

# PHILLIPS

PRESS RELEASE

## PHILLIPS' SALES OF THE COLLECTION OF AMBASSADOR JOHN L. LOEB, JR. ACHIEVE \$18 MILLION ACROSS GLOBAL AUCTION SERIES

The Most Important Danish Art Collection in Private Hands Commands International Demand with 16 Works Being Acquired by Globally Renowned Institutions

Collection Achieves a White-Glove Result Across the New York Live Auctions, with New Artist Records Set Throughout the Spring for P. S. Krøyer, Anna Ancher, Harald Slott-Møller, Edvard Eriksen, and Joel Ballin



Vilhelm Hammershøi's *Courtyard Interior at Strandgade 30* selling at the May Evening Sale of Modern & Contemporary Art in New York; Jeremiah Evarts phone bidding with Principal Auctioneer Henry Highley

NEW YORK – 3 JUNE 2026 – Phillips is proud to announce that The Collection of Ambassador John L. Loeb Jr. has surpassed its aggregate pre-sale estimate, achieving a grand total of \$18 million across five auctions, which took place over the course of the spring season in New York and London. In all, 135 works were sold from the collection, beginning with an enthusiastic response in London, followed by a 100%-sold white-glove performance in New York, and concluding with an online sale that was 90% sold by lot. This led to an extraordinary overall sell-through rate of 90%, with 43% of works selling above the high estimate. At once scholarly and deeply personal, Ambassador Loeb's collection has resonated across markets, reaffirming Phillips' ability to strategically place rare, category-defining works with the world's most discerning collectors and institutions.

**Jeremiah Evarts, Deputy Chairman, Americas, Senior International Specialist, Modern & Contemporary Art,** said, "It has been such a privilege to present the extraordinary Collection of Ambassador John L. Loeb Jr. to our community of collectors over the spring season, and serving as the auctioneer in our final live auction of the group was a wonderful full-circle moment. Ambassador Loeb's collection is undisputedly the most important private collection of Danish art ever assembled, and the global participation we witnessed over the course of the spring season — with registrants from 30 countries and buyers from all corners of the globe — is a testament to its rightful

significance within the art historical canon. With the conclusion of these sales, we are proud to announce that 16 works have found new homes in some of the world's most renowned institutions."

**Kirsten MacDonald, Regional Director, Scandinavia**, said, "This collection has given Danish art a remarkable moment to shine on the global stage. Presenting these artists alongside some of the most celebrated contemporary artists of our time has highlighted both the enduring relevance and international appeal of Danish art. I am deeply encouraged by the enthusiasm we saw from Danish institutions and private collectors. To see so many of these exceptional works returning to Denmark, where they can be enjoyed by the public, has exceeded all of my expectations."



**Harald Slott-Møller, *Summer Day (Sommerdag)*, 1888**  
Estimate: \$30,000–50,000  
SOLD FOR \$1,290,000

**A NEW AUCTION RECORD FOR THE ARTIST**

## GLOBAL DEMAND AND INSTITUTIONAL ACQUISITIONS

Across the auctions, global institutional interest was evident, with registered bidders hailing from 30 countries and with five Danish museums acquiring six works across the London auctions. Two works by Vilhelm Hammershøi in the New York Evening Sale — *Courtyard Interior at Strandgade 30* and *Study of standing woman, seen from behind* — were also acquired by renowned global institutions. The 16 total public acquisitions by museums include:

### ORDRUPGAARD

Acquired *Interior with a Bunch of Wildflowers, Tyrol* by [Bertha Wegmann](#)

### STATENS MUSEUM FOR KUNST

Acquired *Study drawing after plaster cast of ancient Greek Aphrodite, torso from c. 500 B.C.*  
by [Vilhelm Hammershøi](#)

### THE DAVID COLLECTION

Acquired *Seated Chinese Man in Mandarin Dress* by [Jens Juel](#)

### RANDERS KUNSTMUSEUM

Acquired *Johanne Wilde at Her Loom* by [L. A. Ring](#)

### RIBE KUNSTMUSEUM

Acquired *The New Hat* by [Ludvig Find](#)  
and *Collecting Mussels at Low Tide at Le Portel, France, 1888* by [Laurits Tuxen](#)

### VESTSJÆLLANDS MUSEUM

Acquired *Ships in a Harbor at Kalundborg Fjord (Skibe i havn ved Kalundborg Fjord)* by [J. Th. Lundbye](#)

These placements from this Collection reflect Phillips' trusted relationships with institutions worldwide, as well as the auction house's role in stewarding works of cultural significance into major public collections.

## MARKET-LEADING RESULTS AND NEW AUCTION RECORDS

New world records were achieved for artists that were central to the development of Danish painting at the turn of the century, including Harald Slott-Møller's stunning *Summer Day (Sommerdag)*, which sparked an unforgettable bidding war lasting more than six minutes in the May Morning Session of Modern & Contemporary Art. The stunning work ultimately sold for \$1.3 million against an estimate of \$30,000 to a bidder on the phone with Senior International Specialist Takako Nagasawa.

A full list of records set for artists included in The Collection of Ambassador John L. Loeb, Jr. are as follows:

**P. S. Krøyer**

*Self-Portrait, Sitting by His Easel at Skagen Beach (Selvportræt, siddende ved staffeliet på Skagens strand)*  
1902

Estimate: \$300,000–500,000

SOLD FOR \$1,290,000



**Harald Slott-Møller**

*Summer Day (Sommerdag)*  
1888

Estimate: \$30,000–50,000

SOLD FOR \$1,290,000

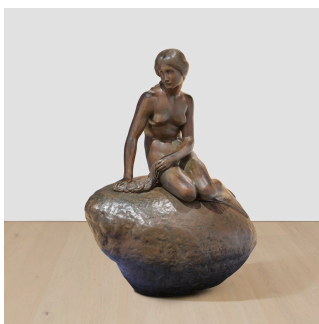


**Edvard Eriksen**

*The Little Mermaid (Den lille havfrue)*  
circa 1910–1913

Estimate: \$12,000–18,000

SOLD FOR \$541,800



**Anna Ancher**

*Young Girl Reading a Letter (Ung pige, der læser et brev)*  
1902

Estimate: £30,000–50,000

SOLD FOR £154,800



**Joel Ballin**

*Study of a Model, Young Girl Undressing (Modelstudie, en ung pige klæder sig af),*  
1844

Estimate: £4,000–6,000

SOLD FOR £49,020



# PHILLIPS

EST. 1796

As Phillips marks its 230th anniversary in 2026, the house celebrates more than two centuries at the forefront of the global market for Modern & Contemporary Art, Design, and Luxury. Founded in 1796 by the charismatic auctioneer Harry Phillips, the company has, since its earliest days, offered a distinct and forward-looking approach to sales and collecting. Over the centuries, Phillips has delivered record-breaking results and landmark offerings, while also pioneering new modes of collecting via the likes of Dropshop. Through its partnership with Bacs & Russo, Phillips continues to lead the industry in watches, setting new benchmarks for excellence, innovation, and connoisseurship. Today, Phillips remains true to the entrepreneurial spirit of its founder while redefining the role of a 21st century auction house.

## 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](http://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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