

ARTCURIAL

Press release



One hundred portraits for a Century A Parisian collection

Old Master & 19th Century Art
Sale, 15 February 2022, Paris

On 15 February 2022, the *Old Master & 19th Century Art* department at Artcurial will hold its first sale of the year, featuring one hundred 18th century French portraits gathered over more than 40 years by a passionate Parisian collector. This selection presents a full panorama of 18th century French society, including portraits of Louis XV, Louis XVI, Marie-Antoinette, royal mistresses, cardinals and painters.

PARIS – On 15 February 2022, the Old Master & 19th Century department at Artcurial will present : *One hundred portraits for a Century*.

This collection is a testament to the splendour of 18th century France, a period when French painting, architecture, literature and fashion were flourishing and spreading their influence worldwide.

Across this collection of personalities from the Age of Enlightenment, there are members of the Royal family, figures from the Court of Versailles, the law and the military, peasants and prelates, all beautified by great artists such as Louis-Michel van Loo, Joseph-Siffrède Duplessis and Élisabeth Vigée Le Brun.

During the course of acquiring these pieces, the collector made discoveries and identifications with

the aid of annotations found on the back of the works. Through extensive research he has been able to authenticate most of the portraits.

The famous 18th century portrait artist, Élisabeth Louise Vigée-Le Brun, painted several of the portraits in this collection, including that of Marie-Antoinette, Queen of France (40 000 - 60 000 €) as well as the portrait of Joseph Hyacinthe François de Paule de Rigaud, Count of Vaudreuil (50 000 - 70 000 €).

This collection of one hundred portraits, assembled with dedication and in-depth research over a period of more than forty years, will be presented for sale by Artcurial on 15 February 2022.

« Lavish plumes and decorations, the models' elegant and dignified poses : this incredible gallery of portraits plunges us into the 18th century in France during the final hours of the Ancien Régime. Those passionate about the great history of France will be captivated by this collection. We extend an invitation, over four day of viewings, for you to come and meet a royal mistress, a wine-grower and a cardinal! »

- Matthieu Fournier,
Auctioneer
Director of the Old Master & 19th Century Art department, Artcurial



Jean-Martial FRÉDOU
Fontenay-Saint-Père, 1710 - Versailles, 1795
Portrait of the dauphin Louis de France (1729-1765),
son of Louis XV, after Alexandre Roslin
Oil on canvas
Estimate : 10 000 - 15 000 €



Élisabeth Louise VIGÉE-LE BRUN and collaborators
Paris 1755-1842
Bust portrait of Marie-Antoinette, Queen of France
Oil on canvas
Estimate : 40 000 - 60 000 €

USEFUL INFORMATION

Public viewing :
Friday 11 February 11.00-19.00
Saturday 12 February 11.00-18.00
Sunday 13 February 14.00-18.00
Monday 14 February 11.00-19.00

Sale :
Tuesday 15 February 2022 at 16.00

Artcurial
7 Rond-Point
des Champs-Élysées
75008 Paris

PRESS CONTACT

Press Officer
Déborah Bensaïd
+33 (0)1 42 99 20 86
dbensaïd@artcurial.com



PRESS MATERIAL

High resolution images
available on request

Catalogue available on artcurial.com

About Artcurial

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

Artcurial covers all the major specialist fields including Fine Arts, Decorative Arts, Collectors' Cars, Jewellery, Watches, Fine Wines and Spirits... With a strong international bias, Artcurial maintains its presence abroad with offices in Brussels, Milan, Monte-Carlo, Munich, Vienna and Spain. In October 2015, Artcurial held its first sale in Hong Kong and Morocco.

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