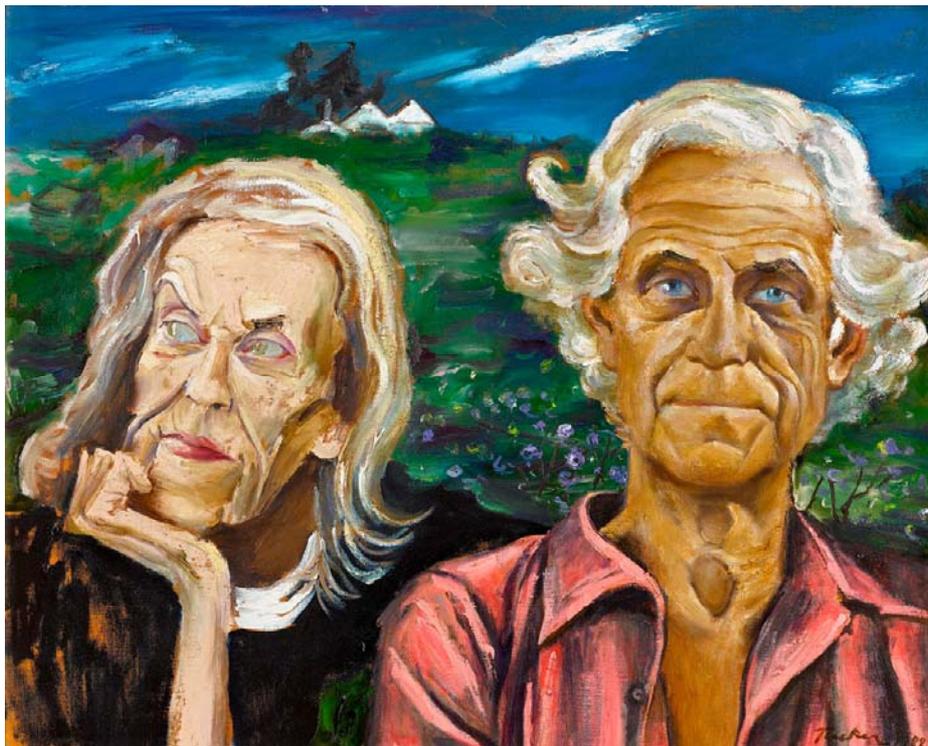


Melbourne 15 November 2017

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## Iconic Portrait of Australian Art Patrons for Auction

Albert Tucker's *John and Sunday Reed* 1982 to be offered in Sotheby's Australia's Sydney sale of Important Australian Art on 21 November 2017



ALBERT TUCKER 1914-1999, *John and Sunday Reed* 1982. Estimate \$100,000-150,000

A significant oil painting of John and Sunday Reed, Australia's greatest private art patrons of the twentieth century will be auctioned by Sotheby's Australia on 21 November at the InterContinental Sydney. Albert Tucker's *John and Sunday Reed* 1982 (estimate \$100,000-150,000, lot 28, pictured) formed the cornerstone of Tucker's series of portraits collectively titled *Faces I have Met: Albert Tucker* and appeared on both the cover of the exhibition catalogue and the subsequent publication.

Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby's Australia commented: 'Albert Tucker's portrayal of John and Sunday Reed is a masterpiece of psychological expressionism, its candid honesty revealing as much as it hides. For Tucker, portraits were a kind of exorcism. In this portrait of the Reeds' Tucker has posed them in front of Sidney Nolan's *Rosa Mutabilis* (1945, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne), showing the weatherboard dwelling of Heide surrounded by the garden that sloped down to the banks of the Yarra River. Tucker pictorially reunited the Reeds with their former kindred spirit and subsequent nemesis.'

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John and Sunday Reed had ruled their domestic domain of Heide (now Heide Museum of Modern Art) with a fierce combination of love and generosity entwined at times with unrealistic demands for control and loyalty from their subjects. Tucker's piercing and perceptive portrait reveals the strengths and vulnerabilities of one of the most influential and inspiring advocates of Australian culture.

## AT A GLANCE

ALBERT TUCKER 1914-1999

*John and Sunday Reed* 1982

synthetic polymer paint on canvas board

66 x 81.5 cm

Estimate \$100,000-150,000

Important Australian Art

Auction in Sydney, 21 November 2017, 6.30 pm

InterContinental Sydney, 117 Macquarie Street, Sydney

Total auction estimate \$9,400,000-12,123,000 | 82 lots

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

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