

Christie's Hong Kong to Sell Works from Oliver Stone Collection

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Published: October 8, 2008

HONG KONG—Hollywood filmmaker and contemporary Asian art aficionado **Oliver Stone** has arranged to sell several works from his personal collection through **Christie's** auction house this fall. Five paintings by some of the biggest names in Chinese art could fetch a total of more than HK\$46 million (US\$5.5 million) for the director. The works will be sold in Hong Kong at the Christie's November 30 Asian contemporary art evening session and at the December 1 day sale.

The highlight of the Stone lots is *Bloodline: Big Family No. 2* by **Zhang Xiaogang**. The 1995 oil on canvas features two parental figures in gray on either side of a yellow-faced baby and is considered a fine early example of Zhang's iconic series began around 1993. The work was included in the ground-breaking "Inside Out: New Chinese Art" exhibit organized by the **Asia Society** and the **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art**, which began touring North America in 1998. The auction house estimates that the 70 7/8 by 90 1/2 inch (180 by 230 cm) piece will earn in the region of HK\$30 million.

Stone will also sell two paintings by **Liu Wei**, China's bad boy of Cynical Realism who has made his reputation with portrayals of hedonism. Like the Zhang, these pastel-hued works will go into the Nov. 30 evening session. *Swimmers 1994*, depicting a man and a woman frolicking in a pool, was shown at the 1994 **São Paulo Biennale** and has a price tag in the range of HK\$4.6–5.4 million. A pair of smiling men in Mao suits are the central figures of *Revolutionary Family* (est. HK\$3.2–4 million).

Christie's has put the two other Stone pieces into the Dec. 1 day sale. *Children in Meeting Series* by **Tang Zhigang** (est. HK\$1.6–2.4 million) humorously shows two communist officials as kids at play. In **Gu Wenda's Pseudo Script Series** (HK\$500,000–700,000), the artist attempts to adapt the traditional Chinese genres of ink-based calligraphy and landscape painting to more contemporary times.

In October and November, the pieces from the Stone collection will travel to Tokyo, Seoul, and Taipei for pre-auction viewing.