



CHRISTIE'S
THE ART PEOPLE



PRESS RELEASE

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It's Our World Auctions

At Christie's, King Street, London, SW1Y 6QT

Artists Unite for Environmental Art in Support of The Big Draw

Leading artists including David Hockney, Sir Antony Gormley, David Nash, Sir Peter Blake, Yinka Shonibare, Sir Quentin Blake, David Shepherd, Emily Young and Maggi Hambling have committed artworks to the It's Our World Auctions in support of The Big Draw, to be held at Christie's, King Street, on 10 March 2016.

The auctions will raise money for The Big Draw – an arts education charity that works across the UK to promote visual literacy and demonstrate how the universal language of drawing changes lives. The auctions' environmental theme aims to both celebrate the environment and to champion the importance of protecting it for future generations.

"I have pledged my support because drawing is fundamental to all art", said Sir Antony Gormley RA CBE.

The auctions are being held as the culmination of **It's Our World**, a far-reaching environmental arts project. Over 30,000 children and young people across the UK created artworks, either individually or collaboratively, to record and show concern for their local landscape, wildlife, coastline or neighbourhood. Artworks in a colourful variety of media and approaches have been uploaded onto an Online Gallery by schools, colleges, community groups and *The Big Draw* event organisers. The collection will be preserved for the nation by The British Library as part of the UK Web Archives.

"Protecting the environment is a global issue. Art, and drawing in particular, is a universal language that can help to promote sustainability for future generations", said Sue Grayson Ford MBE, Founder of The Big Draw

Launched in 2000, *The Big Draw* is the arts education charity behind the world's biggest drawing festival. Held throughout October, every year it involves over 400,000 participants from 3 to 103 years old in 26 countries, as far afield as Vietnam, Columbia, China, USA, India and Brazil. The charity's year-round programmes champion drawing's vital role across all sectors, and pilot collaboration, research and innovation to demonstrate the social, economic and health benefits of drawing.

The live auction of works by established artists will be held at Christie's from 6.30 pm on the 10 March 2016 followed by an online auction that will run from 10 – 24 March.

Orlando Rock, Chairman, Christie's UK comments:

"Christie's is pleased to support 'It's Our World' and 'The Big Draw' with a Live Auction followed by an Online Sale to help them to broaden educational opportunities for the next generation of artists and environmentalists across the globe. Artists such as Sir Antony Gormley and Yinka Shonibare have committed works of art to be sold at auction in the hope of benefiting these pioneering charities. We look forward to spirited bidding on the night for a wonderful cause."

ENDS

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#IOWauctions [@itsourworld2015](#), [@The_Big_Draw](#), [@Drawinglives](#), [@ChristiesInc](#).
www.thebigdraw.org/its-our-world

Notes for Editors

It's Our World

The UK's largest environment arts project developed in support of The Big Draw. Over 30,000 children and young people created artworks, either individually or collaboratively, to share a view of their world. The Online Gallery hosts an inspiring collection in a colourful variety of approaches including drawing, painting, photography and land art using natural and recycled materials. Many of the artworks were created at Big Draw events and the entire collection will be preserved for the nation by the British Library as part of the UK Web Archives.

www.itisourworld.org.uk E: admin@itisourworld.org.uk T: [+ 44 \(0\) 7887 662 286](tel:+44207887662286)

The Big Draw

Established in 2000, The Big Draw is an arts education charity that champions the importance of drawing across all sectors. The charity pilots collaboration, research and innovation to demonstrate the social, economic and health benefits of drawing, and works with cultural and educational organisations, policymakers and businesses to promote visual literacy.

The Big Draw is the creator and driving force behind the world's biggest drawing festival. The annual festival was launched as part of the charity's vision that drawing changes lives for the better - and that everyone should have the opportunity to express themselves through the universal language of drawing. Every October, the festival involves over 400,000 participants aged between 3 and 103 in 26 countries. In addition to the Festival and Big Draw Awards, the charity runs The John Ruskin Prize, Continuing Professional Development workshops, and year-round programmes.

www.thebigdraw.org E: enquiries@thebigdraw.org T: [+44 \(0\) 203 758 4118](tel:+442037584118)

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2015 that totalled £2.9 billion / \$4.5 billion. In 2014, Christie's had global auction and private sales that totalled £5.1 billion/\$8.4 billion, making it the highest annual total in Christie's history. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's has since conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers around 450 auctions annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$100 million. Christie's also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War & Contemporary, Impressionist & Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery.

Christie's has a global presence with 54 offices in 32 countries and 12 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Mumbai. More recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

Visual Artists supporting It's Our World Auctions at Christie's, March 2016

Painters:

Norman Ackroyd CBE, RA, ARCA, RE, MA

Sue Arrowsmith

Painters [continued]

Sir Peter Blake, CBE, RDI, RA
Sir Quentin Blake, CBE, FCSD, FRSL, RDI
Eileen Cooper, RA
Anne Desmet, RA
Anthony Eyton, SRA
Maggi Hambling, CBE
David Hockney, OM, CH, RA
Patrick Hughes
Timothy Hyman, RA
Andrew Marr
Mali Morris, RA
Paul Noble
Chris Orr, MBE, RA
Deanna Petherbridge
Neil Pittaway, RWS, RE
Chris Riddell
Samara Scott
David Shepherd CBE FRSA FGRA
Terry Setch RA, RWA
Bob & Roberta Smith
Yinka Shonibare
Posy Simmonds
John Virtue
Clare Woods

Sculptors:

Laura Ford
Lauren Gault
Andy Goldsworthy, OBE
Sir Antony Gormley, OBE
Nicola Hicks
John Maine, RA
David Nash OBE, RA
Peter Randall-Page, RA
Sophie Ryder
Yinka Shonibare MBE, RA
Emily Young, FRBS

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