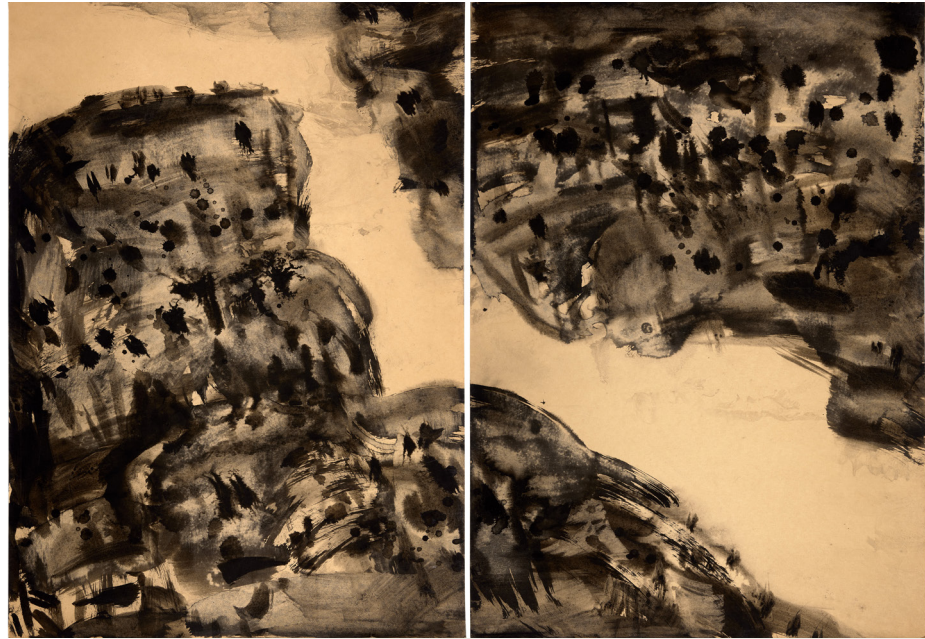


# ARTCURIAL

Press



## T'ANG HAYWEN,

### *Collection of the French State, 50 works*

Auction  
5<sup>th</sup> April 2023, Paris

Artcurial will present an initial selection of 50 works by the Franco-Chinese artist T'ang Haywen (1927-1991), dating from 1955 to 1990, at its Contemporary Art auction on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023. From the artist's estate managed by the French State, the works of the most discreet post-war Chinese artists in Paris, along with Zao Wou-Ki and Chu Teh-Chun, are thus brought to light thanks to this magnificent collection of abstract and figurative drawings. Although T'ang Haywen is already featured in major museum collections, the retrospective of his work at the Musée Guimet in 2024 is expected to increase his market appeal.

PARIS - On 5<sup>th</sup> April, Artcurial will auction 50 abstract and figurative works by the Franco-Chinese artist T'ang Haywen. Inks, watercolours and gouaches as unique works, diptychs and triptychs will enable visitors to discover the world of the artist whose studio holdings have been entrusted by the State to the D.N.I.D (Direction Nationale d'Interventions Domaniales).

T'ang Haywen's work is now in major collections such as the Menil Collection in Huston, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris and the Musée Guimet, as well as the M+ Museum in Hong Kong. A retrospective exhibition will be held at the Musée Guimet in 2024.

### *T'ang Haywen, the butterfly artist*

Born in 1927 in China, T'ang Haywen moved to Paris in 1948 to escape the confines of his family and to pursue his artistic vocation. Although he never learned Western painting at the academy, however he benefitted from an extensive study of calligraphy, which can be seen in his inks on paper or cardboard.

When he arrived in France, T'ang Haywen attended drawing classes at the Académie de la Grande Chaumière and was soon included in the group of «Chinese artists from abroad», alongside Zao Wou-Ki and Chu Teh-Chun. T'ang Haywen, however, steered his career differently from the two Chinese greats, who demonstrated their ambition to create a central place for themselves in the Parisian art world.

For T'ang Haywen, Paris is already a summit: that of his emancipation. Self-taught, he evolves like a «butterfly», driven solely by a spirit of freedom in his artistic career and personal life, as the expert on the artist Philippe Koutouzis describes him.

### *Works at the crossroads of both worlds*

Haywen's creative process looks to the Western masters and sometimes draws inspiration from their compositions, but without losing the spontaneity and depth of the 17th-century Chinese individualists. A hunter of visions like the impressionists, he wants to fix them on paper and convey them as quickly as they appear to him, using some of the classical conventions of Chinese painting - the high horizon, the bird's eye view and the diagonal construction - but with his quirky calligraphic style. A formal artistic education would probably have prevented him from so freely «composing» all his ink landscapes or his colourful compositions, with a palette that resonates with Expressionism, but more peacefully, more connected to reality. Finally, his intention is both the most traditional, through his attachment to the medium of water and the most revolutionary, when it invites us to introspection before the transparent mirror of his painting.



T'ang HAYWEN (1927 - 1991)  
*Untitled* - 1983-84  
Watercolour, ink and gouache on cardboard (diptych)  
Signed bottom right  
29.7 x 42 cm  
Estimate: €1,500 - 2,000

## USEFUL INFORMATION

Auction :  
Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 - 14h

Public exhibition :  
From 31<sup>st</sup> March to 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023  
11h - 18h

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## PRESS MATERIAL

High resolution images available  
on request

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### *About Artcurial*

Founded in 2002, the multidisciplinary Paris-based auction house Artcurial confirmed its leading position on the international art market in 2022.

With three sale venues in Paris, Monaco and Marrakech, the auction house achieved an overall sales total of 216,5 million euros in 2022. Artcurial covers all the major specialist fields including Fine Arts, Decorative Arts, Collectors' Cars, Jewelry, Watches, Fine Wines and Spirits... With a strong international vocation, Artcurial maintains its presence abroad with offices in Brussels, Milan, Monte-Carlo, Munich, Vienna, and Spain.

In October 2015, Artcurial held its first sales in Hong Kong and Morocco.

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