

Press release



Follow-up report on the Modern Week

Modern | Post War | Contemporary 16 June 2021 | **The Lauffs Collection** 16 June 2021

Nailing the sale

The top lot of the Modern Week turned out to be Günther Uecker's nail disc dedicated to the collector Lutz Dresen, surpassing other impressive results which were earned for Günther Förg and Tschang-Yeul Kim, among others. Further outstanding hammer prices were achieved for Wassily Kandinsky and Alexej Jawlensky in Modern plus Adrian Ghenie and Jonathan Meese in Contemporary Art.

Modern

The bright colours of the early still life Geraniums by **Alexej Jawlensky** from 1907 impressed bidders, who tenaciously competed for the work. In the end, it was sold to a private collection in Southern Germany for the princely amount of 232,200 euros.

An international circle of bidders contended for **Wassily Kandinsky's** watercolour The Little Blue from 1924. The work with the – considering that it is largely pink –humorous title, which was previously on display at numerous exhibitions, achieved a result of 206,400 euros and is now becoming part of a private collection in Berlin.

Also going to Berlin is the small but fine bronze Dancer by **Renée Sintenis**, which is probably the earliest surviving work by the artist. With a result of 55,470 euros, it earned more than five times its estimate.

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Post War

Günther Förg's early, three-part lead painting in white, turquoise and brown from 1986 was fresh on the market, coming from a private collection in North Rhine-Westphalia. What makes the triptych particularly attractive are its clear monochromy and its colour combination in elegant simplicity. A French buyer recognized this, too, and acquired the three paintings for 193,500 euros.

Transparent water drops are the distinctive trademark of Korean artist **Tschang-Yeul Kim** and are also the motif of the 1973 painting being offered here. Always popular on the auction market, these works have seen staggering price increases internationally over the last few auctions. Consequently, the price for this work, too, climbed to an impressive 154,800 euros – nearly four times its estimate.

The top item of the sale came from the well-known collection of Düsseldorf-based Lutz Dresen: Light Disc for Lutz Dresen by **Günther Uecker**. The wooden disc with hammered-in nails in white is electrified and illuminated.

Contemporary

In **Jonathan Meeses'** oeuvre, self-portraits represent another possibility for the artist to act out his love of self-expression. As part of this line of portraits, the painting Self-portrait with Sick Figure from 2001 was sold to an online bidder from Southern Germany for 33,540 euros.

The photograph House No. 12 II (Niederrheinisches Stahlkontor) by **Thomas Ruff** is from 1989. The C-print now goes to a private collection in North Rhine-Westphalia, which acquired the work for 32,250 euros.

Adrian Ghenie is one of the outstanding painters of his generation, a fact that also became apparent at this sale when the price for his small-scale painting from 2002 climbed to 77,400 euros.

The Lauffs Collection

With the Lauffs Collection, yet another outstanding collection of contemporary art was auctioned on 16 June 2021 at an impressive white glove sale which included an award of over two million euros for a work by **Andy Warhol**. Please see our separate follow-up report for details.

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Highlights of the Modern Week on 16 June 2021



Wassily Kandinsky (1866–1944)
The Little Blue | 1924 | Watercolour on paper,
mounted on cardboard | 48.6 x 33.6 cm
Result: 206,400 euros



Alexej Jawlensky (1867–1941)
Geraniums | Around 1907
Oil on cardboard | 49.5 x 37.5 cm
Result: 232,200 euros



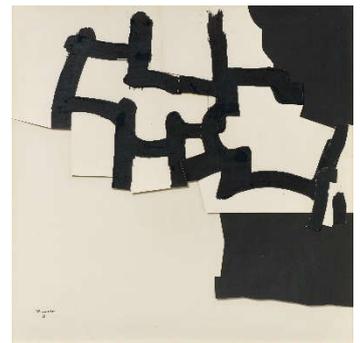
Renée Sintenis (1888–1965)
Dancer | 1913 (draft) | Bronze,
brown patinated | 19 x 4 x 4 cm
Result: 55,470 euros



Günther Förg (1952–2013)
Untitled | 3 parts | 1986 | Acrylic on
lead on wood | Each part 90 x 52 cm
Result: 193,500 euros



Günther Uecker (b. 1930)
Light Disc for Lutz Dresen | 1994
Hammered-in nails and white paint on canvas,
on wooden disc | 100 x 100 x 40 cm
Result: 322,500 euros



Eduardo Chillida (1924–2002)
Untitled | 1969 | Ink on paper collage on
cardboard, mounted on wooden panel
105 x 105 cm
Result: 109,650 euros



Thomas Ruff (b. 1958)
House No. 12 II (Niederrheinisches Stahlkontor)
1989 | C-print coated with Diasec face
175 x 280 cm
Result: 32,250 euros



Jonathan Meese (b. 1970)
Self-portrait with Sick Figure | 2001
Oil on canvas | 180 x 110 cm
Result: 33,540 euros



Tschang-Yeul Kim (1929–2021)
Untitled (Water Drops) | 1973
Oil on canvas | 50 x 50 cm
Result: 154,800 euros

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Van Ham – About us

Van Ham Kunstauktionen, founded in 1959, is a family run business, managed in the second generation by Markus Eisenbeis. Annually, approximately 20 internationally renowned auctions take place in the fields of Modern Art, Post War & Contemporary Art, Fine Art, Decorative Art, Fine Jewels & Watches and Art & Interior. With 34 curated Online Only auctions in 2020, Van Ham is the market leader in Germany. In the same year, Van Ham achieved the highest annual result in its history with around 40 million Euros. Regularly achieved auction records make Van Ham one of Germany's leading auction houses.

VAN HAM Kunstauktionen

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