

Arts of the Islamic World and India and Modern and Contemporary Middle East Sales Bring a Combined Total of £12M / \$16M

Arts of the Islamic World and India Almost Doubles its Estimate with Tens of Works Selling for Multiples of their High Estimate, Led by:

A Pair of Silver Mounted Pistols made for Tipu Sultan: £1.1m (est. £60,000-80,000)

A set of albums containing fifty-two paintings of Indian costumes, held in the same family since the original commission 225 years ago: £609,600 (est. £50,000-80,000)

A jade 'horse-head' hilted dagger and scabbard: £406,400 (est. £20,000-30,000)

New Records Bishan Singh - A Record for any Sikh Artwork,
and for Inji Efflatoun



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Overview:

- Combined total: **£11,818,533 / \$15,757,722 (est. £7.7– £11.6m)**
- Institutional bidding and buying on several lots, including from the Center of Islamic Civilization, Tashkent

Arts of the Islamic World & India:

- **Sale Total:** £10,088,793 / \$13,454,919 (est. £4.4 - 6.6m)
- Just over half of lots sold achieved prices above their high estimate
- Almost 20% of buyers were new to Sotheby's
- **Participation from 25 countries** across the world - with lively bidding from Central Asia, and across the Middle East, India, Europe and the United States
- **Key Results:**
 - A painting of Maharaja Ranjit Singh in procession through a Baazar by Bishan Singh, made **an auction record for the artist and a record for Sikh art**, selling to an institution for £952,500 / \$1.3m (est. £200,000-300,000, Lot 220)
 - A pair of silver-mounted flintlock pistols made for Tipu Sultan, sold to a private collector for almost 14x their high estimate, achieving £1.1m / \$1.4 (est. £60,000-80,000, Lot 223)
 - The first lot in the sale, a rare late 16th-century (r. 1556-1605) Qur'an manuscript from the library of Mughal Emperor Akbar in India, sparked a 15-minute bidding battle, selling for £863,600 / \$1,151,740 (est. £40,000-60,000, Lot 101)
 - A set of albums containing fifty-two paintings of Indian costumes, which had remained in the same family since being commissioned at least 225 years ago, sold for £609,600 / \$812,993 (est. £50,000-80,000, Lot 232)
 - A silver-mounted flintlock blunderbuss (bukmar) made for Tipu Sultan, sold for £571,500 / \$762,181 (est. £60,000-80,000, Lot 224)
 - An extremely rare illustrated manuscript of the Ka'banameh, dating from Dhu'l-Hijjah 1080 AH/April-May 1670 AD, sold for £444,500 / \$592,807 (est. £120,000-180,000, Lot 105)
 - A Mughal jade 'horse-head' hilted dagger and scabbard, sold for 14x its high estimate: £406,400 / \$541,995 (est. £20,000-30,000, Lot 203)
 - A line from one of the most impressive Qur'ans ever produced, the 'Baysunghur Qur'an' - known for its immense scale - sold to the Center of Islamic Civilization, Tashkent £241,300 / \$321,810 (est. £100,000-150,000, Lot 128)
 - A painting of Elephants frolicking in a mountain lake, India, circa 1630-40, sold for £139,700 / \$186,311 (est. £15,000-20,000, Lot 192)

Modern and Contemporary Middle East:

- **Sale Total:** £1,729,740 / \$2,302,803 (est. £1.4 - 2.1m)
- Just over a quarter of bidders were new to Sotheby's
- **Key Results:**
 - Record for a work by **Inji Efflatoun**, *Untitled (Portrait of a Woman)*: £107,950 / \$143,714 (est. £40,000-60,000, Lot 1)
 - **Fahrelnissa Zeid's 'Carnations'** - one of the artist's personal favourites - sold for £190,500 / \$253,613 (est. £40,000-60,000, Lot 5)

- **Samia Halaby's** vibrant *Morning Honey*: £95,250 / \$118,353 (est. £70,000-100,000, Lot 6)
- **Sohrab Sepehri, *Untitled***: £88,900 / \$118,353 (est. £70,000-90,000, Lot 23)
- **Fahrelnissa Zeid's *High Seas at Eastbourne*** - painted on the Sussex coast during a particularly tumultuous time in her life - sold for £69,850 / \$92,991 (est. £20,000-30,000, Lot 3)

[Patterns of Faith: Living Traditions in Islamic Art](#): an exhibition from Turquoise Mountain and the King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture (Ithra) showcasing contemporary craftsmanship from the Islamic world will continue to be on display at Sotheby's London until 5 November (opening times below)

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM–4:30 PM*

Saturday - Sunday 12:00 PM–5:00 PM**

*Monday 3 November 9:00 AM–8:00 PM (late night view for Asian Art in London)

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* Estimates do not include buyer's premium or overhead premium. Prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium and overhead premium and are net of any fees paid to the purchaser where the purchaser provided an irrevocable bid.

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