ARTSY

The Art Market Recap 2022

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Artsy's new year-end market report offers a look at the major sales, trends, and artists that made an impact in 2022.

In the sections that follow, we share a series of lists that speak to overarching trends; the most expensive works sold at auction; exceptional auction records that were set; artists who had breakthrough moments at auction; in-demand artists on Artsy; major gallery representation announcements; and notable works that sold this year in Artsy Auctions.

The content presented in this report is culled from Artsy data and the Artsy Price Database, as well as the insights and knowledge of our writers and editors. Taken together, we offer a picture of the art market now and where it's headed in the year to come.

5 Trends That Defined the Art Market in 2022

NFTs Rise and Fall
Collecting with a Purpose
Abstraction Ascends
Young Artists Reach New Heights
A Surge in Surrealism

With the pandemic-induced upheaval of 2020 and 2021, the art market in 2022 was in some ways a return to routine, but in others, unprecedented.

The first half of the year was still consumed with NFTs and the potential for Web3, while at the same time a frothy market bubbled up around emerging talents' works, leading to splashy debuts and ample auction records. And while the second half of the year saw the market soften, or perhaps, correct itself, interest in the ultra-contemporary market was strong this fall, not just at auctions but at galleries, too, with plenty of relative newcomers joining the rosters of major galleries.

As notable women artists, both emerging and established, earned due acclaim, both critically and commercially, so, too, did the genre of abstraction. And though exceptional and viral moments like the Paul Allen sale and MSCHF's ATM may account for the key moments when art infiltrated mainstream culture this year, the true market trends of 2022 were far more representative of what's relevant to artists, collectors, and art world professionals, and indicative of what we can expect heading into 2023.

Josie Thaddeus-Johns



NFTs Rise and Fall

At the beginning of 2022, NFTs seemed to be on track to take over the world. In March, Bored Ape Yacht Club founders Yuga Labs acquired CryptoPunks and Meebits, creating an NFT behemoth, while many NFT artists used profits from their work to benefit war efforts in Ukraine. In February, Pak's *Clock* sold to a group of collectors organized through a DAO, for a record $53 million in Ethereum (the proceeds went to benefit Julian Assange's legal fund).

Meanwhile, plenty of galleries moved to cater to this new segment of collectors. With crypto-wallets overflowing, the question was how to involve collectors in the rest of the art market, especially after tech billionaire Justin Sun's purchase of Alberto Giacometti's *Le Nez (Nose)* (conceived 1947/49; cast 1965) at Sotheby's for $78.4 million in late 2021.

Yet by May, much of the shine of blockchain-based works was depleted by the enormous crash in the prices of cryptocurrencies, which only deepened as the year went on, due in part to the implosion of cryptocurrency exchange FTX. While there's much talk of "crypto contagion," the art world continues to find ways to work with NFTs.

Christie's, for example, announced its sparkling new platform, Christie's 3.0, to coincide with Miami Art Week. In 2023, it's hard to see crypto being as hyped as it was in 2021, but without the astronomical prices and buzz, who knows what the next phase of NFT art might look like?

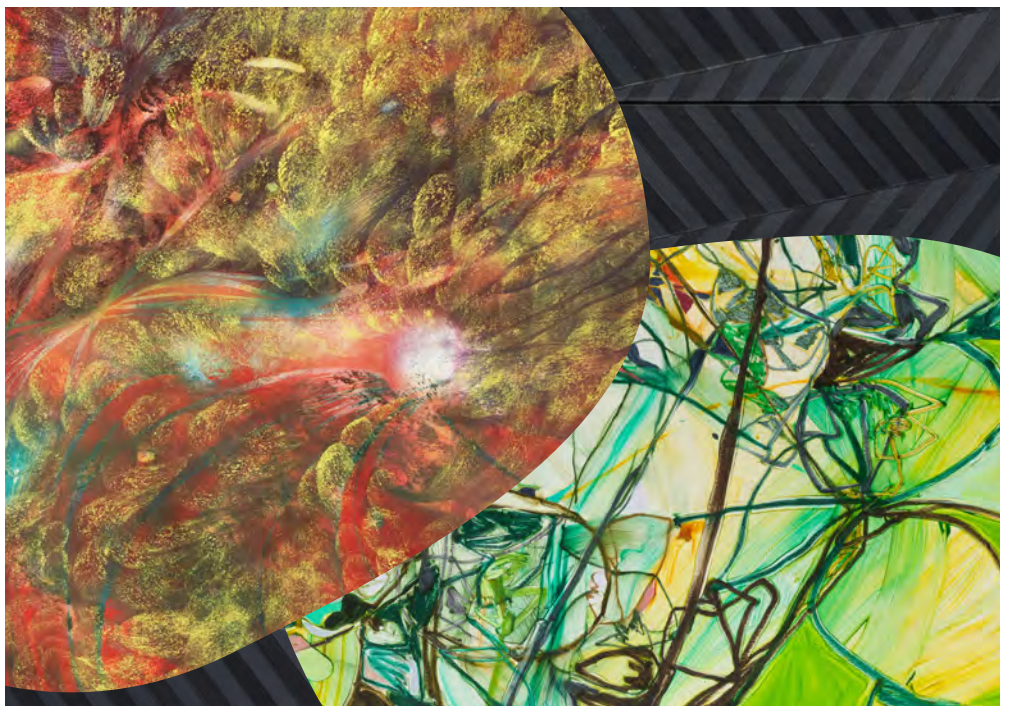


Collecting with a Purpose

Salman Toor's *4 Guests* (2019) was one of the standout lots in Christie's 21st-century evening sale that took place on November 17th. At $856,800, it went for nearly four times its estimate—which is easy to cheer, since the work was donated by Toor to benefit a charity working with emergency flood relief efforts in Pakistan. It was hardly the only sale of its kind this year. The month prior, Stanley Whitney and Gagosian sold one of the artist's signature abstract canvases via Artsy Auctions in support of the Art for Justice Fund and Planned Parenthood of Greater New York.

In February and March, art institutions, artists, and auction houses acted quickly to step up in support of Ukraine, recognizing the severity of the crisis. While these commitments to a wider purpose are still a fraction of the art market's economic activity, the speed and force with which art world players took action indicated a commitment to concretely acknowledge the issues that are important to its audience.

These benefit auctions, after all, coincide with a growing number of collectors focusing their purchases around marginalized communities, like BIPOC, women, or LGBTQ+ artists. More collectors are prioritizing sustainability when purchasing art, too. According to the Art Basel and UBS report "The Art Market 2022," a majority of collectors said they have focused on reducing their carbon footprint by traveling to fewer fairs, and are opting for more sustainable shipping methods. The art world is slow to change, but it's refreshing to see more conversations about art's impact on the world around it.



Abstraction Ascends

Was it a pandemic-induced need to see people, things, and environments again? Or were portraits just on trend? Either way, in 2021, figuration was everywhere. Faces, objects, and recognizable scenes peeked out of art fair booths, galleries' online viewing rooms, and auction catalogues. This year, however, the tide seems to be shifting.

At Gagosian's Frieze London fair booth, for instance, abstract painter Jadé Fadojutimi's works, each priced at £500,000 ($614,000), were sold out before the fair even opened. And at a Phillips sale in Hong Kong in June, Lucy Bull set a new record at her Asian auction debut: Her work *8:50* (2020) sold for HK$11.4 million (US$1.5 million).

It's not only younger artists. This year also saw critically acclaimed exhibitions for Bernice Bing, an underrecognized Abstract Expressionist artist; and James Little, who is becoming increasingly known for his geometric, monochromatic forms. It seems, even in uncertain times, some trend cycles will always roll back and forth.



Young Artists Reach New Heights

Earlier this year, Rococo-influenced painter Flora Yukhnovich, born in 1990 and represented by Victoria Miro since 2021, set a gargantuan new sales record: $3.1 million at auction. Never was it more clear that the ultra-contemporary market is booming.

At auction, young artists are reaching prices that would have been unheard of at the start of this century, and with a surprising frequency. Sotheby's launched a new marquee sale in New York in November 2021 called "The Now," the first evening sale devoted solely to this category. Earlier this year, a survey by Artprice focused on auction results for works by artists under 40 showed that the ultra-contemporary art market generated $420 million between July 2021 and June 2022—a 28% increase on the previous year. This is due to both the value and volume of these works at auction increasing in 2022.

On the buyer side, meanwhile, there seems to be no limit to the amounts that keen collectors will pay, with gallery waitlists apparently filling up into the hundreds. That's why, even with the spiraling prices, works by young artists are also competitive. The sell-through rate for ultra-contemporary artworks at auction is around, or even higher than, the rest of the market.

Even though the auction houses are where this trend is most visible, it seems to have affected almost every aspect of the art world, with blue-chip galleries, too, leaning into the frenzy. White Cube, for instance, started representing Danica Lundy (born 1991), Louise Giovanelli (born 1993), Ilana Savdie, and Marguerite Humeau (both born 1986) this year. Gagosian, meanwhile, picked up painters Jadé Fadojutimi (born 1993) and Anna Weyant (born 1995); the latter artist's skyrocketing prices in particular have caused quite a stir.



A Surge in Surrealism

Although “Surrealism Beyond Borders” opened late last year at the Met, its impact echoed throughout 2022, as the cross-generational, international exhibition moved on to Tate Modern, offering a reconsideration of the movement and its less well-known proponents. By the time the Venice Biennale opened in April, the frenzy for Surrealist and contemporary surrealistic works had hit new heights.

In Venice, curator Cecilia Alemani’s “The Milk of Dreams” exhibition foregrounded the subconscious, the mythical, and the spectral through a female-led list of Surrealists like Jane Graverol, Unica Zürn, and Alice Rahon, alongside contemporary artists like Dora Budor, Marianna Simnett, and Raphaela Vogel, who explore those themes in new ways.

None of this passed the auction houses by: Both Sotheby’s and Christie’s presented sales (noticeably far more male-heavy than the Venice show) organized around the movement. As sales of works by female Surrealists like Dorothea Tanning and Leonora Carrington continue to exceed estimates, these dream-influenced artists still prove to be popular with collectors.

The 50 Most Expensive Artworks Sold in 2022

The art world's trajectory for much of 2022 may be described as a return to routine. After 2020's minor lockdown-era auction depression—if it can be called that—when there were no lots that broke the $100 million mark, the secondary market has since regained its pre-pandemic luster, and in many ways, rocketed into an entirely new stratum of opulence. There were six lots this year that fetched prices in excess of $100 million, exceeding even the heights achieved by the 2017 selling bonanza that brought us the $450 million *Salvator Mundi* (ca. 1499–1510) by Leonardo da Vinci and a $110 million painting by Jean-Michel Basquiat, among others.

While the second half of the year saw a softening of the secondary market, exceptional auction results occurred in November, largely buoyed by the sale of the collection of Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen. Six of the top 10 auction results this year came from the Allen sale at Christie's New York, which totaled more than $1.5 billion, becoming the most expensive single-owner sale to ever happen at auction. The upper end of the auction market this year was not so exceptional, though, in its representation of the usual art market suspects: The top 50 auction results were all achieved by a selection of 30 male artists, 28 of whom were American or European. (Prices include fees.)

Justin Kamp

The 50 Most Expensive Artworks Sold in 2022

1 Andy Warhol

Shot Sage Blue Marilyn, 1964
$195,040,000
Christie's, May 2022

Artist Auction Record

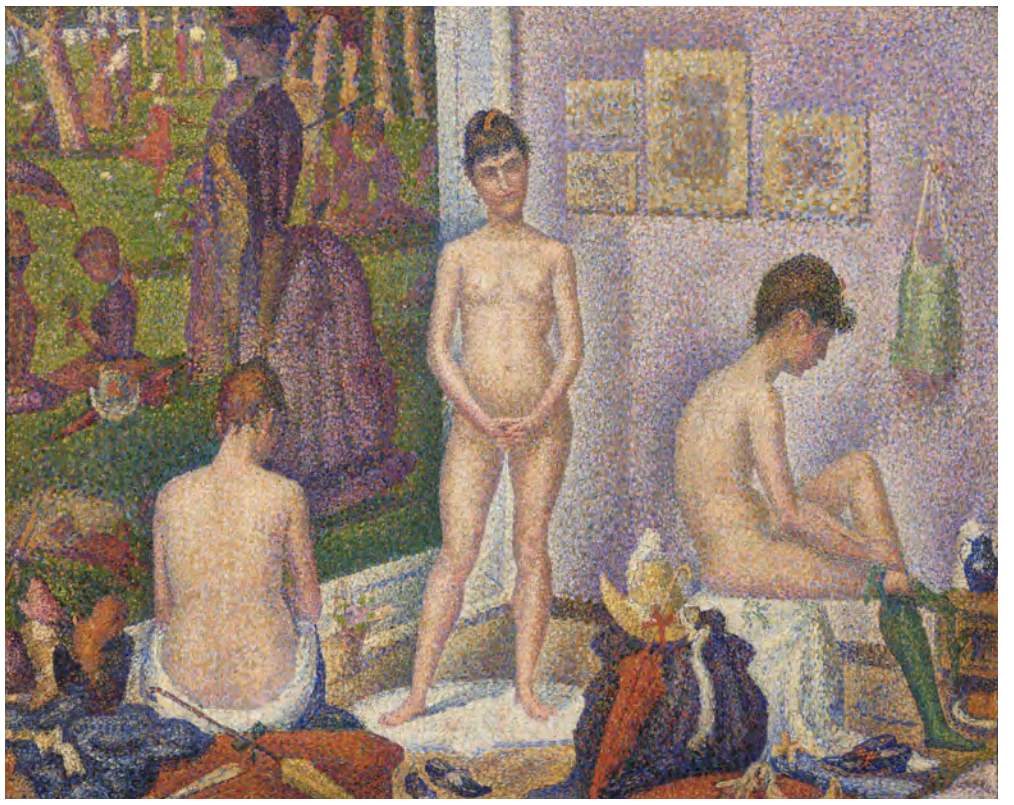
Andy Warhol reclaimed the title of American artist with the most expensive lot at auction with this staggering $195 million result, achieved at a Christie's New York sale this past May. The 1964 silkscreen painting *Shot Sage Blue Marilyn* unseated Jean-Michel Basquiat's iconic skull painting *Untitled* (1982), and became the second-most expensive work ever to sell at auction.

Part of the sale of the collection of Swiss art dealers Thomas and Doris Ammann, the work was sold to Larry Gagosian. The mega-gallery owner had actually brokered the sale of the work to Thomas Ammann in 1986, with its previous owner S.I. Newhouse. In addition to its serious provenance, *Shot Sage Blue Marilyn* serves as a candy-colored encapsulation of some of Warhol's most defining artistic motifs, including his embrace of industrial screenprinting aesthetics and his fascination with the iconography of celebrity.

2 Georges Seurat

Les Poseuses, Ensemble (Petite version), 1888
$149,240,000
Christie's, Nov. 2022

Artist Auction Record



This remarkable, reflexive masterpiece by the Post-Impressionist maestro Georges Seurat was the high-water mark of Christie's presentation of the Paul Allen collection when it hammered for $149.24 million to a buyer in Asia, blowing past Seurat's previous record of $34 million, achieved at Christie's in 2018. The last time *Les Poseuses, Ensemble (Petite version)* appeared at auction in 1970 it sold for just over $1 million.

The piece makes reference to Seurat's most famous artwork, *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte (Un dimanche d'été à l'Île de La Grande Jatte)* (1884), which is pictured in the composition hanging behind the titular ensemble of posing women. Seurat's versatility with the pointillist style and the painting's connection to famous Seurat works held by museums—including not just *A Sunday Afternoon* but also a larger version of *Models (Poseuses)* (1886–88), which hangs in Philadelphia's Barnes Foundation—likely fueled its meteoric result.

3 Paul Cézanne

La Montagne Sainte-Victoire, 1888–90
$137,790,000
Christie's, Nov. 2022

Artist Auction Record



This powerful landscape by Paul Cézanne continued the Allen collection's record-setting streak, hammering in at more than double the French painter's previous record of $59 million, which was achieved by the still life *Bouilloire et fruits* (1888–90) at Christie's in May 2019.

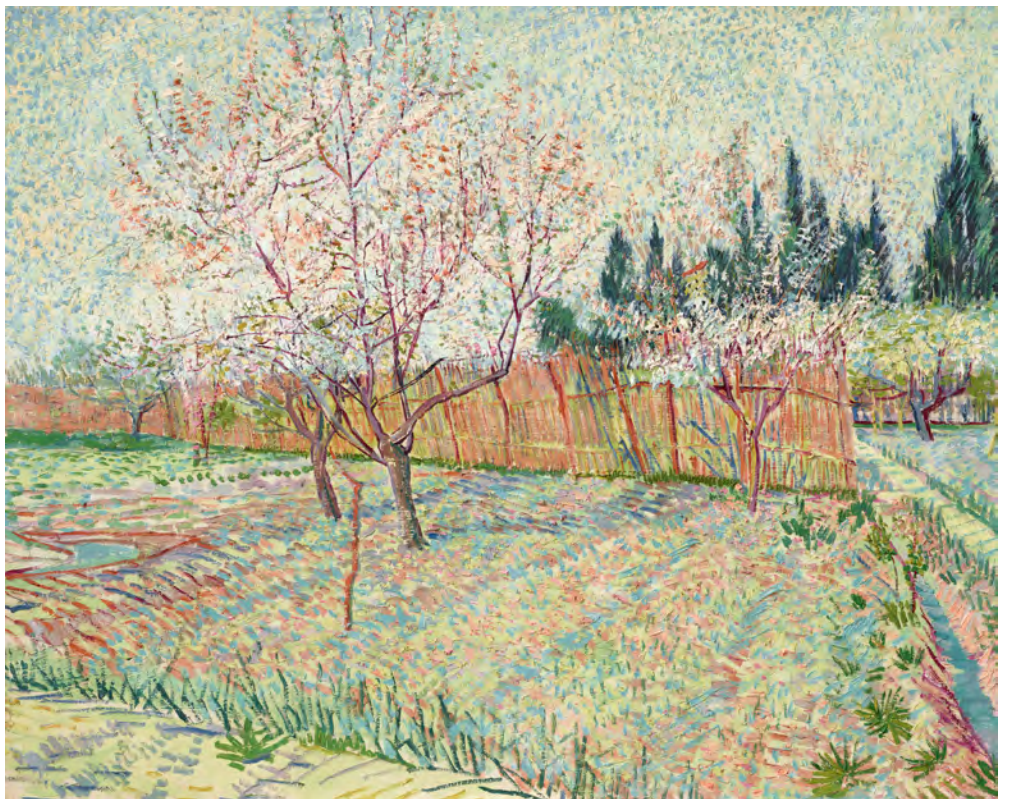
La Montagne Sainte-Victoire (1888–90) is a seminal work of Post-Impressionist style—one of a series of works the artist painted of the Provençal peak of Sainte-Victoire and its surrounding terrain over the course of the 1880s. The series, and this work in particular, showcases Cézanne's masterful brushstrokes, which, in their blocky form and saturated color, serve as a preamble to Cubism's emergence in the following decades.

La Montagne Sainte-Victoire has a storied provenance, passing between the hands of such famed dealers as Ambroise Vollard, Auguste Pellerin, and Heinz Berggruen on its way to Allen's collection. Berggruen brought the work to auction in May 2001, when Allen acquired it for $38.5 million. Over the intervening decades, *La Montagne Sainte-Victoire* appreciated in value by more than 250 percent.

4 Vincent van Gogh

Verger avec cyprès, 1888
$117,180,000
Christie's, Nov. 2022

Artist Auction Record



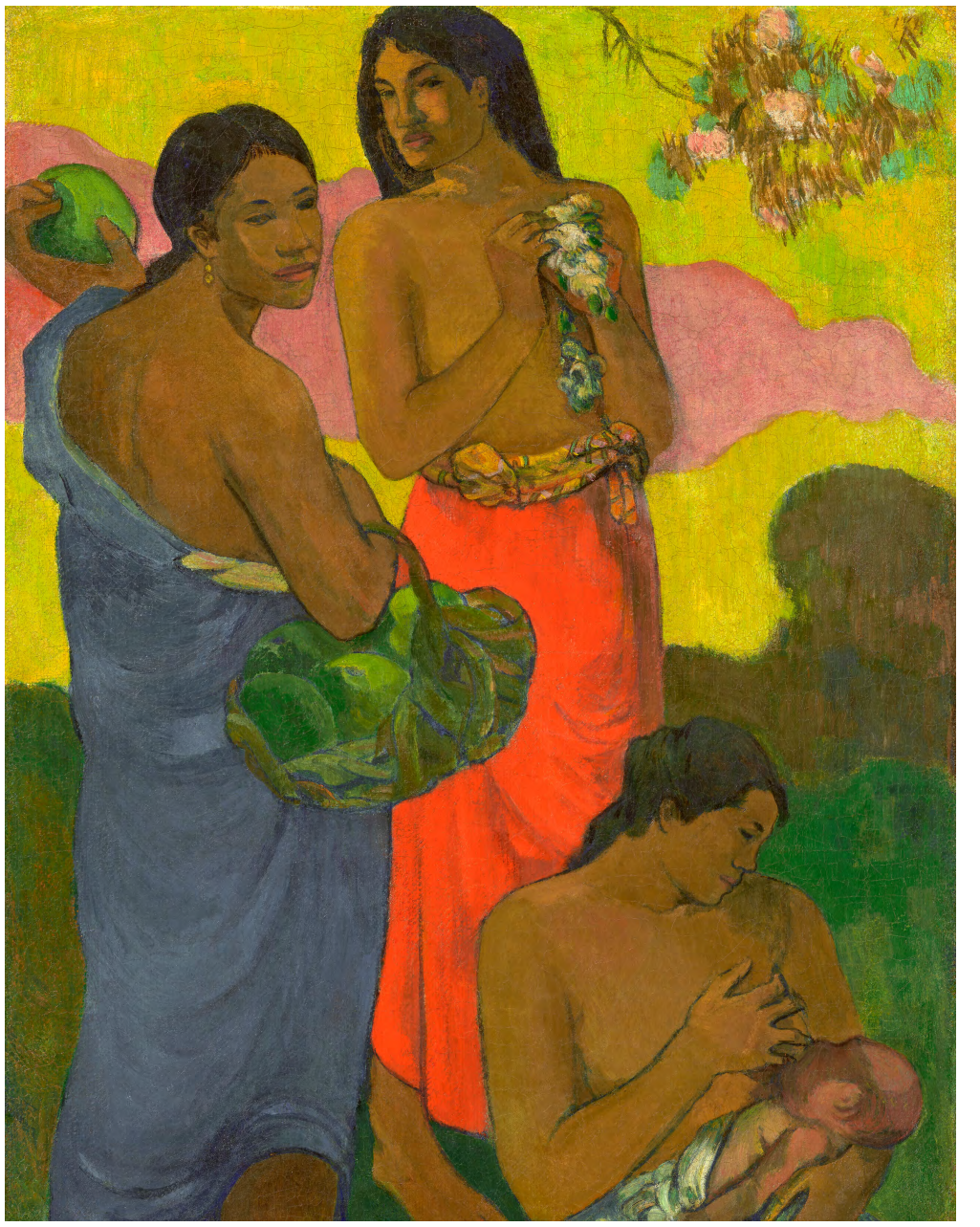
Another Post-Impressionist work from the Allen collection, this tender Vincent van Gogh painting of a pastel-flecked spring garden sprouting with the artist's favored cypress trees fetched $117.1 million at Christie's, shattering the artist's record that had stood for more than three decades. Van Gogh's auction record was previously held by *Portrait of Dr. Gachet* (1890), which sold for $83 million at Christie's in 1990 and became the most expensive artwork ever sold at the time.

The secondary market may have ballooned past that price point in the intervening years, but Van Gogh's market surprisingly never did. The next closest result was achieved when *Laboureur dans un champ* (1889) sold for $81 million at Christie's in 2017; another cypress landscape, *Cabanes de bois parmi les oliviers et cyprès* (1889), fetched $71 million just last year. *Verger avec cyprès* is a somewhat unique work by the Dutch painter, much more sparse and pointillist than the signature curling brushstrokes of his most famous paintings, but the market proved to be ravenous all the same.

5 Paul Gauguin

Maternité II, 1899
$105,730,000
Christie's, Nov. 2022

Artist Auction Record



This Paul Gauguin masterwork from the Allen collection sold for $105.7 million, becoming the most expensive work by the French artist ever sold at auction. His previous auction record was set back in 2006, when *L'Homme à la hache* (1891) sold at a Christie's sale in New York for $40.3 million.

The exorbitant result achieved by *Maternité II* (1899) represents a growth in parity between Gauguin's public and private sales figures. In 2015, it was reported that a work from the artist's Tahitian period, *Nafea Faa Ipoipo (When Will You Marry?)* (1892), sold for $300 million in a private sale to the emir of Qatar; that figure was later revealed to have been inflated from the actual sale price of $210 million. Now, the auction-going crowd's interest in Gauguin appears to be approaching those heights.

6 Gustav Klimt

Birch Forest, 1903
$104,585,000
Christie's, Nov. 2022

Artist Auction Record



This illusory forest landscape by icon of the Viennese fin-de-siècle Gustav Klimt hammered for $104.5 million during the Allen sale, and rounds out the list of $100 million–plus sale results from that auction. *Birch Forest* (1903) beat out Klimt's existing auction record by more than $15 million. That previous record was achieved by *Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer II* (1912), which sold for $87.9 million at a Christie's New York sale in 2006. That same auction saw *Birch Forest* sell for $40.3 million to Allen himself: This most recent result represents an increase in value of nearly 160 percent.

Many of the artist's significant auction results achieved in the interim were landscape paintings that hovered around a similar price point, with the most recent noteworthy result achieved in 2017 when *Bauerngarten (Blumengarten)* (1907) sold for $59 million at Sotheby's. *Birch Forest* is Klimt's first auction result in excess of $100 million.

7 Lucian Freud

Large Interior, W11 (after Watteau), 1981–83
$86,265,000 (Estimate on request)
Christie's, Nov. 2022

Artist Auction Record

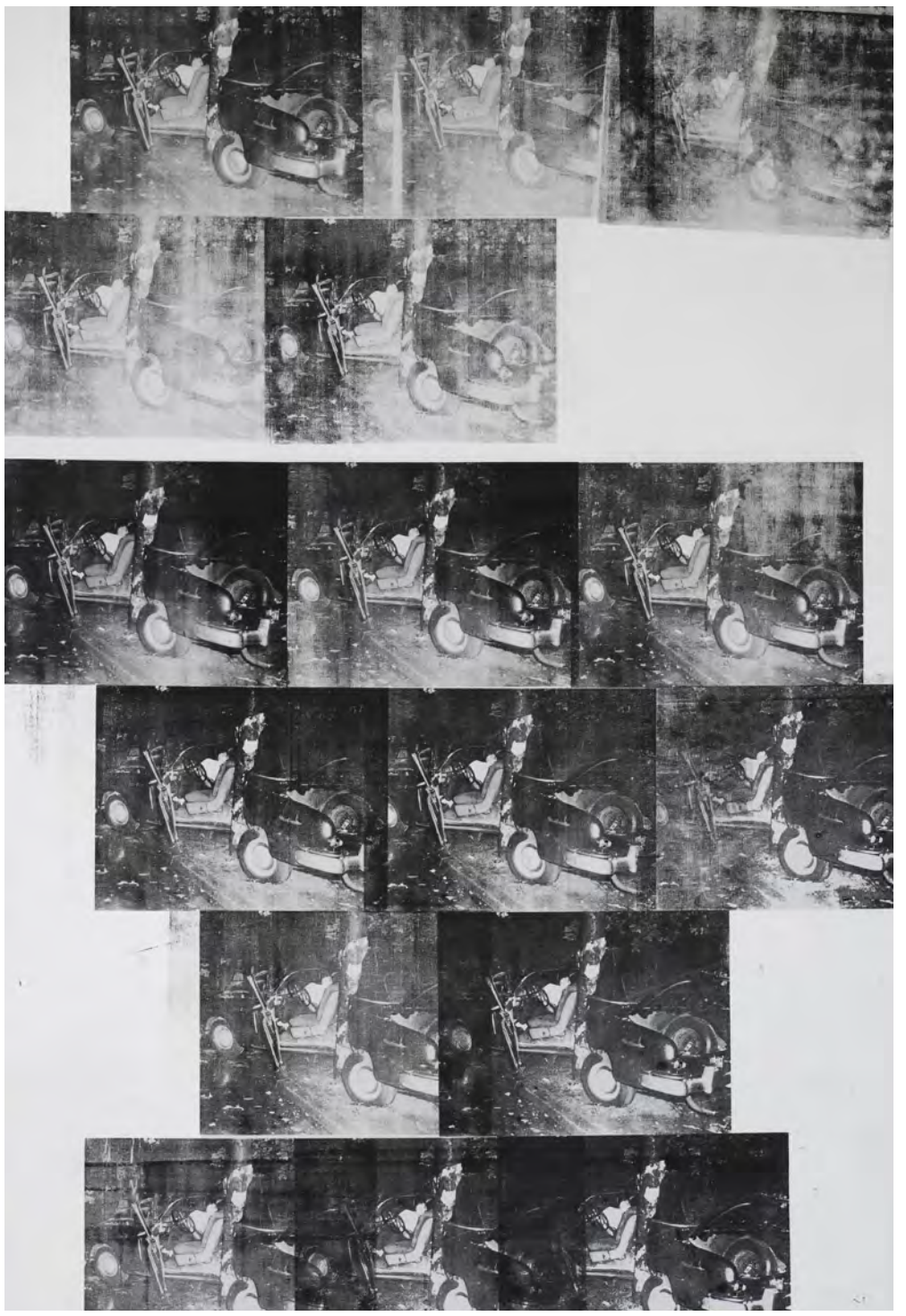


This wonderful group portrait by Lucian Freud represents one of the more contemporary offerings from the Allen collection, but that relative newness did not at all hamper its result. *Large Interior, W11 (after Watteau)* (1981–83) sold for $86.2 million, setting a new record for the British painter.

The painting previously set a record when it sold at auction for $5.8 million in 1998, although the top spot would eventually lie with the artist's 1994 painting *Benefits Supervisor Sleeping*, which sold for $56.1 million at Christie's in 2015. This latest result represents a significant increase in secondary market demand for the late artist, who is currently the subject of a wide-ranging retrospective at London's National Gallery in honor of the centenary of his birth.

8 Andy Warhol

White Disaster [White Car Crash 19 Times], 1963
$85,350,500
Sotheby's, Nov. 2022



Andy Warhol's banner market year continued in November: At a Sotheby's evening sale in New York, *White Disaster [White Car Crash 19 Times]* (1963) achieved an $85.3 million result. The painting hails from Warhol's "Death and Disaster" series, which saw the Pop artist repurpose his pastel-tinged serial reproduction methods to focus on a darker, more violent subject matter.

The last time a work from this series appeared at auction was in 2013, when *Silver Car Crash (Double Disaster)* sold for $104.5 million at Sotheby's, a record at the time. With this latest result, car crash paintings are now the second- and third-most expensive Warhol works ever sold at auction.

9 Jean-Michel Basquiat

Untitled, 1982
$85,000,000
Phillips, May 2022



This wonderful example of Jean-Michel Basquiat's iconic "skull painting" stylings achieved $85 million at a Phillips sale of works from the collection of the billionaire entrepreneur Yusaku Maezawa this past May. The work, which had previously been sold at Christie's in 2016 for $57.2 million, beat that number to become the third highest price ever achieved by a work from the legendary Neo-Expressionist artist.

Maezawa was the collector who, in 2017, purchased another untitled 1982 skull painting by the artist for $110.4 million at a Sotheby's sale, which, at that point, made it the most expensive piece of art by an American artist ever sold at auction. That work was only unseated this year, by Warhol's *Shot Sage Blue Marilyn*.

Basquiat's heads have been the subject of increased secondary-market attention over the past few years: *In This Case* (1983) sold for $93.1 million at Christie's in 2021; and in 2020, an untitled work on paper from 1982 sold for $13.1 million at a Sotheby's online auction, making it the most expensive work by the artist ever sold online.

10

René Magritte

L'empire des lumières, 1961

$79,243,069

Sotheby's, Nov. 2022

Artist Auction Record



This dreamy painting from Surrealist master René Magritte's iconic "Empire of Lights" series sold for $79.2 million at Sotheby's this past March. The result is more than triple the artist's previous auction record of $26.8 million, set in 2018 by *Le Principe du Plaisir (The Pleasure Principle)* (1937).

This was the first time that *Empire of Light (L'empire des lumières)* (1961) has appeared at auction. It was painted for and had been in the collection of Magritte's longtime patron and friend Anne-Marie Crowet Gillion. The work was exhibited extensively during the time that Crowet Gillion owned it, showing at the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Seoul Museum of Art, and the Musée Magritte, among others.

The 50 Most Expensive Artworks Sold in 2022

1–25

	ARTIST	ARTWORK	SALE PRICE	ESTIMATE	AUCTION	AUCTION RECORD
1	Andy Warhol	*Shot Sage Blue Marilyn*, 1964	$195,040,000		Christie's, May 2022	⊙
2	Georges Seurat	*Les Poseuses, Ensemble (Petite version)*, 1888	$149,240,000		Christie's, Nov. 2022	⊙
3	Paul Cézanne	*La Montagne Sainte-Victoire*, 1880-90	$137,790,000		Christie's, Nov. 2022	⊙
4	Vincent van Gogh	*Verger avec cyprès*, 1888	$117,180,000		Christie's, Nov. 2022	⊙
5	Paul Gauguin	*Maternité II*, 1899	$105,730,000		Christie's, Nov. 2022	⊙
6	Gustav Klimt	*Birch Forest*, 1903	$104,585,000		Christie's, Nov. 2022	⊙
7	Lucian Freud	*Large Interior, W11 (after Watteau)*, 1981–83	$86,265,000		Christie's, Nov. 2022	⊙
8	Andy Warhol	*White Disaster [White Car Crash 19 Times]*, 1963	$85,350,500		Sotheby's, Nov. 2022	
9	Jean-Michel Basquiat	*Untitled*, 1982	$85,000,000		Phillips, May 2022	
10	René Magritte	*L'empire des lumières*, 1961	$79,243,069		Sotheby's, Mar. 2022	⊙
11	Claude Monet	*Le Parlement, soleil couchant*, 1900–03	$75,960,000	$40M–$60M	Christie's, May 2022	
12	Pablo Picasso	*Femme nue couchée*, 1932	$67,541,000		Sotheby's, May 2022	
13	Mark Rothko	*Untitled (Shades of Red)*, 1961	$66,800,000	$60M–$80M	Christie's, May 2022	
14	Claude Monet	*Waterloo Bridge, soleil voilé*, 1899–1903	$64,510,000		Christie's, Nov. 2022	
15	Franz Marc	*The Foxes (Die Füchse)*, 1913	$57,251,212		Christie's, Feb. 2022	⊙
16	Claude Monet	*Le Grand Canal et Santa Maria della Salute*, 1908	$56,625,500		Sotheby's, May 2022	
17	Claude Monet	*Nymphéas*, 1907	$56,495,000	$35M–$55M	Christie's, May 2022	
18	Jasper Johns	*Small False Start*, 1960	$55,350,000	$45M–$65M	Christie's, Nov. 2022	⊙
19	Jackson Pollock	*Number 31*, 1949	$54,205,000		Christie's, May 2022	
20	Francis Bacon	*Study for Portrait of Lucian Freud*, 1964	$52,817,090		Sotheby's, Jun. 2022	
21	Édouard Manet	*Le Grand Canal à Venise*, 1874	$51,915,000	$45M–$65M	Christie's, Nov. 2022	
22	Vincent van Gogh	*Champs près des Alpilles*, 1889	$51,915,000		Christie's, May 2022	
23	Francis Bacon	*Triptych 1986-7*, 1986–87	$51,620,254	$47M–$74M	Christie's, Feb. 2022	
24	Piet Mondrian	*Composition No. II*, 1930	$51,000,000		Sotheby's, Nov. 2022	⊙
25	Mark Rothko	*No. 1*, 1962	$49,625,000	$45M–$65M	Christie's, May 2022	

The 50 Most Expensive Artworks Sold in 2022

25–50

	ARTIST	ARTWORK	SALE PRICE	ESTIMATE	AUCTION	AUCTION RECORD
26	Sandro Botticelli	*Madonna of the Magnificat*, ca. 1480s	$48,480,000		Christie's, Nov. 2022	
27	Pablo Picasso	*Tête de femme (Fernande)*, 1909	$48,480,000		Christie's, May 2022	
28	Mark Rothko	*Untitled*, 1960	$48,008,000	$35M–$50M	Sotheby's, May 2022	
29	Zhang Daqian	*Landscape*, 1947	$47,216,243		Sotheby's, Apr. 2022	
30	Francis Bacon	*Study of Red Pope 1962, 2nd Version 1971*, 1971	$46,284,500	$40M–$60M	Sotheby's, May 2022	
31	Sandro Botticelli	*The Man of Sorrows*, ca. 1500	$45,419,700		Sotheby's, Jan. 2022	
32	Emanuel Gottlieb Leutze	*Washington Crossing the Delaware*, 1851	$45,045,000	$15M–$20M	Christie's, May 2022	⊙
33	Paul Cézanne	*Clairière (The Glade)*, 1895	$41,688,500	$30M–$40M	Sotheby's, May 2022	
34	Cy Twombly	*Untitled*, 2005	$41,640,000	$35M–$45M	Phillips, Nov. 2022	
35	Edgar Degas	*Petite danseuse de quatorze ans*, 1879–81	$41,610,000	$20M–$30M	Christie's, May 2022	⊙
36	Paul Signac	*Concarneau, calme du matin (Opus no. 219, larghetto)*, 1891	$39,320,000	$28M–$35M	Christie's, Nov. 2022	⊙
37	Cy Twombly	*Untitled*, 1969	$38,000,000	$40M–$60M	Sotheby's, May 2022	
38	Pablo Picasso	*Guitare sur une table*, 1919	$37,092,500		Sotheby's, Nov. 2022	
39	Claude Monet	*Nymphéas, temps gris*, 1907	$36,872,190	$24M–$36M	Christie's, June 2022	
40	Claude Monet	*Waterloo Bridge, effet de brume*, 1899–1904	$36,872,190	$26M–$39M	Christie's, June 2022	
41	Gerhard Richter	*Abstraktes Bild*, 1994	$36,500,000		Christie's, May 2022	
42	Claude Monet	*Peupliers au bord de l'Epte, automne*, 1891	$36,457,500	$30M–$50M	Christie's, May 2022	
43	Zao Wou-Ki 趙無極	*29.09.64*, 1964	$35,415,163	$28M–$35M	Christie's, May 2022	
44	Willem de Kooning	*Untitled*, 1979	$34,794,500	$30M–$40M	Sotheby's, Nov. 2022	
45	Willem de Kooning	*Collage*, 1950	$33,645,500	$18M–$25M	Sotheby's, Nov. 2022	
46	Joseph M. William Turner	*Depositing of John Bellini's Three Pictures in La Chiesa Redentore, Venice*, 1841	$33,595,000	$28M–$35M	Christie's, Nov. 2022	
47	Yves Klein	*Anthropométrie de l'époque bleue, (ANT 124) (Anthropometry of the Blue Period), (ANT 124))*, 1960	$33,360,933		Christie's, June 2022	
48	Henry Moore	*Reclining Figure: Festival*, 1951	$31,000,000		Sotheby's, Nov. 2022	
49	Claude Monet	*Nymphéas*, 1914–17	$30,976,703	$20M–$26M	Sotheby's, Mar. 2022	
50	Gerhard Richter	*Seestück [Seascape]*, 1975	$30,198,500	$25M–$35M	Sotheby's, May 2022	

50 Buzzy Auction Records Set in 2022

In 2022, the global auction market reemerged. Most countries lifted restrictions on international travel, and even with the economic uncertainty and global instability from Russia's invasion of Ukraine, collectors were undeterred. Lots at the three major auction houses saw some of the biggest sales ever reached.

Collectors' interest was spread for artists across categories, too. Records were broken not just for Old Masters and modernist heavyweights, but for several overlooked women artists, photographers, and racial minorities as well.

Here is our selection of 10 works that represent the breadth of new records. (Prices include fees.)

Brian Ng

Andrew Wyeth

Day Dream, 1980
$23,290,000 (Estimate: $2,000,000–$3,000,000)
Christie's, Nov. 2022
Previous record: $10,344,000, May 2007

Andrew Wyeth's *Day Dream* (1980) was one of many records set during the sale of Microsoft co-founder Paul G. Allen's collection at Christie's during the New York fall auctions (it used to be part of the collection of oil magnate Armand Hammer). Going for 10 times the estimate, though, was rather unexpected: Wyeth's last record was set for *Ericksons* (1973) in 2007, a painting three times the size of *Day Dream*.

The American realist painted the subject of *Day Dream*, German nurse Helga Testoff—who worked at a neighboring farm—more than 240 times between 1971 and 1985. *Day Dream* is one of a handful of Wyeth's works that were shown and sold at the time. Their importance was eventually reflected by an exhibition entitled "The Helga Pictures," which toured major institutions in the U.S. between 1987 and 1989.

Man Ray

Le Violon d'Ingres, 1924
$12,412,500 (Estimate: $5,000,000–$7,000,000)
Christie's, May 2022
Previous record: $5,877,000, Nov. 2013



Rosalind and Melvin Jacobs' collection of Surrealist works, auctioned by Christie's in May, was a display of love—not just for the works of art themselves, but for the artists behind them, too.

The Jacobs, through numerous trips to Paris, became acquainted with the French Surrealists and brought back new pieces every time they went over. Rosalind traveled to Paris frequently in the 1950s during her time as a buyer for the department store Macy's. Man Ray, a leader of the Surrealism movement, was well known at the time but his work wasn't selling very much. Rosalind's purchases helped him pay the bills.

It's because of this close connection that they were offered the opportunity to buy *Le Violon d'Ingres* (1924) from the artist, who'd kept it in his possession when it was being shown at the Bibliothèque nationale de France in 1962. This is the sole original of the photo, which depicts the back of performer Kiki de Montparnasse (subsequent editions were made from copy negatives), and it broke the record price for a photograph.

Instead of drawing on f-figures copied from the f-hole of a violin (where the sound comes out)—there was an edition given to French writer André Breton made this way—Man Ray first exposed the holes onto the photographic paper using cut-out cardboard before exposing Kiki's image over the top. The May auction was the first time the picture had been put on sale properly since its creation almost 80 years ago.

Ernie Eugene Barnes

The Sugar Shack, 1976
$15,275,000 (Estimate: $150,000–$200,000)
Christie's, May 2022
Previous record: $550,000, Nov. 2021



Ernie Eugene Barnes's works have been on a tear recently: His previous record was set with *Ballroom Soul* (1978), which went for $550,000 only six months before *The Sugar Shack*'s sale at Christie's in May, for a whopping 100 times its low estimate. Ten more of his works sold for more than $500,000 after *The Sugar Shack*'s sale, compared to just one in the year before.

The Sugar Shack is exemplary of Barnes's work, which is renowned for its depiction of Black joy. It was painted 20 years after the former professional football player snuck into the Durham Armory, a dance hall in North Carolina, during the last few years of Black segregation. It is one of a number of works by previously underrecognized Black artists, along with Beauford Delaney, Noah Davis, and Howardena Pindell, that set six-figure records this year.

Yayoi Kusama

Untitled (Nets), 1959
$10,496,000 (Estimate: $5,000,000–$7,000,000)
Phillips, May 2022
Previous record: $8,058,936, Dec. 2021

Popular favorite Yayoi Kusama continues to ascend to superstar status: Her "Infinity Mirror Rooms," which started touring the world in 2017, are still on show at London's Tate Modern, which has extended its run to April next year. A new work was also commissioned for the Art Gallery of New South Wales in Australia's new Sydney Modern building, which opened this month.

Beating her auction record of just over $8 million from December 2021 for *Pumpkin LPASG* (2013), May's sale was for one of Kusama's earliest works in her "Infinity Nets" series. The works are monochromatic—she painted in dashes of white on gray and black backgrounds—and straddle the dominant Abstract Expressionist and burgeoning Minimalist movements of the time. It was this balance that perhaps led to the works being collected by future heavyweights such as Donald Judd, Frank Stella, and Günther Uecker, the latter of whom was the original owner of this painting.

Adrian Ghenie

Pie Fight Interior 12, 2014
$10,326,444 (Estimate: $8,662,696–$12,484,474)
Christie's, May 2022
Previous record: $9,028,430, Oct. 2016



Pie Fight Interior 12 (2014) is inspired by slapstick films: Characters' faces are smeared with custard pies. These interactions with the films and tropes of the pre-meme era are frequently presented in Romanian artist Adrian Ghenie's works. His last record, set in 2016, was for a work called *Nickelodeon* (2008). His images, which are swirled, slathered, and dashed in a similar style to Francis Bacon, try to recapture the grittiness of the world before the internet and what the artist calls "the texture of easy-to-clean surfaces."

With a solo show at St. Petersburg's State Hermitage Museum in 2019–20, Ghenie is returning to the art world spotlight, after building his own platform with his gallery Galeria Plan B, which he founded along with curator and fellow Romanian Mihai Pop in 2005.

Barbara Hepworth

Elegy III, 1966–67
$8,634,000 (Estimate: $3,000,000–$5,000,000)
Christie's, Nov. 2022
Previous record: $7,110,000, May 2021



Barbara Hepworth is one of only a few women artists who received international recognition during their lifetime. While the world

continues to catch up, Hepworth's works have been going from strength to strength at auction houses: Her previous record of $7.1 million was set in May 2021, for *Parent II* (1970). *Elegy III* (1966–67) is the third in a trio of sculptures. While the first two are wood carvings, *Elegy III* is a bronze cast of *Hollow Form with White* (1965). It is typical of her works, which feature sweeping curves and hollows that mimic the landscape near the Cornish town of St. Ives, where she lived for much of her life. A retrospective is currently on show until May 1, 2023, at the nearby Tate St. Ives.

Mary Cassatt

Young Lady in a Loge Gazing to Right, 1878–79
$7,489,000 (Estimate: $3,000,000–$5,000,000)
Christie's, Oct. 2022
Previous record: $4,812,500, May 2007



Invited by Edgar Degas, Mary Cassatt was the only American artist who showed with the French Impressionists, in 1881. As well as beating her previous auction record from 2007 for *Children Playing With A Dog* (1907) by more than $2 million, *Young Lady in a Loge Gazing to Right* (1878–79) is also exceptional for not being a painting on maternity, for which Cassatt is best known. It's also a work on paper and will be displayed as part of the exhibition "Impressionists on Paper: Degas to Toulouse-Lautrec" at the U.K.'s Royal Academy of Art, opening in November 2023.

This past year has been a bumper year for Christie's, which has led the way for single-collection auctions. This Cassatt work was part of the sale of Ann and Gordon Getty's collection, which exceeded $150 million. This artwork also held a special sentimental value as it was a gift from Gordon to Ann, and was hung in their bedroom.

Matthew Wong

The Night Watcher, 2018
$5,897,150 (Estimate: $1,500,000–$2,000,000)
Sotheby's, May 2022
Previous record: $4,871,347, Dec. 2020



The Night Watcher (2018) is one of Chinese Canadian artist Matthew Wong's more lonesome works, showing a solo person walking

through the snow under oversized pine trees and a blazing egg-yolk sun. Wong's career has an unfortunate similarity to Vincent van Gogh's: They both died by suicide, and experienced skyrocketing prices after their passing.

After Wong passed away in 2019, the buzz around his works reached a cacophony as he broke his record, originally set in 2020, twice: First on May 10th at Christie's, with *Green Room* (2017) for $5.3 million; then with *The Night Watcher* at Sotheby's flagship "The Now" auction just over a week later.

Avery Singer

The Night Watcher, 2018
$5,897,150 (Estimate: $1,500,000–$2,000,000)
Sotheby's, May 2022
Previous record: $4,871,347, Dec. 2020



At the tender age of 34, Avery Singer became the youngest artist on the books of mega-gallery Hauser & Wirth last year. The artist stays mainly in grayscale, and *Happening* is made like much of her other works, eschewing what many associate with traditional painting.

Singer constructs her scenes on the software program Google SketchUp and then projects these 3D renderings onto the canvas before applying the paint using masking tape and an airbrush. The resulting matte acrylic paintings challenge viewers' perception of visual depth.

Njideka Akunyili Crosby

The Beautyful Ones, 2012
$4,740,000 (Estimate: $4,000,000–$6,000,000)
Christie's, Nov. 2022
Previous record: $3,375,000, May 2018



The Beautyful Ones (2012) is the first and largest work of the ongoing series of the same name by artist Njideka Akunyili Crosby consisting of portraits of Nigerian children. This edition portrays the artist's sister at 10 years old, surrounded by a collage of family photos.

This same painting set Akunyili Crosby's then-record in 2017 when it was sold by Christie's for £2.5 million ($3.08 million), before *Bush Babies* (2017), a collaged painting of plants, sold for $3.4 million in May 2018 at Sotheby's. With these sales, Akunyili Crosby bypasses the prices achieved by leading women Abstract Expressionists and Surrealists.

50 Buzzy Auction Records Set in 2022 1–25

ARTIST	ARTWORK	SALE PRICE	ESTIMATE	AUCTION	PREVIOUS RECORD
Andy Warhol	*Shot Sage Blue Marilyn*, 1964	$195,040,000		Christie's, May 2022	$105,445,000, Nov. 2013
Piet Mondrian	*Composition No. II*, 1930	$51,000,000		Sotheby's, Nov. 2022	$50,565,000, May 2015
Andrew Wyeth	*Day Dream*, 1980	$23,290,000	$2M–$3M	Christie's, Nov. 2022	$10,344,000, May 2007
Ernie Eugene Barnes	*The Sugar Shack*, 1976	$15,275,000	$150K–$200K	Christie's, May 2022	$550,000, Nov. 2021
Man Ray	*Le Violon d'Ingres*, 1924	$12,412,500	$5M–$7M	Christie's, May 2022	$5,877,000, Nov. 2013
Yayoi Kusama	*Untitled (Nets)*, 1959	$10,496,000	$5M–$7M	Phillips, May 2022	$8,058,936, Dec. 2021
Adrian Ghenie	*Pie Fight Interior 12*, 2014	$10,326,444	$8.7M–$12.5M	Christie's, May 2022	$9,028,430, Oct. 2016
Barbara Hepworth	*Elegy III*, 1966–67	$8,634,000	$3M–$5M	Christie's, Nov. 2022	$7,110,000, May 2021
Mary Cassatt	*Young Lady in a Loge Gazing to Right*, 1878–79	$7,489,000	$3M–$5M	Christie's, Oct. 2022	$4,812,500, May 2007
Nicolas Party	*Blue Sunset*, 2018	$6,663,812	$4.9M–$6.2M	Christie's, Dec. 2022	$3,270,000, Nov. 2021
Matthew Wong	*The Night Watcher*, 2018	$5,897,150	$1.5M–$2M	Sotheby's, May 2022	$4,871,347, Dec 2020
Avery Singer	*Happening*, 2014	$5,253,000	$2.5M–$3.5M	Sotheby's, May 2022	$4,498,027, Nov. 2021
Njideka Akunyili Crosby	*The Beautyful Ones*, 2012	$4,740,000	$4M–$6M	Christie's, Nov. 2022	$3,375,000, May 2018
Christina Quarles	*Night Fell Upon Us Up On Us*, 2019	$4,527,000	$600K–$800K	Sotheby's, May 2022	$685,500, Nov. 2021
Flora Yukhnovich	*Warm, Wet 'N' Wild*, 2020	$3,596,623	$200K–$267K	Sotheby's, Mar. 2022	$3,080,206, Oct. 2021
Leonora Carrington	*The Garden of Paracelsus*, 1957	$3,256,500	$1.2M–$1.8M	Sotheby's, May 2022	$2,629,000, Nov. 2014
Rashid Johnson	*Surrender Painting "Sunshine"*, 2022	$3,000,000	$600K–$800K	Christie's, Nov. 2022	$2,550,000. Nov. 2021
Shara Hughes	*Spins from Swiss*, 2017	$2,940,000	$500K–$700K	Christie's, May 2022	$1,482,000, Nov. 2021
Jennifer Packer	*Fire Next Time*, 2012	$2,349,000	$600K–$800K	Sotheby's, May 2022	$340,200, Nov. 2021
Simone Leigh	*Birmingham*, 2012	$2,167,500	$150K–$200K	Sotheby's, May 2022	$403,200, Oct. 2020
Anna Weyant	*Falling Woman*, 2020	$1,623,000	$150K–$200K	Sotheby's, May 2022	$37,800, Nov. 2021
María Berrío	*He Loves Me, He Loves Me Not*, 2015	$1,603,000	$500K–$700K	Phillips, Nov. 2022	$927,500, Nov. 2021
Salman Toor	*Four Friends*, 2019	$1,562,500	$300K–$400K	Sotheby's, Nov. 2022	$889,791, Jun. 2021
Ewa Juszkiewicz	*Portrait of a Lady (After Louis Leopold Boilly)*, 2019	$1,560,000	$200K–$300K	Christie's, May 2022	$730,800, Nov. 2021
Lynne Drexler	*Herbert's Garden*, 1960	$1,500,000	$70K–$100K	Christie's, May 2022	$75,000, May 2021

50 Buzzy Auction Records Set in 2022

25–50

ARTIST	ARTWORK	SALE PRICE	ESTIMATE	AUCTION	PREVIOUS RECORD
Noah Davis	*Congo #7*, 2014	$1,500,000	$400K–$600K	Christie's, Nov. 2022	$475,000, Dec. 2021
Lucy Bull	*8:50*, 2020	$1,450,001	$127K–$191K	Phillips, Jun. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Scott Kahn	*Big House, Homage to America*, 2012	$1,433,167	$127K–$255K	Christie's, May 2022	$963,111, Nov. 2021
Grace Hartigan	*Early November*, 1959	$1,380,000	$800K–$1.2M	Christie's, May 2022	$687,500, May 2021
Ayako Rokkaku	*Untitled*, 2017	$1,323,958	$288K–$504K	SBI Art Auction, Jul. 2022	$807,889, Nov. 2021
Hilary Pecis	*Fish and Bird*, 2019	$1,256,885	$133K–$200K	Sotheby's, Mar. 2022	$870,000, Nov. 2021
Rachel Jones	*Spliced Structure (7)*, 2019	$1,202,702	$53K–$79K	Bonhams, Mar. 2022	$19,223, Mar. 2021
Howardena Pindell	*Untitled #24*, 1978–79	$1,134,000	$300K–$500K	Christie's, May 2022	$137,000, Oct. 2021
Elaine de Kooning	*Charge*, 1960	$1,071,000	$400K–$600K	Sotheby's, Nov. 2022	$562,500, Mar. 2021
Ed Clark	*Vétheuil #1*, 1967–68	$1,071,000	$200K–$300K	Sotheby's, Sept. 2022	$746,000, Mar. 2021
Derek Fordjour	*Ornithologist*, 2022	$945,000	$150K–$200K	Christie's, May 2022	$250,000, Jun. 2020
Joel Mesler	*To Life*, 2020	$907,200	$100K–$150K	Christie's, May 2022	$388,474, Oct. 2021
Emily Kame Kngwarreye	*Alhalkere - Old Man Emu with Babies*, 1989	$819,000	$500K–$800K	Sotheby's, May 2022	$596,000, Dec. 2019
Ouattara Watts	*Afro Beat*, 2011	$781,200	$100K–$150K	Christie's, May 2022	$54,513, Sept. 2019
Robert Nava	*Before Minotaur*, 2019	$714,529	$201K–$279K	Phillips, Oct. 2022	$565,555, Nov. 2021
Edgar Plans	*Colors*, 2020	$698,957	$79K–$127K	Christie's, Feb. 2022	$323,156, Nov. 2021
Ann Craven	*I Wasn't Sorry*, 2023	$680,400	$20K–$30K	Christie's, May 2022	$81,250, Nov. 2019
Jaune Quick-to-See Smith	*I See Red: Talking to the Ancestors*, 1994	$642,600	$80K–$120K	Christie's, Nov. 2022	$52,812, Aug. 2021
Tomokazu Matsuyama	*Something Came Together*, 2018	$642,400	$76K–$102K	Sotheby's, Apr. 2022	$418,671, May 2021
Firenze Lai 黎清妍	*Weight*, 2013	$642,059	$153K–$255K	Christie's, May 2022	$390,171, Oct. 2020
Aboudia	*Untitled*, 2018	$612,878	$49K–$73K	Christie's, Jun. 2022	$277,317, Oct. 2021
Xinyi Cheng	*Aperitif*, 2018	$562,100	$38K–$64K	Sotheby's, Apr. 2022	$300,000, Nov. 2021
Charline von Heyl	*Untitled*, 2006	$541,121	$203K–$283K	Sotheby's, Oct. 2022	$300,000, May 2019
McArthur Binion	*DNA Study: III*, 2014	$428,400	$80K–$120K	Christie's, May 2022	$300,000, May 2021
Robin F. Williams	*Nude Waiting It Out*, 2017	$327,600	$150K–$200K	Phillips, May 2022	$88,200, Dec. 2020

50 Breakthrough Artists at Auction in 2022

It was undoubtedly a banner year for the ultra-contemporary market. Boosted by an increasing number of sales that cater to this subset—young and emerging artists who have a growing collector base on the primary market—the list of splashy auction debuts and meteoric ascents we witnessed in 2022 is not a short one.

The artists and artworks featured here created some of the most buzzed-about moments during marquee auction weeks this year. In most cases, these artists were already known quantities, with stellar gallery representation, ever-growing exhibition histories, ample museum acquisitions, and waitlists of collectors vying for their work. Yet these auction breakthroughs were still milestone moments, marking new levels of market interest and higher price brackets.

While ample activity surrounded such early-career artists in the spring and early summer sales, a lull in the late summer and early fall suggested that an overzealous secondary market had subsided. Yet another surge came during October's Frieze Week sales, as well as the Hong Kong auctions in late November and early December, particularly surrounding those artists with proven career longevity. While the art world's thirst for newness is seemingly unquenchable, that obsession is prolonged by the fact that these early-career artists' works have become next to impossible to collect. (Prices include fees.)

Casey Lesser

Anna Weyant

Falling Woman, 2020
$1,623,000 (Estimate: $150,000–$200,000)
Sotheby's, May 2022
Previous record: $37,800 (Nov. 2021)

Though Anna Weyant was a known quantity in the art world before 2022, this was undoubtedly her breakthrough year. Following her 2019 debut at 56 Henry, and 2021 solo shows at Winter Street Gallery and Blum & Poe, the artist, now in her late twenties, entered 2022 as part of the latter gallery's roster.

In April, her first painting went to auction: Sotheby's Hong Kong sold *Josephine* (2020), a stark, pristine still life with white roses in a vase that gives off an eerie reflection, for an eye-opening $513,920. Within a matter of days in May, Weyant decamped to Gagosian and her darkly captivating figurative paintings became the talk of the New York auctions.

First to the block was the stunningly sad girl of *Summertime* (2020), which sold for a whopping $1.5 million at Christie's; that record only stood for some nine days before it was surpassed by the sale of *Falling Woman* (2020) for $1.6 million. All in all, 15 of Weyant's paintings sold at auction in 2022, ranging in prices from $150,000 to $1.6 million. Recently in November, another $1.5 million sale was notched for the more whimsical *Loose Screw* (2020).

Two weeks prior, Weyant opened her first solo show with Gagosian —a triumphant debut with the mega-gallery, replete with large, lush canvases dedicated to her latest muses, including Sophia Cohen and Venus Williams, and a roomful of painstaking drawings that show off the artist's technical prowess. Indeed, while Weyant's market has been astounding, it's matched by her exceptional talent.

Lucy Bull

8:50, 2020
$1,450,001 (Estimate: $127,394–$191,091)
Phillips, June 2022
Auction debut in 2022



Lucy Bull had one of the most impressive auction debuts of the year: *Special Guest* (2019) sold for $907,200 at Sotheby's in May. But between then and now, eight other works have sold for higher prices, peaking in June when *8:50* (2020) sold for $1.45 million.

Bull's works appear abstract, though the artist considers herself a representational painter and once said that her pieces "function like Rorschachs." Her rise is in parallel with a wide range of emerging women artists working in abstraction whose works are increasingly sought after, including Michaela Yearwood-Dan, Lauren Quin, Jadé Fadojutimi, and Francesca Mollett.

Now in her early thirties, Bull is represented by David Kordansky Gallery, which hosted its second solo show with the artist in New York this fall. Bull's career momentum certainly picked up after her debut show with the gallery in Los Angeles in spring 2021, and a buzzed-about solo booth at Frieze London that fall.

Rachel Jones

Spliced Structure (7), 2019
$1,202,702 (Estimate: $52,823–$79,234)
Bonhams, Mar. 2022
Previous record: $19,223 (Mar. 2021)



In March, Rachel Jones's *A Slow Teething* (2020) left its estimates in the dust when it sold for $823,343 at Sotheby's. Just three weeks later, *Spliced Structure (7)* (2019) swiftly surpassed that result at Bonhams, breaking the million-dollar mark and setting the promising artist's current auction record. Both works are prime examples of Jones's unforgettably raw and vibrant pastel and oil stick renderings of mouths baring large teeth. In contrast, a year prior, Jones's auction debut saw the 2021 work *A Sliced Tooth* sell for $19,223.

The March 2022 results coincided with the opening of Jones's solo institutional debut—"say cheeeeese" at Chisenhale Gallery—and speak to her steadily building career momentum over the past few years. Jones received her MA from the Royal Academy Schools, London, in 2019. That same year, she took part in the prestigious residency of the Chinati Foundation in Marfa, Texas. Her work caught the eye of esteemed curators Julia Peyton-Jones and Zoé Whitley, the latter of whom is now director at Chisenhale. Peyton-Jones included the artist in a 2020 group show at Thaddaeus Ropac, which led to her representation with the gallery, and a solo show the following year.

Jones is one of the most promising British artists working today; her works have been acquired by esteemed institutions worldwide, including the Long Museum, the Stedelijk Museum, the Tate, the Hammer Museum, and the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, among several others.

Louise Bonnet

Faucethead, 2020
$738,393 (Estimate: $76,438–$127,397)
Sotheby's, Oct. 2022
Previous record: $81,900 (Mar. 2021)



In Cecilia Alemani's "The Milk of Dreams" exhibition at the 59th Venice Biennale this year, one massive room in the Arsenale gave way to Louise Bonnet's show-stopping *Pisser Triptych* (2021–22), a luminous work with riffs on religious iconography, save for its subject matter: hulking bodies peeing. That quick jab at the seriousness of the art world and art history is at the heart of Bonnet's work, and it's become increasingly welcome beyond just institutional spaces.

Bonnet's career momentum, buoyed by the Venice presentation, came to head this April when *The Ice Skater* (2015) sold at Sotheby's for $722,700. That record was broken this past October when *Faucethead* (2020) sold for $738,393 at Sotheby's Hong Kong. No stranger to the art world, Bonnet has been having solo shows with tastemaking galleries like Half Gallery, Nino Mier Gallery, and Galerie Max Hetzler since 2016. The latest addition, Gagosian, had solo shows with the artist in 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Raghav Babbar

Off Duty, 2020
$646,128 (Estimate: $19,200–$32,100)
Phillips, Dec. 2022
Auction debut in 2022



In contrast to many of the artists on this list, Raghav Babbar seems to have come out of thin air. His 2020 painting *Off Duty*, portraying a stern-looking man in a striped shirt glaring across a sparse canvas, held the final slot in Phillips's Hong Kong evening sale on December 1st. The work sold for just over HK$5 million (US$645,751), an astounding result given the artist's relative newness to the market, and it's the third time that Babbar's work has far exceeded expectations at auction this year.

The artist made his auction debut in August when *Memory is a permanent luxury* (2020) sold for SG$441,000 (US$316,560), 11 times its low estimate, at Sotheby's first live sale in Singapore. Then, in October, at Phillips in London, *Surinder* (2020) sold for £403,200 ($448,588). Babbar, who was born in India and raised in Singapore, is in his mid-twenties and an MFA student at the Royal College of Art in London. To date, he's had a solo show, "A Visual Journey," with Waterhouse & Dodd, and was included in a group show at the Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore.

Caroline Walker

Indoor Outdoor, 2015
$598,081 (Estimate: $67,810–$90,413)
Sotheby's, Oct. 2022
Previous record: $111,678 (Oct. 2021)



Though Walker has been showing steadily with her three representing galleries—GRIMM, Ingleby Gallery, and Stephen Friedman Gallery—for the past several years, 2022 was also a banner year for the artist in terms of exhibitions: After a string of solo and group shows across the U.K., Walker opened her first solo exhibition in China, titled "Women Observed," at K11 Shanghai in November.

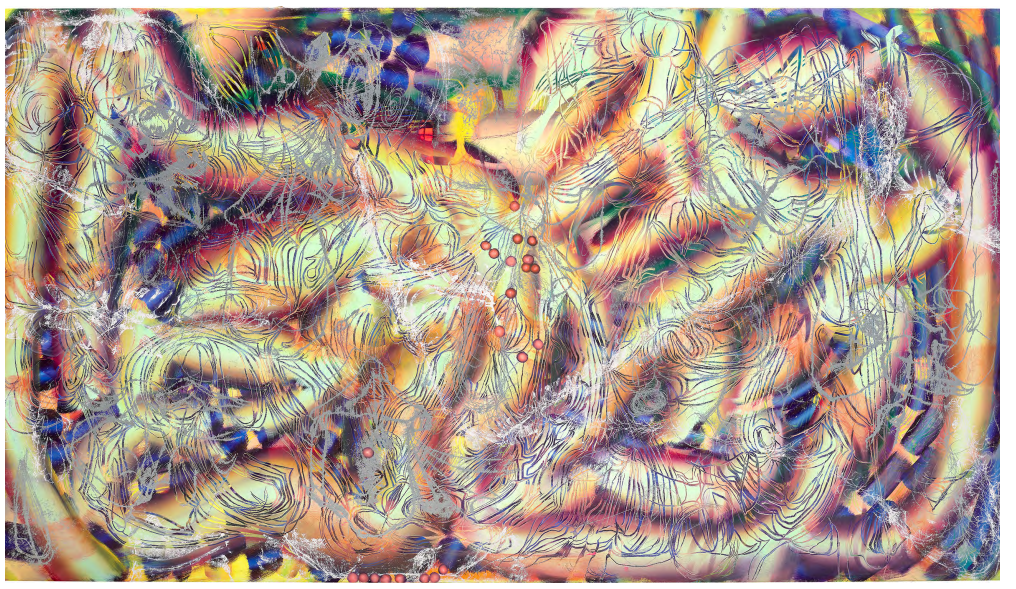
Caroline Walker's auction record was broken twice in one day during London's Frieze Week auctions: *Night Scenes* (2017) sold at Phillips for £516,600 ($577,120), then *Indoor Outdoor* (2015) sold at Sotheby's for £529,200 ($598,081). Previously, her record had been set by *Bedding, Room 44* (2018), which sold for £428,400 ($520,947) in July at Christie's.

The market for Walker's tender portrayals of anonymous women in detailed home and work environments has seen an impressive surge in activity this year. Bidders avidly vied for the artist's paintings and works on paper throughout 2022, with nearly 30 works selling at auction this year, compared to eight in 2021.

While the two most expensive works were both depictions of night scenes, all of the top auction results were typical of the artist's explorations of the boundary between public and private space, with several works showing subjects portrayed through windows.

Lauren Quin

Airsickness, 2021
$588,765 (Estimate: $40,052–$66,753)
Phillips, Mar. 2022
Auction debut in 2022



In March, Lauren Quin's *Airsickness* (2021), with its electric mix of gestural and vaguely bodily forms, made for a dazzling auction debut at Phillips, swiftly selling for more than 14 times its low estimate. Two months later, Blum & Poe announced its representation of the Los Angeles– and San Francisco–based artist to coincide with her first solo exhibition at the L.A. gallery. Quin, who received her MFA at Yale in 2019 and is also represented by Micki Meng (formerly Friends Indeed Gallery), has been garnering the attention of institutions and collectors alike through her fresh, intriguingly strange approach to abstraction.

While a dozen more of Quin's works went to auction this year, none have surpassed *Airsickness*'s success, though that shouldn't cast doubt on Quin's future momentum. In September, she had a solo show at Shanghai's tastemaking art space Pond Society, and the list of institutions that have acquired Quin's work recently is ever-growing, including the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, the High Museum of Art, ICA Miami, the Long Museum, and Pérez Art Museum Miami, among others.

Julien Nguyen

Kye, Semper Solus, 2017
$512,641 (Estimate: $45,206–$67,810)
Sotheby's, Oct. 2022
Auction debut in 2022

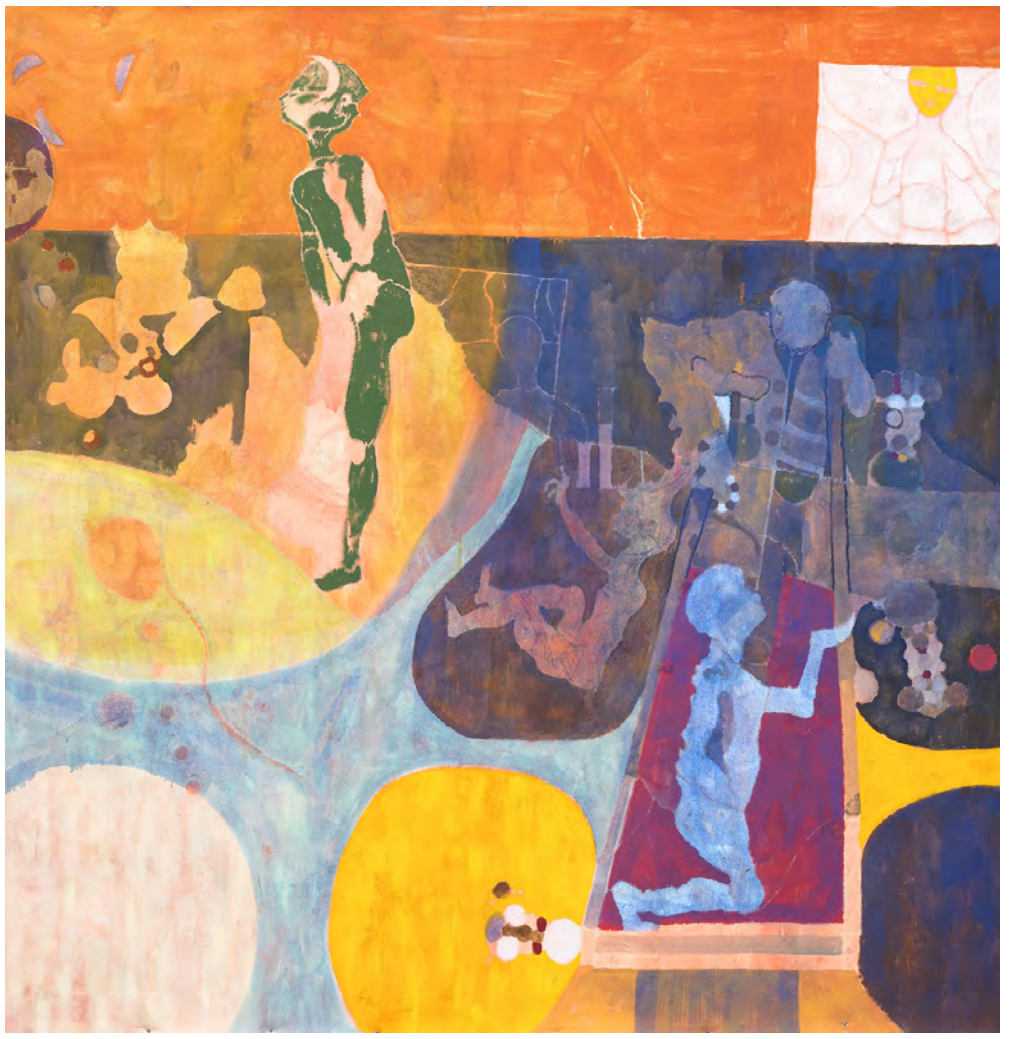


During October's Frieze Week sales, Julien Nguyen's *Kye, Semper Solus* (2017) kicked off Sotheby's "The Now" evening auction with a bidding war. Racking up 14 bids in total, the work set the artist's auction record, though it wasn't the only impressive auction result for Nguyen's work this year. In December, another 2017 work, *Faust II*, sold at Phillips in Hong Kong for HK$3.5 million (US$453,494); and in November, *Noli me tangere, Caesaris sum* (2018) sold for $441,000 at Sotheby's in New York.

The Los Angeles–based artist, who is represented by Matthew Marks Gallery, has become known in the art and fashion worlds alike due to his collaborations with Berlin-based clothing brand Ottolinger. Yet Nguyen's fresh combinations of science fiction, Italian Renaissance painting, and video game aesthetics have earned him serious art world recognition, too, including his inclusion in the 2017 Whitney Biennial, as well as institutional shows at the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati, the Swiss Institute, and the Drawing Center.

Justin Caguiat

Doll 3 Eros, 2020
$504,000 (Estimate: $380,000–$450,000)
Phillips, May 2022
Auction debut in 2022



Justin Caguiat's *Doll 3 Eros* (2020) is the only work to date by the artist that has gone to auction, and it undoubtedly made an impression. Notably, the estimate for Caguiat's work was much higher—and clearly, much more realistic—than the benchmarks for the other record-setting works on this list. Caguiat's name has been on the tongues of advisors and collectors for the past couple of years, and his reputation has been growing internationally. In 2021, he had a solo show at Taka Ishii Gallery and a standout moment at Frieze London with Modern Art.

Yet 2022 marked his breakout year in the U.S. art world. The year kicked off with a solo exhibition at The Warehouse, the esteemed Dallas space founded by collectors Howard and Cindy Rachofsky and the late Vernon Faulconer. And this September saw the opening of his first solo show with Greene Naftali, which started representing Caguiat last fall. The artist's dynamic paintings deserve the hype: Done in a gauzy, tantalizing style, Caguiat's work dips in and out of abstraction and figuration, resulting in dreamlike tableaus that feel rich with indiscernible symbolism.

Anna Park

Is it Worth It?, 2020
$483,943 (Estimate: $38,554–$64,257)
Christie's, November 2022
Auction debut in 2022



In June, Anna Park's *I to I* (2019), a charcoal and graphite drawing of two debaucherous women, done in the artist's early, energetic drawing style, sold for HK$2.3 million (US$288,930) at Phillips in Hong Kong. Three more works sold in the months that followed, but that record remained intact until Christie's late November Hong Kong sale, when *Is it Worth It?* (2020) sold for $483,943.

Though it was a breakthrough year for Park's work at auction, the rising artist had a lot more going on in 2022. In addition to her first solo museum show, at the SCAD Museum of Art, and her second solo show at Blum & Poe, Park was featured in an array of group exhibitions at esteemed galleries and institutions, including the Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, ICA Miami, Jeffrey Deitch, and LACMA.

Arguably one of the better known artists on this list, Park is also among the youngest. And while young artists who gain such success so early in their career might feel the pressure to continue to churn out more of the same, highly sought-after work, Park, it seems, does not. Rather than continue along the path of her feverish, whirlwind drawings that channel the chaos of the present, her latest show at Blum & Poe debuted a new body of work: clean, crisp compositions redolent of advertisements and film stills that portray an alter ego in various voyeuristic scenarios. This bold new direction bodes well for the artist's longevity, whether or not the current market likes it.

50 Breakthrough Artists at Auction in 2022

1–25

ARTIST	ARTWORK	SALE PRICE	ESTIMATE	AUCTION	PREVIOUS RECORD
Anna Weyant	*Falling Woman*, 2020	$1,623,000	$150K–$200K	Sotheby's, May 2022	$37,800, Nov. 2021
Lucy Bull	*8:50*, 2020	$1,450,001	$127K–$191K	Phillips, June 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Rachel Jones	*Spliced Structure (7)*, 2019	$1,202,702	$53K–$79K	Bonhams, Mar. 2022	$19,223, Mar. 2021
Louise Bonnet	*Faucethead*, 2020	$738,393	$76K–$127K	Sotheby's, Oct. 2022	$81,900, Mar. 2021
Raghav Babbar	*Off Duty*, 2020	$646,128	$19K–$32K	Phillips, Dec. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Caroline Walker	*Indoor Outdoor*, 2015	$598,081	$68K–$90K	Sotheby's, Oct. 2022	$111,678, Oct. 2021
Lauren Quin	*Airsickness*, 2021	$588,765	$40K–$67K	Phillips, Mar. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Julien Nguyen	*Kye, Semper Solus*, 2017	$512,641	$45K–$68K	Sotheby's, Oct. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Justin Caguiat	*Doll 3 Eros*, 2020	$504,000	$380K–$450K	Phillips, May 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Anna Park	*Is it Worth It?*, 2020	$483,943	$39K–$64K	Christie's, Nov. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Jason Boyd Kinsella	*Thaws*, 2020	$441,000	$7K–$10K	Phillips, May 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Genesis Tramaine	*Hosanna*, 2019	$441,000	$50K–$70K	Sotheby's, May 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Doron Langberg	*Nir and Zach*, 2018	$422,283	$67K–$89K	Phillips, Oct. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Trey Abdella	*Sunny Days*, 2020	$387,677	$90K–$115K	Phillips, Dec. 2022	$163,612, Oct. 2021
Michaela Yearwood-Dan	*What's the Use in Yearning*, 2021	$387,677	$32K–$45K	Phillips, Dec. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
William Monk	*Far-Out III*, 2013	$323,064	$103K–$154K	Phillips, Dec. 2022	$17,182, Oct. 2013
Antonia Showering	*It Wasn't To Be*, 2017	$300,000	$13K–$20K	Phillips, Mar. 2022	$48,058, Mar. 2021
Leelee Kimmel	*No. 8*, 2018–21	$277,200	$60K–$80K	Christie's, May 2022	$37,500, Oct. 2020
Jordan Kerwick	*Le Tigre*, 2020	$277,200	$25K–$35K	Sotheby's, Mar. 2022	$5,320, Dec. 2021
Annie Morris	*Stack 10, Copper Blue*, 2017	$270,076	$25K–$35K	Sotheby's, Mar. 2022	$46,386, Oct. 2017
Rebecca Ness	*Origins*, 2019	$256,832	$54K–$80K	Christie's, May 2022	$252,000, Nov. 2021
Noel W. Anderson	*See Sea*, 2019	$252,000	$40K–$60K	Sotheby's, Mar. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Woo Kuk Won	*Que Sera Sera (Whatever Will Be, Will Be)*, 2021	$240,780	$10K–$15K	Christie's, May 2022	193,783, Sept. 2021
Kei Imazu	*Black Eyes*	黑色眼眸, 2016	$225,372	$19K–$38K	Sotheby's, Mar. 2022	$1,404, July 2015
Albert Willem	*Snowbound*, 2021	$224,725	$13K–$19K	Sotheby's, Oct. 2022	Auction debut in 2022

50 Breakthrough Artists at Auction in 2022

25–50

ARTIST	ARTWORK	SALE PRICE	ESTIMATE	AUCTION	PREVIOUS RECORD
Stickymonger	*Strawberry Stalkers - Happy Together*, 2021	$208,736	$38K–$64K	Christie's, July 2022	$52,500, July 2021
Minjung Kim	*Vuoto nel Pieno*, 2006	$189,000	$60K–$80K	Christie's, Nov. 2022	$30,037, Oct. 2008
Danica Lundy	*Miss Fist Kiss*, 2019	$189,000	$80K–$120K	Phillips, Nov. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Jordi Ribes	*Untitled*, 2021	$176,639	$19K–$32K	Sotheby's, Apr. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Szabolcs Bozó	*Untitled*, 2020	$176,572	$9K–$11K	Christie's, May 2022	$3,500, Sept. 2021
Kennedy Yanko	*Set Aflame and Warm*, 2022	$176,400	$60K–$80K	Sotheby's, Sept. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Ilana Savdie	*Marimonda Desplegada*, 2020	$176,400	$50K–$70K	Phillips, Nov. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
George Rouy	*Front Facing*, 2020	$161,928	$39K–$51K	Christie's, Dec. 2022	$42,190, Apr. 2021
Andres Valencia	*Ms. Cube*, 2020	$160,511	$25K–$51K	Phillips, June 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Ulala Imai	*Cooking in 3min*, 2018	$153,811	$5K–$7K	SBI Art Auction, May 2022	$70,852, Oct. 2021
Ángeles Agrela	*Alicia*, 2020	$144,900	$30K–$50K	Phillips, Sept. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Sarah Slappey	*Black Pearls II*, 2020	$129,226	$39K–$64K	Phillips, Dec. 2022	$940, July 2021
GaHee Park	*Still Life with Fish*, 2017	$126,000	$15K–$20K	Phillips, Mar. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Jenna Gribbon	*Public Display of Affection*, 2020	$123,480	$30K–$40K	Christie's, Nov. 2022	$60,480, Sept. 2021
Kyle Dunn	*Vanity Never Ends*, 2020	$121,038	$23K–$34K	Phillips, Oct. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Vojtěch Kovařík	*Mother Afrodita*, 2020	$120,383	$25K–$38K	Phillips, June 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Ana Benaroya	*Be My Baby*, 2019	$115,920	$20K–$30K	Phillips, Sept. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Thierry Noir	*Flower to the People of London*, 2014	$110,280	$8K–$10K	Sotheby's, May 2022	$39,990, Dec. 2021
Sarah Ball	*Untitled (AC16)*, 2017	$104,901	$67K–$89K	Christie's, Oct. 2022	$1,271, Dec. 2021
Justin Liam O'Brien	*Each Man Kills The Thing He Loves*, 2021	$104,377	$13K–$25K	Sotheby's, Apr. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Cornelius Annor	*Asempa Aba Fie (Good News in the House)*, 2021	$94,500	$15K–$20K	Phillips, May 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Louise Giovanelli	*Peeping Tom*, 2019	$92,560	$34K–$45K	Sotheby's, Oct. 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Mandy El-Sayegh	*Net-Grid 6*, 2017	$91,697	$49K–$73K	Phillips, June 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Anthony Cudahy	*the gate*, 2018	$88,200	$20K–$30K	Phillips, May 2022	Auction debut in 2022
Dominique Fung	*Something Fishy Marinated in Phoenix Claw and Peaches*, 2018	$81,900	$10K–$15K	Sotheby's, Nov. 2022	Auction debut in 2022

50 Sought-After Artists on Artsy in 2022

Every day, collectors use Artsy to place bids and inquiries on artworks they desire, and to make purchases directly on the platform. And every year, we find that the artworks generating the most interest are those that reflect the tastes of collectors today, from famed street artists to highly sought-after new talents.

Here, we offer a look at the artists gathering the most attention from collectors on Artsy, divided into two categories: established and emerging. To create these rankings, we looked at the number of bids, inquiries, and purchases for each artist's work over the course of 2022.

While the established category is not so surprising, featuring some of the artists with the biggest auction records of all time and names with boundless popular appeal, the emerging category reflects artists who have experienced serious career momentum at galleries and auctions this year.

Casey Lesser

Established Artists

Andy Warhol



Unsurprisingly, Andy Warhol is not only at the top of the lists of the most expensive artworks and biggest auction records of 2022, his work is also the most in-demand on Artsy. While the Artsy marketplace has more than 3,000 works by Warhol available for sale, the top three works were all iterations of the same print featuring Queen Elizabeth II. Part of the well-known "Reigning Queens" series, the work may well be sought after following the iconic royal's recent death. Notably, another edition of the Queen Elizabeth II print set a new record for the "Reigning Queens" series in late November at Heffel Fine Art Auction House in Canada.

Another notable Warhol work among Artsy collectors was the screenprint *Turtle* (1985) from the "Endangered Species" series. One such print sold in an Artsy Auction in March for $100,000, twice its low estimate and a new record for that print by the artist.

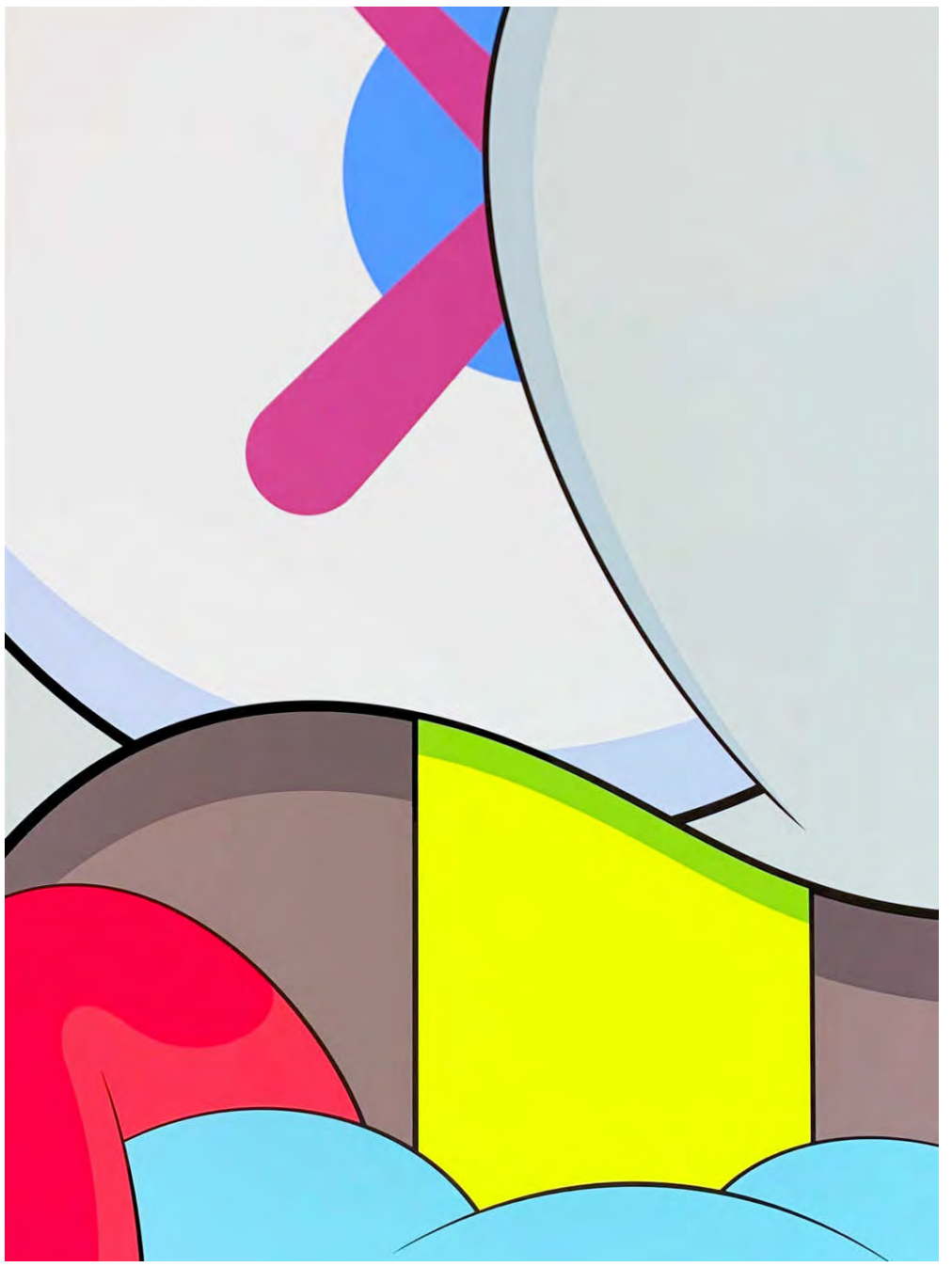
Damien Hirst



Damien Hirst held a whopping three solo shows with Gagosian in 2022, in addition to an exhibition titled "Cherry Blossoms" at The National Art Center Tokyo, which featured his latest series of paintings of the beloved pink-petaled trees against cheerful blue skies. The complementary series of prints, "The Virtues" (2021), was among the artist's most inquired-on series of works on Artsy in 2022. A set of eight editions from "Virtues" sold for $125,000 in an Artsy Auction in November.

Hirst's old favorites continue to resonate, too: Nine of the top ten works with the most inquirers were all for prints featuring his multicolored spots, ranging in date from 2004 to 2012. Next in line were works from the "Psalm" and "Cathedral" series, both of which feature kaleidoscopic compositions of butterflies.

KAWS



Coming off of a slew of museum and gallery shows in 2021, this year was slightly quieter for KAWS, though he did kick it off with a massive public work on Changbai Mountain in China, and then mounted a solo exhibition at the Serpentine North Gallery in London. The top end of KAWS's auction market has cooled since 2019—the year his artist record was set and some 20 works sold for over $1 million—yet the thirst for the artist's more accessible works is steady, particularly for his prints and editions.

Among the more than 1,800 works available by KAWS on Artsy, the most in-demand editions are his "Companion" sculptures, particularly those that are four feet tall. And when it comes to his prints, collectors are after the works featuring his signature characters that riff on popular cartoon personalities like Mickey Mouse, the Michelin Man, Spongebob, and Snoopy. Particularly in-demand series include "Urge" (2020), "What Party" (2020), "Share" (2021), and "Blame Game" (2014).

Takashi Murakami



In addition to splashy solo shows at The Broad and Gagosian this year, Takashi Murakami held his first exhibition in Dubai, featuring signature sculptures, paintings, and installations on the occasion of Perrotin's new gallery opening. On Artsy, collectors were particularly interested in the artist's 2016 print *Tan Tan Bo*, featuring a psychedelic mouse-like figure against a gold background.

Among the more than 2,300 works for sale by Murakami on Artsy, other popular choices include prints featuring the artist's iconic flowers, as well as *Memento Mori* (2018), a rather subdued print from his collaboration with Virgil Abloh.

Banksy



In November, Banksy went on an artmaking journey across war-torn Ukraine, leaving behind seven poetic murals in devastated parts of the country. Though it was hardly the only notable moment Banksy had this year, it certainly reminded the world of the anonymous street artist's unmatched ingenuity.

Banksy's perennial favorite, *Girl with Balloon* (2004), unsurprisingly ranks at the top of the most inquired-on works by the artist on Artsy. Other popular pieces include *Kids on Gun Hill* (2003), another silhouette with a heart-shaped balloon, this time floating between two minors atop a mountain of firearms; *NOLA* (2008), an image that originated during the artist's visit to New Orleans three years after Hurricane Katrina; and *Banksquiat* (2019), an ode to Jean-Michel Basquiat with a series of the late artist's signature crowns placed atop a ferris wheel.

Emerging Artists

Jordan Kerwick



Jordan Kerwick was hard to miss across the art market in 2022. The Australian artist has become increasingly known for his flat, thickly painted scenes featuring beastly creatures and charming still-life elements like stacks of books and vases of flowers. On Artsy, his following grew by 65 percent compared to last year, and the works that garnered the most bids and inquiries on the platform feature some of his best-known iconography: snakes were most desirable, followed by tigers and still lifes.

While Kerwick had a slew of shows at tastemaking galleries across the globe in the past two years—Woaw Gallery, Vito Schnabel Gallery, Anna Zorina Gallery, Vigo Gallery, Galerie Julien Cadet, Union Gallery, and Allouche Benias Gallery—around 70 works of his sold at auction in 2022 alone, compared to a small handful in 2021. His first major auction results occurred in March, when *Untitled 7* (2021) sold for $201,600 at Phillips. His current auction record was set in May, when *Chic Imagery* (2021) sold for $272,884 at Christie's.

Ayako Rokkaku



Ayako Rokkaku is no stranger to the art market, nor to Artsy: she has more than 22,000 followers and over 60 works for sale on the platform. Yet the leading Japanese artist made new waves this year. Rokkaku is known for painting with her bare hands to create technicolored canvases that offer a fresh, energetic spin on kawaii aesthetics. And she's increasingly beloved for her live painting performances, which she presented several times this year across the globe. Throughout the year, Rokkaku was a consistent presence at auctions, art fairs, and galleries internationally.

Her auction record was broken in July, when *Untitled* (2017) sold for over $1.3 million at Tokyo's SBI Art Auction. And her second- and third-highest auction records were also set this year, both of which broke the million-dollar mark. In addition to showing at Art Basel in Switzerland and Art Now Paris, Rokakku's work was also the focus of a solo booth at Frieze Los Angeles with König Galerie. At the same time, the Berlin-based gallery announced its representation of the artist. In May, she opened her first London solo show with the gallery.

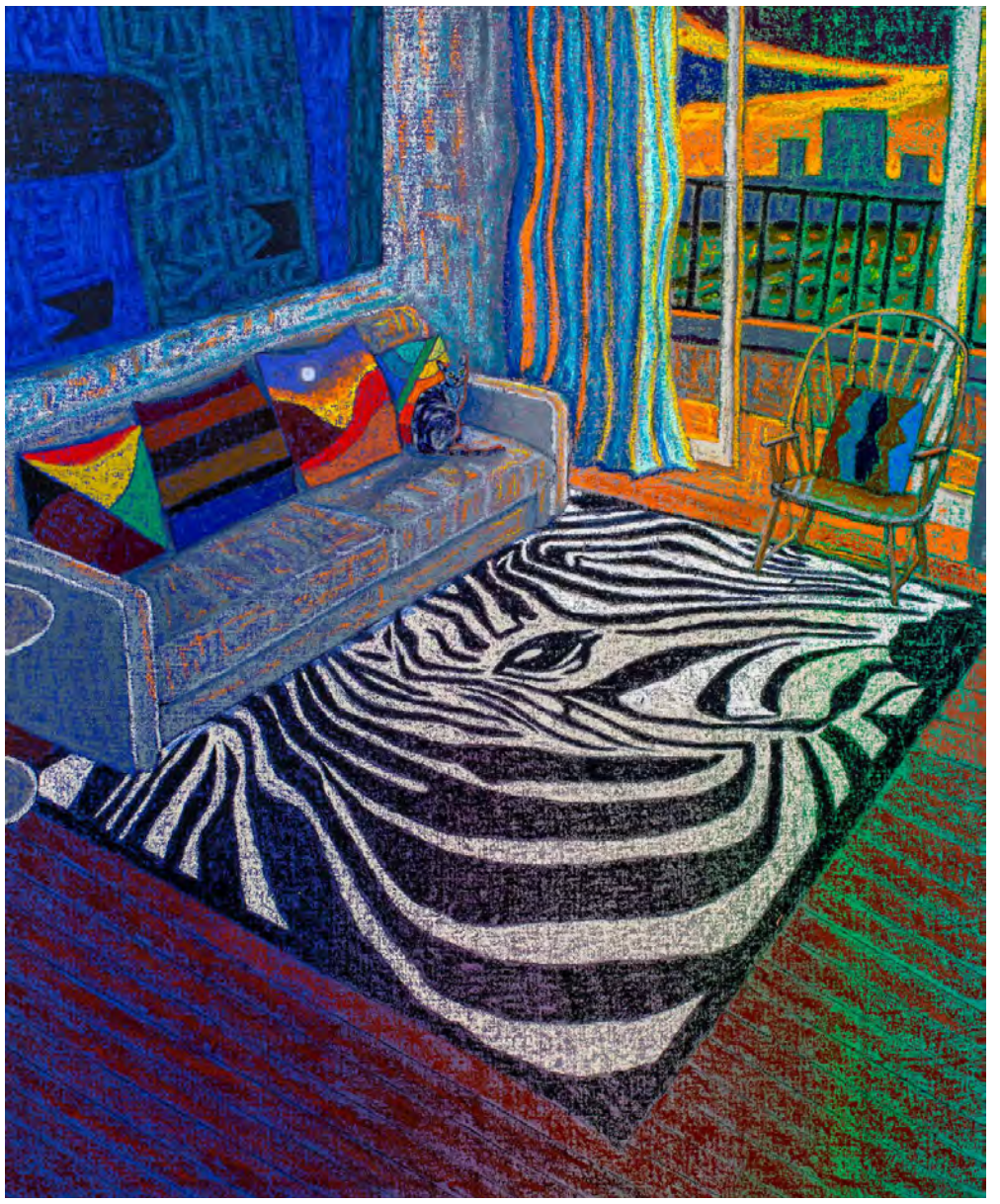
Tunji Adeniyi-Jones



It's no wonder that Tunji Adeniyi-Jones's sensuous figurative paintings are among the most desirable on Artsy. The artist, who is represented by a trifecta of tastemaking galleries—White Cube, Morán Morán, and Nicelle Beauchene Gallery—only continued to refine and evolve his style this year. That was more than evident at his most recent solo show at Nicelle Beauchene in New York, which featured new paintings and a series of stone lithographs published by David Zwirner's Utopia Editions and Jungle Press.

Just a month before that show, Adeniyi-Jones opened his first solo show in Paris with White Cube. His works were also featured in group shows this year at the Dak'art Biennale, the Aïshti Foundation, the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, and ICA Miami. On Artsy, Adeniyi-Jones's following grew by 30 percent this year. And in October, a print run available exclusively on Artsy in collaboration with Art for Black Lives completely sold out just hours after it was released.

JJ Manford



JJ Manford's lush domestic interior scenes captured collectors' attention throughout 2022. On Artsy, the artist's follower count grew by 148 percent year over year, and his work generated competitive bidding in the Rema Hort Mann Foundation benefit auction on Artsy in November.

Critical to Manford's distinctive approach involves his choice of materials—oil stick, pastel, and Flashe paint—which results in a rich, textured surface. His compositions typically feature warm, stylish rooms rife with furniture, plants, small pets, and often, artworks whose artists are mentioned in the titles.

This year, in addition to a solo show in February at Harper's in Los Angeles, Manford was featured in over a dozen group exhibitions and fair booths, with galleries including Derek Eller Gallery, The Hole, V1 Gallery, The Pit, PM/AM, and Berggruen Gallery, among others.

Antonia Showering



It was a major year for Antonia Showering—and that is reflected in her growing popularity on Artsy: the artist's following grew by 111 percent year over year and her works are among the most requested by clients of Artsy's Private Sales team.

In late 2021, Showering gained representation with Timothy Taylor, and her first solo show with the gallery opened in January 2022. That show was a turning point: in the months that followed, her work achieved two estimate-smashing auction results: *We Stray* (2020) sold for £239,400 in June at Phillips; and *It Wasn't Meant to Be* (2017) sold for £226,800 in March, also at Phillips.

Showering's soft, dreamy figurative works, which employ a distinctive palette of muted reds, greens, and oranges, have been garnering attention since well before the young British artist earned her MFA from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2018. This year, her works were also featured in group exhibitions at Kasmin, Timothy Taylor, and the Green Family Art Foundation.

Established Artists

1 Andy Warhol
2 Damien Hirst
3 KAWS
4 Takashi Murakami
5 Banksy
6 David Hockney
7 Alex Katz
8 Keith Haring
9 Pablo Picasso
10 Salvador Dalí
11 Yayoi Kusama
12 Jean-Michel Basquiat
13 Julian Opie
14 Joan Miró
15 Roy Lichtenstein
16 Harland Miller
17 Ed Ruscha
18 Yoshitomo Nara
19 Tracey Emin
20 Gerhard Richter
21 Alexander Calder
22 Jeff Koons
23 Jonas Wood
24 George Condo
25 Katherine Bernhardt

Emerging Artists

1 Jordan Kerwick
2 Edgar Plans
3 Roby Dwi Antono
4 Javier Calleja
5 Ayako Rokkaku
6 Aboudia
7 Szabolcs Bozó
8 Genesis Tramaine
9 Amoako Boafo
10 Susumu Kamijo
11 Claire Tabouret
12 Hilary Pecis
13 Tunji Adeniyi-Jones
14 Isshaq Ismail
15 JJ Manford
16 Anna Weyant
17 Lauren Quin
18 Annie Morris
19 Louis Fratino
20 Salman Toor
21 Joel Mesler
22 Antonia Showering
23 Sasha Gordon
24 Anna Park
25 Diane Dal-Pra

50 Artists Who Gained Representation with Major Galleries in 2022

For a number of artists, 2022 has delivered true star-making achievements, including significant solo exhibitions, sold-out booths at major art fairs, buzzworthy installations, and standout works of art. However, there is one accomplishment that may stand above the rest: that of the esteemed and much coveted declaration of gallery representation.

Especially with a blue-chip gallery, such a distinction demonstrates the potential for long-term institutional support and recognition of an artist's craft, while introducing an artist's practice to a wider audience of collectors. Below, we share 50 artists who have gained notable gallery representation this year.

Ayanna Dozier

Acaye Kerunen

New gallery representation in 2022: Blum & Poe, Galerie Kandlhofer, Pace Gallery

Acaye Kerunen is a master storyteller. The multidisciplinary artist works across curation, activism, poetry, performance, sculpture, and weaving to deliver powerful narratives on farm labor and local craft production in Uganda. Born in Kampala, Uganda, where she is currently based, Kerunen made her international debut earlier this year.

Most notably, Kerunen's impressive installations were seen by thousands at the 59th Venice Biennale as part of Uganda's first-ever national pavilion presentation. Exhibited alongside the work of artist Collin Sekajugo, her textile sculptures evoke craft-based practices local to Kampala, like *bikapu* fiber bags. Addressing the intergenerational labor of Ugandan women, her work features biomorphic textures constructed with banana fibers through hand stitching, knotting, and weaving techniques passed onto her from her mother.

Kerunen's sculptural installations challenge Euro-American art hierarchies that too often overlook craft-based practices in favor of painting. But after her standout presentation at the Ugandan pavilion, Kerunen received representation with three leading galleries: Pace Gallery, Blum & Poe, and Galerie Kandlhofer.

Following this announcement, Kerunen's work made a splash in Pace's booth at Frieze London, and with Blum & Poe at Art Basel in Miami Beach. The artist also has solo exhibitions lined up for spring 2023 at Blum & Poe and Galerie Kandlhofer.

Allison Katz

New gallery representation in 2022: Hauser & Wirth

Also represented by: Antenna Space, dépendance, Gió Marconi



Allison Katz's expressive figurative paintings probe the space between mirrors and masks. With a BFA from Concordia University in her hometown of Montréal and an MFA from Columbia University, Katz reflects upon the demands of authenticity in public spaces in hopes of uncovering what lies beneath outward appearances. Using bright colors and enlarged everyday items set in unnatural contexts, her paintings invite viewers to reconsider their relationship with the ordinary by emphasizing how bizarre the ordinariness of daily life can be.

Following her critically acclaimed presentation in "The Milk of Dreams," the main exhibition curated by Cecilia Alemani at this year's Venice Biennale, Katz parted ways with her New York gallery Luhring Augustine for one of the biggest blue-chip galleries in the world: Hauser & Wirth. In 2023, Hauser & Wirth will host her debut solo exhibition at its Los Angeles location. Katz, who is now based in London, will continue to work with her other galleries, Shanghai's Antenna Space, Brussels's dépendance, and Milan's Giò Marconi.

Angel Otero

New gallery representation in 2022: Hauser & Wirth



Angel Otero, *Mi Acuario*, 2022. © Angel Otero. Photo by Thomas Barratt. Courtesy of the artist and Hauser & Wirth.

Angel Otero's messy yet refined oil paintings unpacked the interiority of solitude during the COVID-19 lockdown and thereafter. Depicting scenes of the home with thick layers of oil paint, Otero invites audiences to peer inwards into domestic spaces. The artist, who was born in Puerto Rico and is currently based in Malden, New York, received his MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Otero arrived at his distinctive style by merging painting with collage and sculpture, extending the medium's parameters beyond something that is presented on a wall, not unlike the folded canvases pioneered by Sam Gilliam. Using found objects reminiscent of his childhood, Otero folds his personal experiences into his large-scale paintings to examine a multitude of narratives about home that transcend the events of his own individual life. Drawing upon both personal memory and references to art historical canonical figures like Willem de Kooning and Arshile Gorky, Otero's work speaks to the in-between nature that emerges from migration.

In 2022, he had his inaugural solo exhibition with Hauser & Wirth in New York. In addition to this notable accomplishment, Otero's work has been acquired by esteemed institutions like the Guggenheim Museum, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, and the DePaul Art Museum, among numerous others.

Chase Hall

New gallery representation in 2022: David Kordansky Gallery, Galerie Eva Presenhuber



Chase Hall's emotive paintings examine and unpack the artist's biracial identity—an investigation prompted by a studio visit with the artist Sondra Perry. Hall was in residence at the esteemed Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine, when Perry said, "You love Black history, but your mom is white," asking, "Where is that in the work?" From that moment on, Hall aimed to bring all of himself and his heritage to his practice.

Using a combination of acrylic and coffee, Hall paints scenes of sociality between various groups of people as they play pool, hang out, and converse. These ordinary moments are heightened by the complicated and tense history of race relations that form the foundation of the United States. His figurative paintings question the binary classifications of race by evoking the histories of blended families.

This past year was a breakthrough for Hall, who was born in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and is now based between New York and Los Angeles. He received representation with the bicoastal David Kordansky Gallery, as well as Galerie Eva Presenhuber, which has locations in Zürich, Vienna, and New York. This only adds to the rising status of the artist, whose work is in the collections of the Studio Museum in Harlem, ICA Miami, and the Rubell Museum.

Deana Lawson

New gallery representation in 2022: Gagosian

Also represented by: David Kordansky Gallery



Deana Lawson, *Nation*, 2018. Pigment print, collaged photograph, 55 1/2 x 67 1/4 inches. © Deana Lawson. Courtesy of the artist and Gagosian.

Deana Lawson's intimate portraits of Black life are somehow both stark and lush, personal and stunningly universal. Her compositions follow the aesthetics that we may find in the homes of friends, lovers, and family members—scenes reminiscent of her adolescence. Lawson uses this distinctive style of photography to seek out collaborators across the Black diaspora, and produce intimate portraits that become part of a larger, public lineage of sociality. By posing her subjects and pairing strangers together, she purposefully toys with the perceptions of authenticity that shroud representations of Black life across the history of photography.

After a critically acclaimed mid-career survey that traveled to MoMA PS1, the High Museum of Art, and the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, Lawson concluded the year with representation from the heavyweight Gagosian while maintaining co-representation with David Kordansky Gallery. She celebrated the announcement with a showing of her work in a joint presentation with Sally Mann in Gagosian's booth at Paris Photo this past November.

Jiab Prachakul

New gallery representation in 2022: Timothy Taylor
Also represented by: Micki Meng



Jiab Prachakul's expressive figurative portraits are based on her astute observations of everyday life across the Asian diaspora. With distinctive and expressive brushstrokes, Prachakul unravels how identity is manufactured across time and place. In her exhaustive paintings, smaller elements that would be ignored in other portraits are emphasized. These details include facial expressions, outfits, and accessories that represent the souvenirs the subject has collected throughout their life. This attention to detail is befitting to the artistic practice of Prachakul, who received a degree in journalism from Thammasat University in Bangkok and worked as a casting coordinator at Big Blue Production.

Born in Nahkon Phanom, Thailand, the self-taught artist—who is now based in Vannes, France—was inspired to move away from commercial casting and advertising after an encounter with David Hockney's work at the National Portrait Gallery. Her paintings have since been featured in the New York Times, Frieze, and Vogue Thailand. This year, she joined the illustrious roster of the London- and New York–based Timothy Taylor, which will co-represent her alongside San Francisco's Micki Meng (formerly Friends Indeed Gallery).

Tammy Nguyen

New gallery representation in 2022: Lehmann Maupin
Also represented by: David Kordansky Gallery



Tammy Nguyen's earthly paintings infuse fantastical environments with dazzling characters and creatures. Her work is unique for its combination of watercolor, vinyl paint, pastel, and metal leaf on paper, which she treats as a canvas by stretching it over panels. This mix of materials yields rich hues of green and blue that dominate Nguyen's scenes.

Against her leafy green backgrounds, characters across the Asian diaspora appear in ordinary settings. For example, in *Woman* (2021), a figure wearing a face mask with cucumbers on her eyes stands in a grassy field. In paintings where creatures like bats emerge, the scenarios are even more fantastical as they battle with other animals and elements of the luscious forest landscapes they are set against.

Nguyen honed her artistic practice at Yale, where she received an MFA in painting and printmaking. Prior to that, the San Francisco–born, New York–based artist received a BFA from Cooper Union. In addition to these acclaimed degrees, Nguyen has obtained several competitive fellowships over the course of her career, including a Fulbright in 2007, a Van Lier Fellowship at Wave Hill in 2014, and a NYSCA/NYFA award in painting in 2021. To add to this list of recognitions, she joined the roster of Lehmann Maupin earlier this year.

Lisa Brice

New gallery representation in 2022: Thaddaeus Ropac and Sadie Coles HQ



In Lisa Brice's ghostly paintings, women haunt domestic interiors. The London-based, Cape Town–born artist uses soft brushstrokes and vivid blue hues to cast women in a surreal environment. Brice's figurative works often draw upon and challenge the Euro-American art historical canon of the female nude by placing the motif in relation with other women as they gaze back at the viewer.

Brice's technique often involves the use of tracing paper, which allows her to physically and metaphorically work through ideas of repetition and (re)examine how stories are told. In an interview with the Tate, Brice said, "I am drawn to the ambiguity that people and places can hold. Sometimes the compositions of my paintings feel like cinematic outtakes: the moments between directed actions, when the figures are 'on their own time,' self-involved, performing only for themselves or one another."

Brice has been represented by Goodman Gallery in Johannesburg since 1997. This year, she parted ways with London's Stephen Friedman Gallery and New York's Salon 94—both of which have represented her since 2017—and joined the rosters of Sadie Coles HQ and Thaddaeus Ropac, which now represent her in London and Paris respectively.

Marguerite Humeau

New gallery representation in 2022: White Cube
Also represented by: C L E A R I N G



Marguerite Humeau's large-scale sculptures sent shockwaves through the main exhibition at the 59th Venice Biennale. Made from biological and synthetic resins and polymers, salt, hone, pigments, mineral dust, and glass, among other materials, they evoke creatures and buried structures from the deepest depths of the ocean.

Her "Migrations" series, for example, is composed of three sculptures named after ocean currents: *El Niño*, *La Niña*, and *Kuroshio* (all 2022). Rendered in a nautical color palette, Humeau's work takes inspiration from fauna, biology, and climate collapse. Many of her seemingly delicate yet frighteningly imposing pieces are reminiscent of unearthed bones. In fact, the artist looked to death rituals performed by marine and land-based mammals to imbue her sculptures with a spiritual force. In particular, a viral video of a whale carrying its child's corpse for days was a key influence behind Humeau's work and approach to the series.

Born in Cholet, France, Humeau is currently based in London, where she received her MA in design interactions from the Royal College of Art. Her work has been acquired by acclaimed institutions like the Museum of Modern Art, The Warehouse Dallas, and Centre Pompidou, among others. This year, she joined the impressive roster of White Cube, which will co-represent her alongside the Brussels- and New York–based C L E A R I N G.

Hermann Nitsch

New gallery representation in 2022: Pace Gallery

Also represented by: Galerie Kandlhofer, Nitsch Foundation



Nitsch received a degree from Höhere Graphische Bundes-Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt in Vienna in 1958, though he swiftly switched gears to art production after seeing the paintings made by Abstract Expressionists. Like those pieces, Nitsch's work aimed to introduce a new visual language into the space of art appreciation, but with blood and guts rather than acrylic paint alone.

Hermann Nitsch's visceral photographs, performances, and paintings compelled and repelled throes of audiences across the 20th and 21st centuries. He was even a founding member of the Viennese Actionists group, a collective of performance artists who challenged customs around the body through the use of fluids, ritual animal sacrifices, and pain. This theater of spectacle sought to disrupt the sensibilities of the bourgeois, but ultimately caused Nitsch's work to be shunned in numerous countries, including his native Austria.

In February of this year, just prior to his death at the age of 83 in April, Pace Gallery announced its representation of Nitsch. The news coincided with the presentation of his *20th painting action* (originally staged in Vienna in 1987) on the Italian island of Giudecca during the run of the 59th Venice Biennale. Pace, which now co-manages the artist's estate alongside the Nitsch Foundation and Galerie Kandlhofer, will host a solo exhibition of recent works at its New York location in 2023.

50 Artists Who Gained Representation with Major Galleries in 2022

ARTIST	NEW GALLERY REPRESENTATION IN 2022	ALSO REPRESENTED BY
Acaye Kerunen	Blum & Poe, Galerie Kandlhofer, Pace Gallery	
Allison Katz	Hauser & Wirth	Antenna Space, dépendance, Gió Marconi
Angel Otero	Hauser & Wirth	
Chase Hall	David Kordansky Gallery, Galerie Eva Presenhuber	
Deana Lawson	Gagosian	David Kordansky Gallery
Jiab Prachakul	Timothy Taylor	Micki Meng
Lina Iris Viktor	LGDR	
Lisa Brice	Thaddaeus Ropac, Sadie Coles HQ	Goodman Gallery
Marguerite Humeau	White Cube	CLEARING
Hermann Nitsch	Pace Gallery	Galerie Kandlhofer, Nitsch Foundation
Amanda Wal	Almine Rech	
Ana Benaroya	Venus Over Manhattan	
Anna Weyant	Gagosian	
Anne Rothenstein	Stephen Friedman Gallery	
Awol Erizku	Sean Kelly Gallery	Ben Brown Fine Arts
Ayako Rokkaku	König Galerie	
Carmen Neely	Mariane Ibrahim Gallery	
Constanza Schaffner	Luhring Augustine	Central Fine
Cornelius Annor	Venus Over Manhattan	Gallery 1957, MARUANI MERCIER
Danica Lundy	White Cube	
Ernie Eugene Barnes	Andrew Kreps Gallery, Ortuzar Projects	
Gideon Appah	Pace Gallery	Gallery 1957, Mitchell-Innes & Nash
Han Bing	Thaddaeus Ropac	Antenna Space, Night Gallery
Harold Ancart	Gagosian	
Hedda Sterne	Victoria Miro	The Hedda Sterne Foundation, Van Doren Waxter

50 Artists Who Gained Representation with Major Galleries in 2022

ARTIST	NEW GALLERY REPRESENTATION IN 2022	ALSO REPRESENTED BY
Huma Bhabha	David Zwirner	David Kordansky Gallery, Xavier Hufkens
Ilana Savdie	White Cube	Kohn Gallery
Jadé Fadojutimi	Gagosian	Galerie Gisela Capitain, Taka Ishii Gallery
Jenna Gribbon	David Kordansky Gallery, LGDR	MASSIMODECARLO
Jesse Mockrin	James Cohan	Night Gallery
Jordan Wolfson	Gagosian	David Zwirner, Sadie Coles HQ
Lauren Quin	Blum & Poe	Micki Meng
Li Ran 李然	Lisson Gallery	
Louise Giovanelli	White Cube	GRIMM
Maryan	kamel mennour, Venus Over Manhattan	
Maysha Mohamedi	Pace Gallery	
Michael Armitage	David Zwirner	White Cube
Mounira Al Solh	Zeno X Gallery	
Ouattara Watts	Almine Rech	Karma
Pat Steir	Hauser & Wirth	
Raúl de Nieves	Morán Morán	Company Gallery
Rochelle Feinstein	Bridget Donahue, Campoli Presti, Candice Madey, Galerie Francesca Pia, Hannah Hoffman, Nina Johnson	
Sahara Longe	Timothy Taylor	
Sara Anstis	Kasmin	Various Small Fires
Sarah Meyohas	Marianne Boesky Gallery	
Sojourner Truth Parsons	Esther Schipper	
Stanley Whitney	Gagosian	
James Little	Petzel Gallery	Kavi Gupta
Umar Rashid (Frohawk Two Feathers)	Almine Rech	Blum & Poe, Tiwani Contemporary
Xiyao Wang	König Galerie, MASSIMODECARLO	Perrotin

10 Standout Lots Sold in Artsy Auctions in 2022

In the three years since the COVID-19 outbreak, the art world has embraced a hybrid way of working that interweaves physical shows, auctions, and art fairs with online platforms that enable discovery, learning, and purchasing. As a result, online auctions have become a key avenue through which both novice and established art collectors can buy sought-after artworks with relative ease.

From post-war and contemporary sales to benefit auctions, Artsy Auctions reached new heights in 2022, enabling collectors to acquire works by leading artists and to support social impact organizations along the way. Prominent names like Salman Toor, Issy Wood, Norman Lewis, Alice Neel, and Eddie Martinez are among the artists whose works were sold in Artsy Auctions over the course of the year.

Here, we share 10 of the standout works and their results. (Prices include fees.)

Ayanna Dozier

Inka Essenhigh

Estuary, 2022
$84,000 (Estimate: $20,000–$30,000)

Inka Essenhigh's *Estuary* (2022) became one of the artist's top auction results when it sold for $84,000 (more than four times its low estimate) in the "Impact: Artists in Support of Refugees from Ukraine" sale in April. Organized by Artsy and the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, the emergency benefit auction provided support for refugees fleeing Ukraine, with a portion of the buyer's premium going to the nonprofit USA for UNHCR.

Essenhigh is known for her vivid, uncanny landscape paintings that unearth the fantastical side of nature. Her works often render ordinary environments through a dreamlike gaze, lending them an extraordinary emotional depth. While Essenhigh's early style drew on the work of Salvador Dalí, her more mature paintings like *Estuary* represent an original, uncanny twist on botanical motifs. Essenhigh's work can also be found in the collections of major museums including the Tate, the Museum of Modern Art, and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Eddie Martinez

Untitled, 2012
$350,000 (Estimate: $150,000–$200,000)



Eddie Martinez is renowned for his energetic, gestural canvases that deftly combine elements of abstraction with representation. At first glance, *Untitled* (2012) appears to be a feverish mix of quick, brushy lines with daubs of bold color, but closer inspection reveals what could be a head, couched among a series of objects set together like a still life. The work fetched $350,000 in Artsy's post-war and contemporary sale in March.

Martinez's current auction record was set by the invigorating canvas *High Flying Bird* (2014), which sold at a November 2019 evening sale at Christie's for HK$15.73 million (US$2.02 million). Recent and notable sales include *Lost Luggage* (2008), which sold for $264,600 at Christie's in March, and *I Feel Alright* (2007), a painting of a vase bursting with blooms that sold for $352,800 (more than double its low estimate) at Phillips that same month. Martinez has held solo shows at major galleries and institutions in recent years, including Yuz Museum, the Drawing Center, Blum & Poe, Mitchell-Innes & Nash, Perrotin, and Loyal.

Wayne Thiebaud

Palms, 1958
$250,000 (Estimate: $80,000–$120,000)



This Wayne Thiebaud painting of a pair of palm trees against a muted, dusky sky sold for $250,000, more than three times its low estimate, in Artsy's post-war and contemporary sale in March. The work has a charming backstory: It was acquired directly from the artist by the seller's mother, who won it in a trade for a dining table, and was included in a 1976 survey of the artist's work at the Phoenix Museum of Art.

Thiebaud, who died in December 2021, is beloved for his lush paintings of cakes and other sugary delicacies. His wide-ranging oeuvre has been increasingly unearthed in commercial and institutional spaces in recent years. This early, gestural piece was made during a transitional moment for the artist—painted after his move to California following a sabbatical in New York, where he'd befriended the likes of Willem de Kooning, Franz Kline, Robert Rauschenberg, and Jasper Johns.

Palm trees are a subject that Thiebaud would return to throughout his career, including in etchings in the 1960s, ink paintings in the 1970s, and in his "Palm Ridge" series in the 1970s and '80s. This particular portrayal, with the palms seemingly nestled together on a placid beach, like a couple that's just witnessed a sunset, is typical of the artist's ability to make his non-human subjects relatable.

Salman Toor

Humiliated Ancestor #5, 2016
$100,000 (Estimate: $30,000–$50,000)

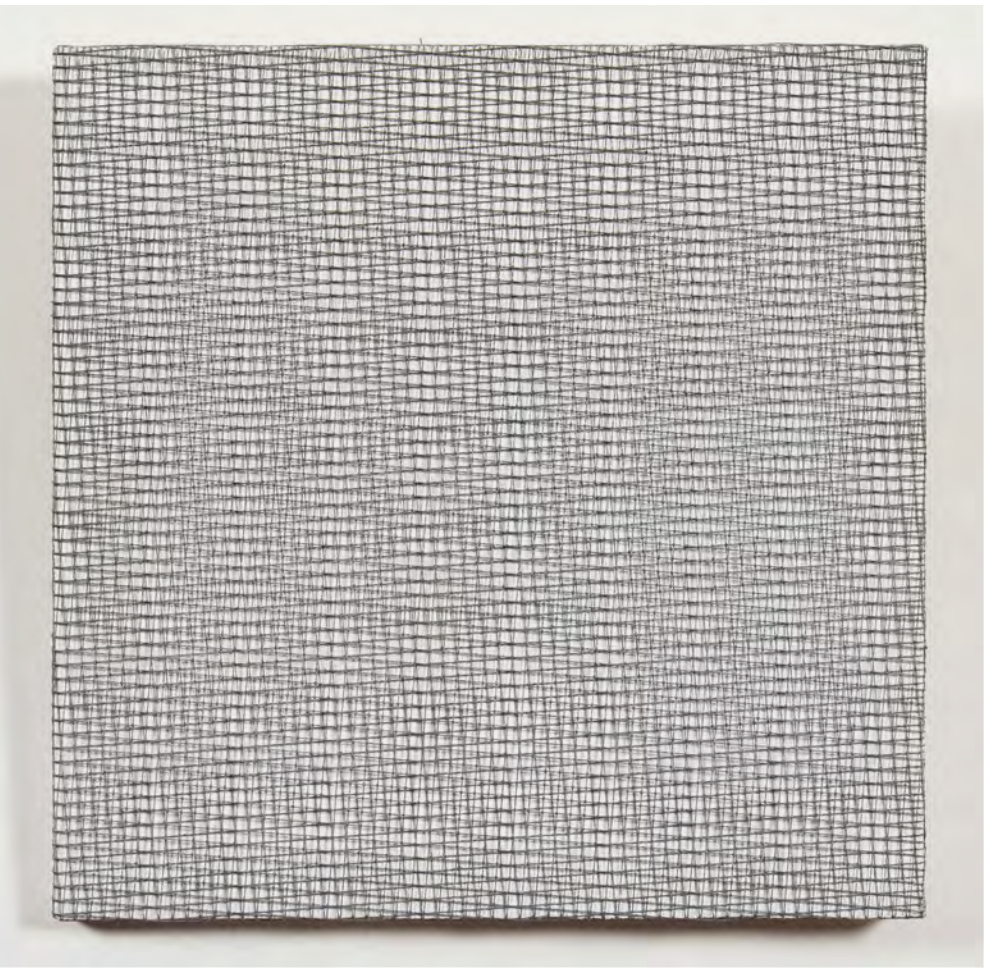


Salman Toor's subtle yet deeply sensual paintings explore the tension of queer visibility in Pakistan—where he was born—and abroad. Using color and tone, Toor paints scenes that document the daily existence of queer life informed by his own experiences and those of his friends. Despite the lushness of Toor's brush, a sinister presence haunts some of the scenes, as the fragile bodies on the canvas are occasionally subjugated to violence. The small-scale painting *Humiliated Ancestor #5* (2016) sold for $100,000, over three times its low estimate, in Artsy's March post-war and contemporary sale.

Toor's auction results speak to the critical and commercial demand for his work: His painting *Four Friends* (2019), which was included in the artist's 2021 solo exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art, recently set the artist's auction record when it sold for $1.6 million at Sotheby's in November. The Whitney show undoubtedly contributed to Toor's rising profile, solidifying his presence as a leading contemporary painter who uses form to push the boundaries of figuration and identity.

François Morellet

2 trames de grillage -4°+4° (# 5mm), 1975
$112,500 (Estimate: $20,000–$30,000)



2 trames de grillage -4°+4° (# 5mm) (1975) is indicative of the late *François Morellet*'s geometric style. This mixed-media piece sold for $112,500, more than five times its low estimate of $20,000 in Artsy's post-war and contemporary art sale in June. A portion of the proceeds from the auction supported art history scholarships for students in publicly funded HBCUs (historically Black colleges and universities) through the Thurgood Marshall College Fund. The work bears similarities with Morellet's 1972 piece *2 trames de tirets 0° 90°*, which set an auction record for the artist in 2010 when it sold for €432,750 ($589,784).

With a practice spanning sculpture, painting, and light works, Morellet is known for his use of geometry. He was heavily influenced by and a participant of CoBrA, a post-war art movement that rejected the principles of figuration and Surrealism, which dominated pre–World War II art in the West. CoBrA artists found inspiration in spontaneity and non-Western cultural practices and aesthetics.

Chloe Wise

Forget About Hymn, 2022
$75,000 (Estimate: $35,000–$55,000)



Chloe Wise's impressive large-scale oil-on-linen painting *Forget About Hymn* (2022) is a portrait of the artist's friend, musician Okay Kaya. The painting landed in Wise's top three auction results when it sold for $75,000 at Artsy's post-war and contemporary sale in November.

With the proceeds of the sale, Wise chose to support climate change organization Evergreen Action Collaborative. On the occasion of the sale, Wise wrote: "This moment calls for a recognition of duality, of two things being true at once. In this work, her expression is both melancholy yet secure. The charity I chose also occupies a space I consider similar. While exhausted and disappointed in the political system, this organization recognizes that accomplishing sustainable policy must be done using political action."

In *Forget About Hymn*, the delicate lines of Wise's brushstrokes are contrasted with the sharp gaze her subject directs to the viewer. Wise wrote to Artsy that Okay Kaya's music "embodies the shared experience of chaos tempered with tenderness that we can all relate to."

The Montreal-born, New York–based painter already has an active secondary market, and sales at the 2022 New York spring auctions mostly exceeded their estimates. Her auction record was set in May when *Above all things, be glad, and young, and relatively irreplaceable* (2016) sold at Sotheby's for $144,900, more than twice its low estimate of $60,000.

Alec Egan

Dusk Tulips and Breaking Wave, 2022
$81,250 (Estimate: $40,000–$50,000)



Born and based in Los Angeles, Alec Egan draws inspiration from nature filtered through man-made designs such as wallpaper, woven textiles, and pottery. On his canvases, the illusion of nature that we

concoct daily through trinkets and household items is reimagined and rendered poetic. Egan's *Dusk Tulips and Breaking Wave* (2022) was sold in an Artsy Auction in November to benefit St. Joseph Center, an L.A. organization the artist volunteers with to deliver groceries to lower-income families. "St. Joseph's is an organization that has a longstanding relationship with the Venice community specifically, combating homelessness, mental illness, and poverty," he wrote. The painting set Egan's auction record when it sold for $81,250 at Artsy's post-war and contemporary sale in November, more than twice its low estimate of $40,000.

The vivid painting depicts a red and yellow tulip that appears to be growing on the beach as a cascading wave forms in the background against a strikingly pink sky. Over the past few years, Egan has had a steady stream of solo shows with his two representing galleries: Anat Ebgi in Los Angeles and Charles Moffett in New York.

Suanjaya Kencut

With the Pets - Sheep, 2021
$50,000 (Estimate: $4,000–$6,000)



Suanjaya Kencut's paintings of stuffed dolls consider human emotions through inanimate objects. This work, both quirky and surreal, is evocative of the playful imagery of artists like Yoshitomo Nara. In Artsy's street art sale in October, *With the Pets - Sheep* (2021) became the second-highest auction result for the artist when it sold for $50,000, more than 12 times its low estimate. Believing that the eye is the window to the soul, Kencut replaces the eyes of the stuffed dolls he paints with buttons. As a result, viewers are left with a blank slate for interpreting the works, which he believes leads to a more emotional experience.

Kencut received his BFA from the Indonesian Institute of the Arts, Yogyakarta in 2012 and has steadily seen his primary- and secondary-market prices climb over the past three years. *Defense* (2021), which sold at Sotheby's "Contemporary Discoveries" auction in August for £47,800 ($58,389), holds the artist's current record at auction.

Amoako Boafo

Untitled (Portrait of a Young Man), 2018
$106,250 (Estimate: $25,000–$35,000)



Amoako Boafo's star profile has risen to meteoric heights over the last five years, leading him to become one of the foremost figurative painters working in Black portraiture today.

Known for his distinctive staccato style of brushwork, Boafo's layered portraits of Black youth add dimensionality into their representation. His *Untitled (Portrait of a Young Man)* (2018), rendered in this signature style, is from Boafo's early career. The work sold for $106,250, nearly three times its high estimate of $35,000 at Artsy's post-war and contemporary sale in September.

All of Boafo's top auction results have emerged over the past two years; his record was set by *Hands Up* (2018), which sold for HK$26.7 million (US$3.4 million) at Christie's Hong Kong in 2021. Another seven-figure price was achieved in a Christie's auction in February, when *Yellow Blanket* (2018) sold for £1.2 million ($1.7 million).

Robert Nava

Untitled, 2011
$172,500 (Estimate: $150,000–$200,000)



Robert Nava's delightfully zany paintings of mythical creatures evoke a sense of both childhood imaginative wonder and hardened adult nostalgia. His hype-generating works have dominated the recent wave of faux naïf painting, blending the aesthetics of street art and childlike drawings.

This 2011 canvas was originally acquired from the artist's MFA thesis exhibition at Yale. The painting, featuring a crocodile eating a human leg, is a rare glimpse at an early form of his current style, where his figuration was still teetering between playfulness and morbidity. The painting added to Nava's consistent six-figure prices at auctions when it sold for $172,500 at Artsy's November post-war and contemporary sale.

Chicago-born and Brooklyn-based, Nava has consistently caught the attention of collectors, galleries, and institutions. In the two years since he gained representation with Pace Gallery, the artist's secondary market has grown significantly: More than half of Nava's top 10 auction results have been set in 2022, and last month, a new auction record was set when *Before Minotaur* (2019) sold for £639,600 ($714,529).

Credits

5 Trends That Defined the Art Market in 2022 Pak, detail of *Rubik's Lure - BREEZY curation for $WHALE*, 2020. Courtesy of the artist and Breezy. Larva Labs, detail of *CryptoPunk #4285*, 2017. Courtesy of the artist and Asia Art Center. Yuga Labs, detail of *Bored Ape Yacht Club #8468*, 2021. Courtesy of the artist and Asia Art Center. Installation view of "Marina Abramović: Performative" at Sean Kelly, New York, 2022. Photo by Jason Wyche. Courtesy of Sean Kelly, New York. Stanley Whitney, detail of *The Freedom We Fight For*, 2022. Photo by Rob McKeever. Courtesy of the artist and Gagosian. Salman Toor, detail of *4 Guests*, 2019. Courtesy of the artist and Christie's Images Limited. Jadé Fadojutimi, detail of *Mosaicked Utterance*, 2020. Courtesy of the artist and Pippy Houldsworth Gallery. James Little, detail of *Native*, 2015. Courtesy of the artist and Louis Stern Fine Arts. Lucy Bull, detail of *8:50*, 2020. Courtesy of Phillips. Louise Giovanelli, detail of *Dyer*, 2020. Courtesy of the artist and WORKPLACE. Ilana Savdie, detail of *The Enablers (an adaptation)*, 2021. Courtesy of the artist and Kohn Gallery. Flora Yukhnovich, detail of *Warm, Wet N' Wild*, 2020. Courtesy of the artist and Parafin. Marianna Simnett, detail of *Carcass*, 2022. Courtesy of the artist and Société. Dora Budor, detail of *Allargando*, 2017. Courtesy of the artist and Art Encounters Foundation. Dorothea Tanning, detail of *Self-Portrait*, 1944. Courtesy of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. **The 50 Most Expensive Artworks Sold in 2022** Andy Warhol, *Shot Sage Blue Marilyn*, 1964. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Georges Seurat, *Les Poseuses, Ensemble (Petite version)*, 1888. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Paul Cézanne, *La Montagne Sainte-Victoire*, 1888–90. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Vincent van Gogh, *Verger avec cyprès*, 1888. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Paul Gaugin, *Maternité II*, 1899. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Gustav Klimt, *Birch Forest*, 1903. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Lucian Freud, *Large Interior, W11 (after Watteau)*, 1981–83. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Andy Warhol, *White Disaster [White Car Crash 19 Times]*, 1963. Courtesy of Sotheby's. Jean-Michel Basquiat, *Untitled*, 1982. Courtesy of Phillips. René Magritte, *Empire of Light (L'empire des lumières)*, 1961. Courtesy of Sotheby's. **50 Buzzy Auction Records Set in 2022** Andrew Wyeth, detail of *Day Dream*, 1980. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Ernie Eugene Barnes, *The Sugar Shack*, 1976. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Man Ray, *Le Violon d'Ingres*, 1924. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Adrian Ghenie, *Pie Fight Interior 12*, 2014. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Barbara Hepworth, *Elegy III*, 1966–67. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Mary Cassatt, *Young Lady in a Loge Gazing to Right*, 1878–79. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. Matthew Wong, *The Night Watcher*, 2018. Courtesy of Sotheby's. Avery Singer, *Happening*, 2014. Courtesy of Sotheby's. Njideka Akunyili Crosby, *The Beautyful Ones*, 2012. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. **50 Breakthrough Artists at Auction in 2022** Anna Weyant, detail of *Falling Woman*, 2020. Courtesy of Sotheby's. Lucy Bull, *8:50*, 2020. Courtesy of Phillips. Rachel Jones, *Spliced Structure (7)*, 2019. Courtesy of Bonhams. Louise Bonnet, *Faucethead*, 2020. Courtesy of Sotheby's. Raghav Babbar, *Off Duty*, 2020. Courtesy of Phillips. Caroline Walker, *Indoor Outdoor*, 2015. Courtesy of Sotheby's. Lauren Quin, *Airsickness*, 2021. Courtesy of Phillips. Julien Nguyen, *Kye, Semper Solus*, 2017. Courtesy of Sotheby's. Justin Caguiat, *Doll 3 Eros*, 2020. Courtesy of Phillips. Anna Park, *Is it Worth It?*, 2020. Courtesy of Christie's Images Limited. **50 Sought-After Artists on Artsy in 2022** Andy Warhol, *Turtle*, 1985. Courtesy of the artist and Artsy Auctions. Damien Hirst, *Loyalty (H9-7)*, 2021. Courtesy of the artist and GSAA. KAWS, *Blame Game No. 6*, 2014. Courtesy of the artist and Georgetown Frame Shoppe. Takashi Murakami, *Tan Tan Bo Silkscreen*, 2016. Courtesy of the artist and Pop Fine Art. Banksy, *Girl with Balloon*, 2004. Courtesy of the artist and Artmarket Gallery. Jordan Kerwick, *The Rise and Fall of St Cloud*, 2021. Courtesy of the artist and Vigo Gallery. Ayako Rokkaku, *Untitled*, 2021. Courtesy of the artist and Gallery Delaive. Tunji Adeniyi-Jones, *Violet Dive (study)*, 2022. Courtesy of the artist and Morán Morán. JJ Manford, *Interior with Alfredo Volpi & Zebra Rug*, 2021. Courtesy of the artist and Harper's. Antonia Showering, *You and me*, 2021. Courtesy of the artist and Timothy Taylor. **50 Artists Who Gained Representation with Major Galleries in 2022** Acaye Kerunen, detail of *Wanen I (We are seen)*, 2022. © Acaye Kerunen. Photo by Dawn Blackman. Courtesy of the artist and Blum & Poe, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo. Allison Katz, *Interior View I*, 2021. © Allison Katz. Photo by Plastiques photography, Lewis Ronald. Courtesy of the artist and Hauser & Wirth. Angel Otero, *Mi Acuario*, 2022. © Angel Otero. Photo by Thomas Barratt. Courtesy of the artist and Hauser & Wirth. Chase Hall, *Twenty-First of June*, 2022. Photo by Phoebe d'Heurle. Courtesy of the artist and David Kordansky Gallery. Deana Lawson, *Nation*, 2018. Pigment print, collaged photograph, 55 1/2 x 67 1/4 inches. © Deana Lawson. Courtesy of the artist and Gagosian. Jiab Prachakul, Fantastic Night, 2022. © Jiab Prachakul. Courtesy of the artist and Timothy Taylor, London/New York. Tammy Nguyen, *Narcissus and the Shore: At Rest*, 2022. Courtesy of the artist and Lehmann Maupin, New York, Hong Kong, Seoul, and London. Lisa Brice, *Smoke and Mirrors*, 2020. © Lisa Brice. Courtesy of the artist. Marguerite Humeau, installation view of *Migrations*, 2022, in "The Milk of Dreams" at the 59th Venice Biennale, 2022. © Marguerite Humeau. Photo by Roberto Marossi. Courtesy of White Cube. Hermann Nitsch, *action painting from the 20th painting action*, 1987. Courtesy of private collection. **10 Standout Lots Sold in Artsy Auctions in 2022** Inka Essenhigh, *Estuary*, 2022. Courtesy of the artist and the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art. Eddie Martinez, *Untitled*, 2012. Courtesy of Artsy Auctions. Wayne Thiebaud, *Palms*, 1958. Courtesy of Artsy Auctions. Salman Toor, *Humiliated Ancestor #5*, 2016. Courtesy of Artsy Auctions. François Morellet, *2 trames de grillage -4°+4° (# 5mm)*, 1975. Courtesy of Artsy Auctions. Chloe Wise, *Forget About Hymn*, 2022. Courtesy of the artist. Alec Egan, *Dusk Tulips and Breaking Wave*, 2022. Courtesy of the artist. Suanjaya Kencut, *With the Pets - Sheep*, 2021. Courtesy of Artsy Auctions. Amoako Boafo, *Untitled (Portrait of a Young Man)*, 2018. Courtesy of Artsy Auctions. Robert Nava, *Untitled*, 2011. Courtesy of Artsy Auctions.

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