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# Outstanding Results

IMPORTANT AUSTRALIAN & INTERNATIONAL ART  
20 NOVEMBER 2012 AUCTION



SIDNEY NOLAN 1917-1992, *NED KELLY: CROSSING THE RIVER* 1955. SOLD FOR \$960,000 NOVEMBER 2012

STRONG RESULTS for traditional, modern and contemporary art were achieved at Sotheby's Australia's major sale held on **Tuesday, 20 November 2012** in Melbourne. **Important Australian & International Art**, comprised 69 lots and sold **\$4,276,800 including buyer's premium (IBP) or 97% by value and 71% by volume**. Following on from Sotheby's Australia's recent record-breaking success with Arthur Boyd's *Bride Running Away* (1957) in August, the November auction set four new artist auction records and strong bidding saw several works selling above their estimated range.

The evening commenced with a new auction record established for Carol Jerrems with \$9,600 IBP against an estimate of \$8,000-12,000 (*Magda and John at Home* 1975, lot 1). Further interest in contemporary art was consolidated with an auction record-breaking result of \$57,600 IBP for Michael Zavros's *Hunter* 2007 (estimate \$15,000-25,000, lot 2).

Sotheby's Australia was particularly honoured to be entrusted with the sale of Sidney Nolan's *Ned Kelly: Crossing the River* 1955 that achieved a result of \$960,000 IBP, selling to a telephone bidder (estimate \$800,000-1,200,000, lot 21, pictured previous). The painting was formerly in the collection of Cynthia Nolan and consigned by Jinx Nolan, and had never previously been offered for public auction.

Two superb examples by Jeffrey Smart obtained excellent results. The large and impressive *The New School II* (2004) sold for \$456,000 IBP (estimate \$400,000-600,000, lot 38). While *Reflected Arrows* (1974) attracted fierce bidding in the room and via the telephone achieving a result of \$324,000 IBP (estimate \$150,000-250,000, lot 11). This painting featured in the 1982 survey and was the poster image for the artist's 1999 retrospective exhibition at the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

Following on from the successful sale of a colonial watercolour by the Sydney Bird Painter by Sotheby's



Australia in August, the earliest known colour depiction of an Australian Bird by an European set a new auction record for the artist. Painted by Moses Griffith in 1772, this highly finished and beautifully preserved presentation drawing sold for \$180,000 IBP. (*Rainbow Lorikeet (Trichoglossus haematodus moluccanus)* 1772, estimate \$150,000-200,000, lot 27, pictured).

The auction also included four works by Justin O'Brien, including the widely published work *The Baptism of Christ* (1949) with an impressive result of \$33,600 IBP (estimate \$20,000-30,000, lot 9), and (*Seated Figure*) sold for \$48,000 IBP (estimate \$30,000-40,000, lot 62).

Four linocut prints by artists of the Grosvenor School of Modern Art were auctioned with great success with bidding from Australia and overseas. Cyril Power's *The Tube Staircase* (1929) sold above the estimate for \$31,200 IBP (estimate \$22,000-28,000, lot 66); rare to Australian market, the *Village Fair* 1934 by Lill Tschudi sold for \$26,200 IBP (estimate \$15,000-25,000, lot 68).

'The commitment to producing well curated and researched sales has produced some outstanding results in all collecting fields of Australian and International art from colonial through to contemporary,' said Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby's Australia. 'Our approach of global but local has demonstrated our continued success of transacting sales of important works to our clients both locally and internationally.'

## AT A GLANCE

IMPORTANT AUSTRALIAN & INTERNATIONAL ART, SOTHEBY'S AUSTRALIA  
AUCTION IN MELBOURNE 20 NOVEMBER 2012 | 6.30PM  
926 HIGH STREET, ARMADALE VIC 3143

TOTAL SALE INCLUDING BUYER'S PREMIUM \$4,276,800  
SOLD BY VALUE 97.31%  
SOLD BY VOLUME 71%

## ARTIST RECORDS AT AUCTION

Carol Jerrems, 1949-1980, *Magda and John at Home* 1973, silver gelatin print  
Sold for \$9,600 including buyer's premium

Michael Zavros, born 1974, *Hunter* 2007, oil on canvas  
Sold for \$57,600 including buyer's premium

Moses Griffith 1747-1819, *Rainbow Lorikeet* (*Trichoglossus haematodus moluccanus*) 1772, gouache on vellum  
Sold for \$180,000 including buyer's premium

Colin Colahan 1897-1987, *Portrait of F.M. Alexander* (1948), oil on canvas  
Sold for \$15,600 including buyer's premium

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**For a full catalogue, high resolution images, further information or to arrange an interview with Geoffrey Smith, Chairman, please contact:**

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\*\*Pre-estimates do not include buyer's premium.