

Press Release For Immediate Release

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Minter Ellison Collection Leads Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design Sale

Auction in Sydney 21 July 2015



AKIO MAKIGAWA 1948-1999, Wisdom of Water (1995). Estimate \$60,000-80,000

Property from the Minter Ellison Collection, Sydney will lead Sotheby's Australia's Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design auction on 21 July 2015 at the InterContinental Sydney.

Comprising an impressive selection of Australian Photography and Contemporary Art, artists include Adam Cullen, Max Dupain, Bill Henson, Akio Makigawa, Rosemary Laing, Robert MacPherson, Tracey Moffatt, Patricia Piccinini and Imants Tillers.

Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby's Australia commented: 'The Minter Ellison Collection, Sydney has been thoughtfully curated and provides a rare opportunity for collectors to acquire significant examples of contemporary Australian art.'

Katrina Groshinski, Partner at Minter Ellison added: 'The Collection played an integral part in fostering the creative and contemporary environment we wanted to work in with our clients. A move to our new offices, which are

largely open plan, with fewer walls, required a reassessment of our collection.'

A highly significant sculpture from the collection is Akio Makigawa's *Wisdom of Water* (1995) the genesis of inspiration being bottled drinking water. In describing the work, Makigawa said 'it's an idea of a water container, with a cloud, moisture, condensing and going back into the container.' Elaborating further 'there was a spring in front of our studio [in Italy] and everyone came there to fill up...the water is deep in the mountain, an image of wisdom.' (estimate \$60,000-80,000, lot 23, pictured).

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Established in 1827, Minter Ellison is one of the Asia Pacific's leading law firms. Most of the Sydney collection was assembled in 2001 when Minter Ellison moved into Aurora Place, Sydney. Part of the collection guidelines were to include contemporary Australian artists at various points of their career. Comprising 56 lots, the collection is estimated at \$335,600-480,700.

AT A GLANCE

Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design Including Property from the Minter Ellison Collection, Sydney

Auction at InterContinental Sydney, 117 Macquarie Street, Sydney, 21 July 2015, 6 pm Total lots 335 | Total estimate \$1,119,200 to \$1,621,900

Exhibition in Sydney, 30, 34 & 38 Queen Street, Woollahra, 16-21 July, 10 am to 5 pm

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*Estimates do not include buyer's premium and prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium.

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