offered in
 Modern & Contemporary Art: Online Auction, Hong Kong
 20 May- 3 June



Zao Wou-Ki
Sans titre, 1963
 lithograph on paper, 65x50cm.
 Estimate: HK\$30,000-50,000-US\$3,800-6,400
 To be offered in
 Modern & Contemporary Art: Online Auction, Hong Kong
 29 May- 9 June

Modern & Contemporary Art (Live Auction): 2 June, 4pm HKT <https://www.phillips.com/auction/HK010426>

Modern & Contemporary Art: Online Auction, Hong Kong: 20 May 12pm HKT - 3 June 2pm HKT

<https://www.phillips.com/auction/HK010126>

Modern & Contemporary Art: Online Auction, Hong Kong: 29 May 12pm HKT - 9 June 2pm HKT

<https://www.phillips.com/auction/HK010926>

Auction Preview: 24 May - 2 June, 10am-7pm

Location: Phillips Asia Headquarters, GF, WKCDA Tower, West Kowloon Cultural District, No. 8 Austin Road West, Kowloon, Hong Kong

ABOUT PHILLIPS

Phillips: where the world's curious and bold connect with the art, design, and luxury that inspires them. As a leading global platform for buying and selling 20th and 21st century works, Phillips offers dedicated expertise in the areas of Modern and Contemporary Art, Design, Photographs, Editions, Watches, and Jewels. Auctions and exhibitions are primarily held in New York, London, Geneva, and Hong Kong, with representative offices based throughout Europe, the United States, and Asia. Phillips offers a regular selection of live and online auctions, along with items available for immediate purchase. Phillips also offers a range of services and advice on all aspects of collecting, including private sales and assistance with appraisals, valuations, and financial planning. Visit [phillips.com](https://www.phillips.com) for further information.

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium; prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium.*

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