

Value of Art

...

Is it art?

Is it good art?

Marcel Duchamp

In 1915 Duchamp began doing his "readymades" — found objects he chose and presented as art. *Fountain*, the urinal signed with the pseudonym R. Mutt, that shocked the art world in 1917 was selected in 2004 as "the most influential artwork of the 20th century" by 500 of best known professionals people in the British art world.

Fountain by R. Mutt

Photograph by Alfred Stieglitz



THE EXHIBIT REQUIRED BY THE INDEPENDENTS

Donald Judd



At the
Art Institute of Chicago



Works by Donald Judd at Sotheby's

PAST LOTS



DONALD JUDD

DONALD JUDD | UNTITLED

JUNE 2020 | SALE PRICE: 9,831,600

0



DONALD JUDD

Untitled

16 MAY 2018 | SALE PRICE: 8,131,000 USD



DONALD JUDD

Untitled

14 NOVEMBER 2007 | SALE PRICE:
7,433,000 USD



DONALD JUDD

Untitled (91-2 Bernstein)

13 MAY 2013 | SALE PRICE: 5,765,000 USD

Ad Reinhardt







PAST LOT

AD REINHARDT

abstract painting

17 NOVEMBER 2017 | SALE PRICE: 1,155,000 USD



PAST LOT

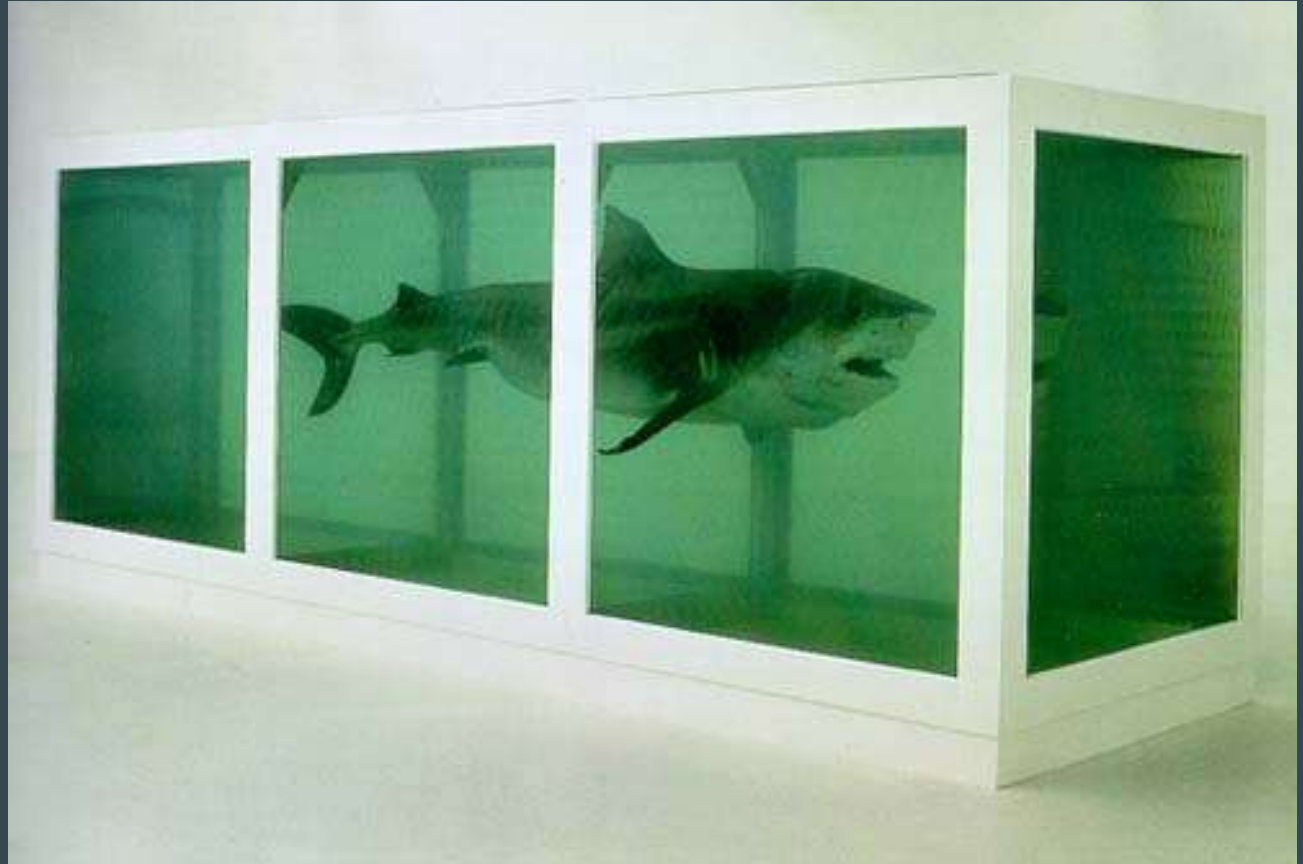
AD REINHARDT

abstract painting

12 NOVEMBER 2015 | SALE PRICE: 1,690,000 USD

Damien Hirst

What do you think
this piece is about?



The Physical Impossibility of Death in the Mind of Someone Living

“It is completely isolated from its natural setting, instead of being in motion, in the water, we see it completely frozen and preserved. For most, it may be the first time we have come so close to a shark, with many of us only seeing them on television or perhaps at an aquarium. Here we have a direct experience of the shark, not mediated through any media. Thus we are forced to consider the shark in a new and different context and re-evaluate how we perceive the animal. In Hirst’s piece, we come face to face with the reality and physicality of this familiar image and are forced to consider it in a new setting.”

“In keeping with the piece's title, the shark is simultaneously life and death incarnate in a way you don't quite grasp until you see it, suspended and silent, in its tank. It gives the innately demonic urge to live a demonic, deathlike form.[1]”





DAMIEN HIRST

The Golden Calf

15 SEPTEMBER 2008 | SALE PRICE:
10,345,250 GBP



DAMIEN HIRST

The Kingdom

15 SEPTEMBER 2008 | SALE PRICE:
9,561,250 GBP



Cy Twombly





CY TWOMBLY

Untitled

14 NOVEMBER 2018 | SALE PRICE:
8,653,600 USD



CY TWOMBLY

Untitled

5 OCTOBER 2017 | SALE PRICE: 6,402,500
GBP



CY TWOMBLY

Silex Scintillans

18 MAY 2017 | SALE PRICE: 8,337,500 USD

Pablo Picasso



Rachel Whiteread







RACHEL WHITEREAD

Untitled (Blue and Green.1)

8 March 2018

Sale price: 187,500 GBP

Past lot



Rachel Whiteread

Rachel Whiteread

13 May 2009

Sale price: 266,500 USD

Past lot



Rachel Whiteread

Rachel Whiteread

Estimate:

400,000 – 600,000 USD

Past lot

Andy Warhol



24. Andy Warhol, Triple Elvis, 1963

Sold for: \$81.9 million at Christie's (November 12, 2014)



Andy Warhol, "Triple Elvis," 1963.

Carl Andre







LOT 508 , SALE 2625

Carl Andre (b. 1935)

Steel-Lead Alloy Square

PRICE REALIZED

USD 2,434,500

Carl Andre and Ana Mendieta

Andre and Mendieta eventually married in 1985, but the relationship ended in tragedy.[13] Mendieta fell to her death from Andre's 34th story apartment window in 1985 after an argument with Andre. There were no eyewitnesses. A doorman in the street below had heard a woman screaming "No, no, no, no," before Mendieta's body landed on the roof of a building below. Andre had what appeared to be fresh scratches on his nose and forearm, and his story to the police differed from his recorded statements to the 911 operator an hour or so earlier. The police arrested him.[14]

Andre was charged with second degree murder. He elected to be tried before a judge with no jury. In 1988 Andre was acquitted of all charges related to Mendieta's death.[15] Andre remains a controversial figure, and museums who exhibit his work have been met with outrage from Mendieta's supporters.

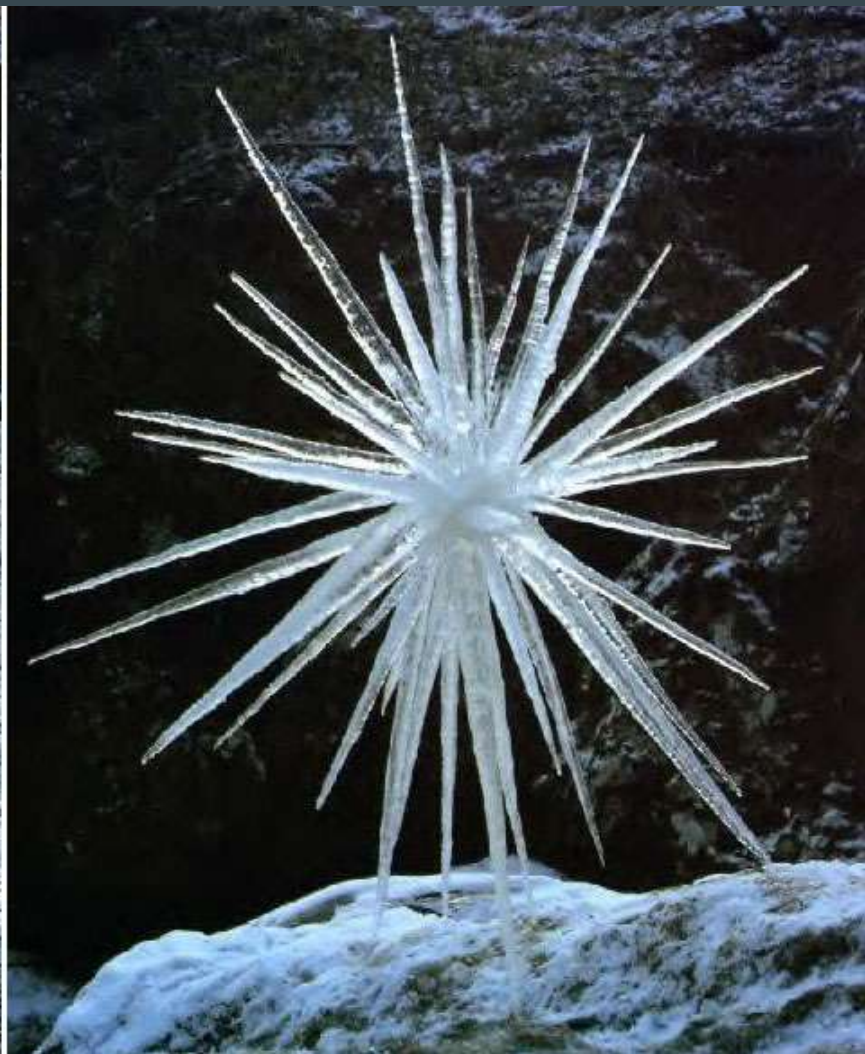


Andy Goldsworthy











14 No Reserve

Andy Goldsworthy

Flat frozen snow slab arch collected fr...

Estimate £3,000 - 5,000

SOLD FOR £3,750



32 No Reserve

Andy Goldsworthy

Two works: (i) Untitled; (ii) Untitled

Estimate £2,500 - 3,500

SOLD FOR £1,750



41 No Reserve

Andy Goldsworthy

Snow Wall Grise Fiord, Ellesmere Isla...

Estimate £2,000 - 3,000

SOLD FOR £2,125



52 No Reserve

Andy Goldsworthy

Trench | dug over two days | earth bro...

Estimate £7,000 - 9,000

SOLD FOR £4,375

Richard Serra





On Kawara

Since 1966 , Kawara has made a long series of "date paintings" (the Today series), which consist entirely of the date on which the painting was executed in simple white lettering set against a solid background.





Lot 11: ON KAWARA | JUNE 5, 1970 (Today Series no. 102)

Estimate: \$180,000 - \$250,000

Description: Liquitex on canvas with newspaper clipping in artist's box

[View additional info](#)



Lot 16: ON KAWARA - Friday July 14, 2000 (Today series no. 26)

Estimate: \$220,000 - \$280,000

Description: ON KAWARA - Friday July 14, 2000 (Today series no. 26)

Condition Report: Request to receive a Condition Report for this item or any items in this auction by contacting the

[View additional info](#)



Lot 22: ON KAWARA | [Two works from the Today Series, 1966-2013]Nov. 21, 1991;Nov. 21, 1991

Estimate: €400,000 - €600,000

Description: acrylic on canvas with homemade box and newspapers

Condition Report: The colours are fairly accurate in the printed catalogue illustration although the overall tonality

Sophie Calle

In Suite Vénitienne, Calle secretly follows a man through Venice while taking notes and photographing him.



Hotel Room Series



Address Book

In the early nineteen-eighties, the French artist Sophie Calle, who is known for projects that involve immersing herself in the lives of strangers or allowing strangers a view of her own life, found an address book on the street in Paris. Before mailing it back to its owner—a filmmaker called Pierre D.—she photocopied the contents and then proceeded to call each person listed in it to ask questions about him. “I will try to discover who he is without ever meeting him, and I will try to produce a portrait of him over an undetermined length of time that will depend on the willingness of his friends to talk about him—and on the turns taken by the events,” she wrote. She turned her encounters into short pieces, which were published almost daily over the course of a month in the newspaper *Libération*. When Pierre D. discovered what Calle was doing, he threatened to sue her for invasion of privacy, and she agreed not to re-publish the work until after his death.

LIBÉRATION Thursday, August 4, 1985

MONDAY

The telephone, the neighborhood



Fear of the first contact—the first person whom I will have to tell that I found an address book and that I am investigating its owner. I put it off. I hesitate. I dial. I hang up. I am scared. I give up. I decide that today I'll approach Pierre again, without the help of others, using only what I have—his address and his phone number. In the middle of the day I decide to call him. If he answers, I will say that I dialed the wrong number. It rings twice. My heart pounds. A voice answers: "Yes! I'm not here! My name is Pierre D. I'm not at home. But... uh... this is a... an automatic... uh... answering machine... You may leave a brief message... for instance your name, your phone number, and as soon as I have chance, I'll call you back! So! It's going to be your turn after the beep! There you go! Beep!" I hang up. He spoke very fast. A beautiful voice. Quite young, clear, energetic. I decide to spend the afternoon in his neighborhood. He lives near Barbès, in an old five-story apartment building on a noisy street, with a shoe store on one side of the main entrance and a grocery store on the other side. I don't dare enter. I will come back another day. I take a walk in the area. There must certainly be some shopkeepers who know him. Which places does he frequent? Which café? Which bakery? I try to imagine his daily routine. Tonight, I will call someone. Anyone. At random.



158

Sophie Calle

Hotel Room 28 (February 16-19) (Fro...

Estimate £15,000 - 20,000



174

Sophie Calle

The Bed from Autobiographical Stories

Estimate \$30,000 - 50,000

Lee Mingwei

When Lee Mingwei writes a grant application, he always hesitates before filling in the section that asks what medium he works in. Most artists are able to answer, "metal," "stone," "oils," or "mixed media." Lee's medium is people.

For example, in "The Dining Project," he cooked a meal and then shared it with one museum visitor chosen daily by lottery. In "The Letter Writing Project," he constructed three Zen-inspired pavilions of wood and translucent glass in which visitors were asked to write a letter in the spirit of the space. In "The Sleeping Project," a stranger, again chosen by lottery, spent the night with the artist, sleeping in twin beds in a spare, specially designed space.



It's Worth How Much?

Mark Rothko



It's Worth How Much?

Mark Rothko'

\$75.1 million. No 1 (Royal Red and Blue)

2012





No. 6 (Violet, Green and Red) – Mark
Rothko – \$186 Million



Francis Bacon



Francis Bacon

\$86,300,000. Francis Bacon – Triptych, 1976



Pablo Picasso



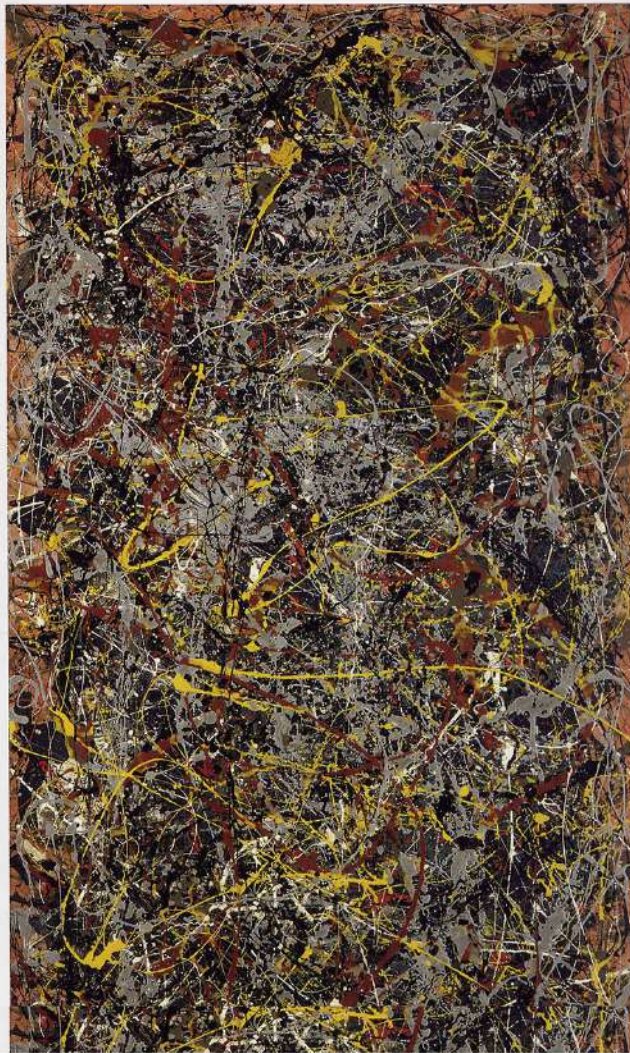
Pablo Picasso

\$95,200,000.

Dora Maar au Chat.



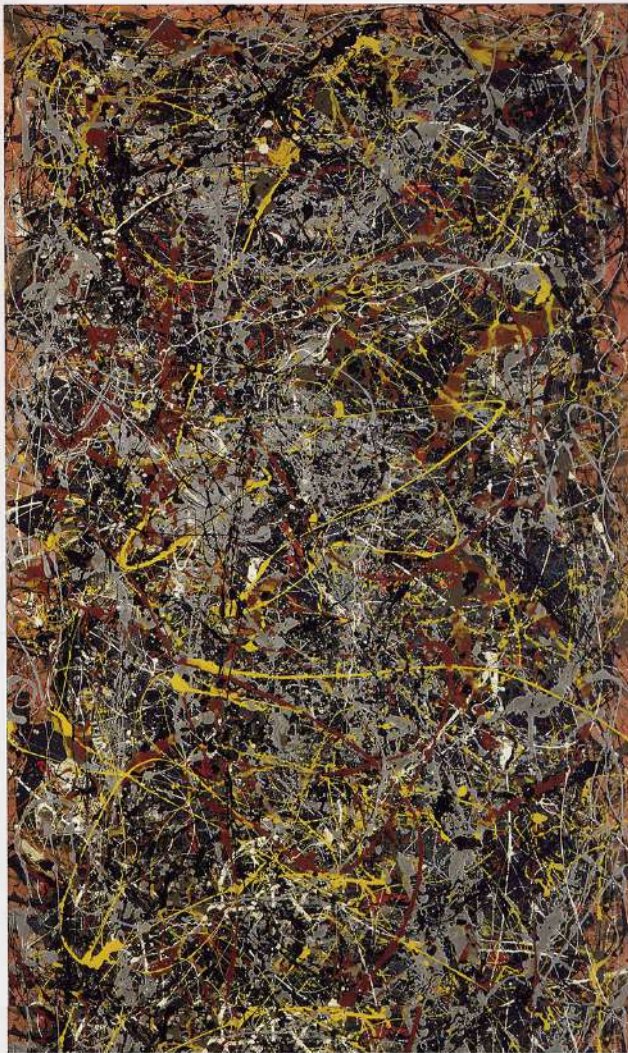
Jackson Pollock



Jackson Pollock

\$140,000,000.

No.5, 1948.



Paul Cezanne

\$250 million.

The Card Players

It was purchased by the Royal Family of Qatar in 2011, reportedly paying double the existing record for any artwork to be sold at auction.



Current Highest Sale

Willem deKooning

Interchange

\$300 million

Hedge fund billionaire

Kenneth C Griffin bought it



Edward Hopper, Chop Suey, 1929



Edward Hopper, Chop Suey, 1929

Sold for: \$91.9 million at Christie's
(November 13, 2018)



Claude Monet, Meules, 1890



Claude Monet, Meules, 1890

Sold for: \$110.7 million at Sotheby's
(May 14, 2019)



Edvard Munch

The Scream



Edvard Munch

Edvard Munch, The Scream,

1893

Sold for: \$119.9 million at Sotheby's
(May 2, 2012)



Most expensive painting ever sold

Leonardo da Vinci, Salvator

Mundi, circa 1490–1500



Most expensive painting ever sold

Leonardo da Vinci, Salvator

Mundi, circa 1490–1500

Sold for: \$450.3 million at Christie's
(November 15, 2017)



Most \$\$ paintings

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_most_expensive_paintings

**Why are paintings usually
sold at higher prices than
photographs?**

Most Expensive Photographs

Kevin
Abosch

Reportedly

\$1 million



Edward Steichen
The Pond—Moonlight
(1904)
\$2,928,000
February 2006



Moonlight - The Pond

Edward J. Steichen

About Pictorialism



“It began in response to claims that a photograph was nothing more than a simple record of reality, and transformed into an international movement to advance the status of all photography as a true art form.”

“Pictorialism was closely linked to prevailing artistic movements, as the photographers took inspiration from popular art, adopting its styles and ideas to demonstrate parity between it and photography. Movements that were particularly influential were Tonalism, Impressionism and, in some instances, Victorian genre painting.”

Cindy Sherman

Untitled #96 (1981)

\$3,890,500

May 2011



Andreas Gursky Rhein II (1999) \$4,338,500 November 8, 2011



Another chromogenic colour print, but this time, costing an individual \$4,338,500. The image shows the Lower Rhine. The river is depicted between green grass fields and under the overcast sky.

Gursky removed dog walkers and a factory building in digital editing.

For all its apparent simplicity, the photograph is a statement of dedication to its craft. The late 1980s, when Gursky shot to attention, was a time when photography was first entering gallery spaces, and photographs were taking their place alongside paintings. Photography “as art”, at the time, was still brave and new, and the simplicity of this image shows a great deal of confidence in its effectiveness and potential for creating atmospheric, hyper-real scenarios that in turn teach us to see - and read - the world around us anew. The scale, attention to colour and form of his photography can be read as a deliberate challenge to painting's status as a higher art form. On top of that, Gursky's images are extraordinary technical accomplishments, which take months to set up in advance, and require a lot of digital doctoring to get just right.

Read: <http://petapixel.com/2011/11/14/why-gurskys-photo-of-the-rhine-is-the-worlds-most-expensive-photo/>

SIT EVERY OTHER
SEAT and LOGIN TO
YOUR COMPUTER