

# KOLLERZURICH

## KOLLER AUCTIONS

### POST-SALE PRESS RELEASE: MODERN & CONTEMPORARY ART / SWISS ART

Auctions in Zurich: 30 June – 1 July 2017

#### Strong results at Koller for Modern, Contemporary & Swiss Art: 126% sold by value

The auctions of Modern, Contemporary & Swiss Art at Koller Zurich realized an impressive score, with total prices well above the pre-sale estimates. Strong results were recorded for an early work by Alberto Giacometti, as well as for German artists such as Max Liebermann, Emil Nolde and Ernst Wilhelm Nay. This accomplishment comes the day after a white-glove auction of Watches at Koller on 29 June, in which 100% of the lots found buyers and the prices realised totalled over 200% of the pre-sale estimates.

*"These sales contained a particularly attractive selection of works, almost all from private collections and for the first time on the market,"* said Cyril Koller, President of Koller Auctions and the auctioneer for the sales. *"A combination like this is in itself a recipe for success, but we also noticed a strong tendency on the part of bidders to pursue their purchases more tenaciously than in the recent past."* Koller also noted a significant increase in new bidders across the board in their auctions during the first semester.

#### Giacometti & Son lead the pack

"Monte del Forno", a landscape by Alberto Giacometti from the early part of the artist's career, was the top lot of the auction series, selling just short of 1 million Swiss francs. In the same auction no less than three works by Giacometti's father, Giovanni, sold in the six figures, led by a stunning nude in the tradition of Titian and Goya, "Theodora", which fetched CHF 538 000. A painting by Art Brut artist Adolf Wölfli sold for CHF 216 500, far above its estimate of CHF 40 000 – 60 000.

#### Strong Prices for German Artists

Works by modern & contemporary German artists were particularly successful in Koller's June sales, such as a landscape by Max Liebermann of his beloved Wannsee which sold for CHF 561 000, an expressionistic rendering of a small steamboat by Emil Nolde which fetched CHF 372 500, and a colourful work by post-war artist Ernst Wilhelm Nay, "Mit vielfältigem Gelb" (CHF 186 500).

#### Post-War Art Exceeds Expectations

Several results for works by international contemporary and post-war artists exceeded expectations, such as the CHF 126 500 realised for Carlos Cruz-Diez' op-art work "Physichromie No. 668", and Ugo Rondinone's "Seven Small Mountains", which fetched CHF 31 700 against a pre-sale estimate of CHF 7 000 – 10 000.

The next auction series of Modern, Contemporary & Swiss Art at Koller will be held in Zurich in December 2017.

## SELECTED RESULTS



3045  
**ALBERTO GIACOMETTI**  
(Borgonovo 1901 – 1966 Chur)  
Monte del Forno, circa 1923/25.  
Oil on canvas. 60 x 50 cm.

**Sold for CHF 940 500**



3216  
**MAX LIEBERMANN**  
(1847 Berlin 1935)  
Grosse Seestrasse in Wannsee.  
Oil on canvas. 73 x 91.5 cm.

**Sold for CHF 561 000**



3051  
**GIOVANNI GIACOMETTI**  
(Stampa 1868 – 1933 Glion)  
Theodora. 1914.  
Oil on canvas. 125 x 200 cm.

**Sold for CHF 538 000**



3058  
**FÉLIX VALLOTTON**  
(Lausanne 1865 – 1925 Paris)  
Ruisseau rouille et galets blancs. 1921.  
Oil on canvas. 60 x 73 cm.

**Sold for CHF 360 500**



3492  
**CARLOS CRUZ-DIEZ**  
(Caracas 1923 - lives and works in Paris)  
Physichromie No. 668. 1973.  
Acrylic on wood and plastic. 60 x 60 cm.

**Sold for CHF 126 500**



3422  
**ERNST WILHELM NAY**  
(Berlin 1902 - 1968 Cologne)  
Mit vielfältigem Gelb. 1958.  
Oil on canvas. 100 x 81 cm.

**Sold for CHF 186 500**



3098

**ADOLF WÖFLI**

(Bern 1864 - 1930 Waldau)

China-Engel. 1916.

Coloured pencils on paper. 64.5 x 49.5 cm.

**Sold for CHF 216 500**



3222

**EMIL NOLDE**

(Nolde 1867 - 1956 Seebüll)

Kleiner Dampfer. 1910.

Oil on canvas. 34.5 x 28 cm.

**Sold for CHF 372 500**

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High-resolution images available [here](#).

**ABOUT KOLLER AUCTIONS**

Koller is the leading Swiss auction house, with offices in London, Munich, Dusseldorf, Milan, Hamburg, Beijing, Moscow and New York. Each year Koller holds over thirty auctions, covering all of the major collecting categories in the fine and decorative arts, jewellery, Asian art and wine. Koller regularly sets record prices and benefits from a large base of international bidders. With its team of highly experienced specialists, as well as its membership in the worldwide group "International Auctioneers," the family-owned auction house combines the distinct advantages of an internationally active auction house with Swiss reliability and efficiency.