November 2026

Sotheby's New York Marquee Auctions Key Takeaways

- **Week's total: $1.31bn - highest total for a Fine Art Marquee week at Sotheby's**
- Brings YTD auction sales of fine art to running total of **$5bn**, with strongest sell-through rate ever achieved - **86%**
- **Nearly 30,000 visitors worldwide:** Almost 30,000 visitors attended Sotheby's pre-sale exhibitions around the world, spanning London, Paris, Los Angeles, Taiwan, Hong Kong and New York, with 21,000 visitors welcomed to Sotheby's Breuer Building in New York alone.
- **Strength at top of the market**:
    - 2 works sold for over $100m, 10 for over $20m, 27 over $10m
- **Global demand**: participation from 59 countries
- **Asia**: collectors from Asia compete for blue-chip works, their purchases accounting for over a third of the value of the Modern Evening Sale (see below)
- **Blue-chip classics steal the show:** (see top 10 for the week below)
- **New benchmarks established:**
    - **Vincent van Gogh,** *Châtaigniers en fleurs,* sold for $190.4m - a new auction record for van Gogh and the second highest price for any work of art ever sold at Sotheby's. Also top lot sold at auction this year
    - **New auction records established** for**:** Vincent Van Gogh, Yayoi Kusama, Sam Francis, Mary Cassatt, Aaron Douglas, Jonas Wood, Firelei Báez, Tomma Abts, Luchita Hurtado, Emma Reyes, Georgia Engelhard, Sofía Bassi, John Kacere, Emma Reyes, Irene Rice Pereira
    - **New benchmarks for:** Yoshitomo Nara (for a sculpture), Frida Kahlo (work on paper) Remedios Varo (work on paper) and Leonora Carrington (work on paper) and second highest prices for Edward Hopper, Paul Cézanne and Camille Pissarro.

- **Designated Collections** were the standout driver of the season, generating $1 billion in sales and accounting for 78% of the week's aggregate (despite representing just 39% of lots offered). For more details on the results of the Blaquier-Arrieta collection, the collection of Theodore and Baum others, please see separate releases here.

- **American Art Shines**
  Strongest season for American Art in marquee history by total sales, performance, and top price achieved.

    - **$92.9M** in sales, more than 3x the previous record for American Art lots offered during marquee week
    - **232% o**f low estimate, surpassing the prior record of 168%
    - **Edward Hopper**, *The Martha McKeen of Wellfleet*, sold for **$47.8m** (est. $20–30m)
    - **Aaron Douglas**, *Harriet Tubman*, soared to **$14.5m** (est. $2.5–3.5m), a new record
    - **Mary Cassatt**, *Summertime*, achieved record-breaking **$13.3m** (est. $7–10m)
    - **Maxfield Parrish**, *The Glen*, achieved **$5.6m** (est. $2.5–3.5m)

- **Strong reception for women artists**
    - Over half of lots by women artists sold above their high estimate
    - Records for **Kusama**, **Cassatt**, **Firelei Báez**, **Tomma Abts, Georgia Engelhard, Sofía Bassi** new benchmarks set for **Frida Kahlo** (work on paper) **and Leonora Carrington** (work on paper)

- **Competition for fresh-to-market works**
    - Collectors fiercely competed for works emerging on the market for the first time or in five decades or more, driving them to achieve multiples of their estimates: **Aaron Douglas** (8 bidders), **Chaïm Soutine** (8 bidders), **Mary Cassatt** (6 bidders), **Edgar Degas** (5 bidders)

Top 10 Lots of the Week:

1. **Vincent van Gogh,** *Châtaigniers en fleurs*, $190.4m
    - ***Top lot of the year***
    - 4th highest price for a work of art sold at auction
2. **Paul Cézanne,** *Harlequin*, $111m
    - *2nd highest price for the artist*
3. **Edward Hopper,** *The Martha McKeen of Wellfleet*, $47.8m
    - *2nd highest price for the artist*
    - Highest price achieved this year for a work in the American art category
    - First major work by the artist to appear at auction since 2018
4. **René Magritte,** *L'Ami de l'ordre*, $45.5m
5. **Pierre-Auguste Renoir,** *En Canot (Jeune fille à la barque)*, $27.5m

6. **Claude Monet,** *La Barque bleue*, $26m
7. **Roy Lichtenstein,** *Reflections on "Painter and Model"*, $24.7m
8. **Camille Pissarro,** *La Place du Théâtre-Français et l'avenue…*, $24.2m
9. **Willem de Kooning,** *Water…Soft Banks and a Window (Untitled VIII)*, $20.3m
10. **Claude Monet,** *Le Jardin des Tuileries*, $20.2m

Asian Bidding Across Modern Evening Auction:

- Pablo Picasso (lot 103) - bidder from Asia
- Pablo Picasso (lot 104) - sold to Asia, with direct underbidder also from Asia
- Rene Magritte (lot 107) - bidder from Asia
- Paul Signac (lot 112) - sold to Asia
- Maurice de Vlaminck (lot 114) - sold to Asia
- Paul Cézanne (lot 123) - sold to Asia
- Alexander Calder (lot 124) - direct underbidder from Asia
- Claude Monet (lot 126) - bidder from Asia
- Claude Monet (lot 127) - sold to Asia
- Mary Cassatt (lot 128) - bidder from Asia
- Pierre-Auguste Renoir (lot 129) - sold to Asia
- Edgar Degas (lot 130) - bidder from Asia
- Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot (lot 132) - direct underbidder from Asia
- Pablo Picasso (lot 134) - sold to Asia
- Chaïm Soutine (lot 135) - sold to Asia
- Egon Schiele (lot 137) - sold to Asia
- Alexander Calder (lot 147) - sold to Asia

Sale Breakdown

Sale	Low Est. ($)	High Est. ($)	Total ($)	% Sold by lot	Lots offered	Lots sold
Now & Contemporary Evening	211,200,000	301,110,000	268,773,900	90	50	45
Theodore & Ruth Baum Evening Auction	74,400,000	109,000,000	109,950,400	100	24	24
Modern Evening Auction	247,700,000	359,900,000	365,804,800	97.9	47	46
Blaquier-Arrieta Evening Auction	414,500,000	462,100,000	411,978,000	100	12	12
Modern Day Auction	40,370,000	59,770,000	58,660,720	88	234	207

Theodore & Ruth Baum Day Auction	12,155,000	17,735,000	15,470,736	85.2	54	46
Contemporary Day Auction	75,711,000	108,251,000	82,889,504	77.9	243	190
Totals	**1,076,036,000**	**1,417,866,000**	**1,313,528,060**	**86**	**664**	**570**

*Evening sales combined sell through rate: 95%

*Day sales combined sell through rate: 83%