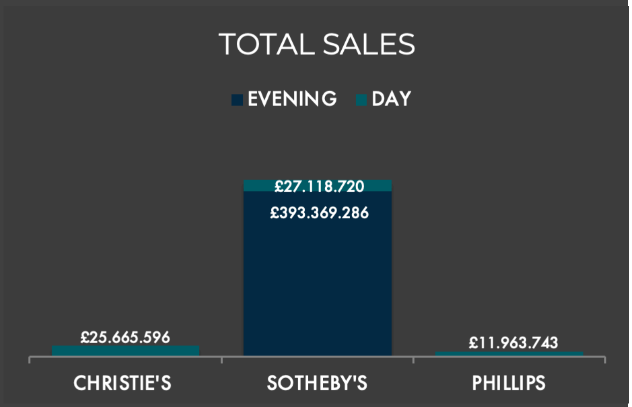
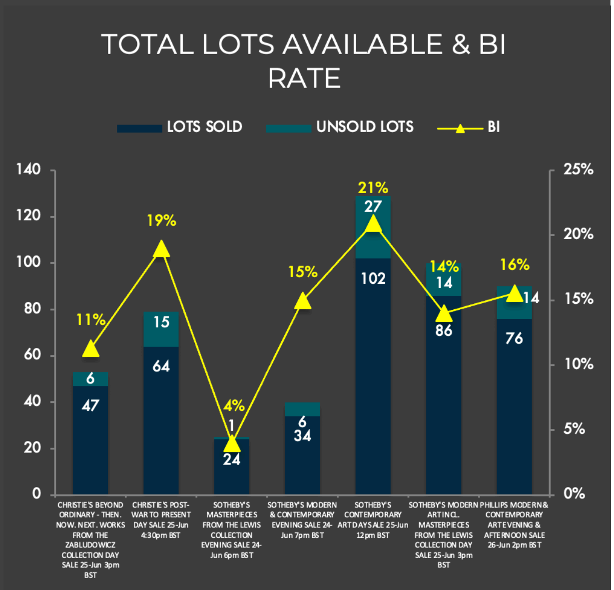
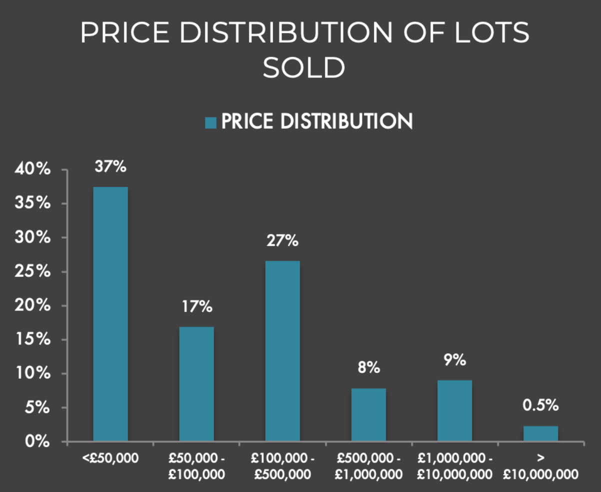
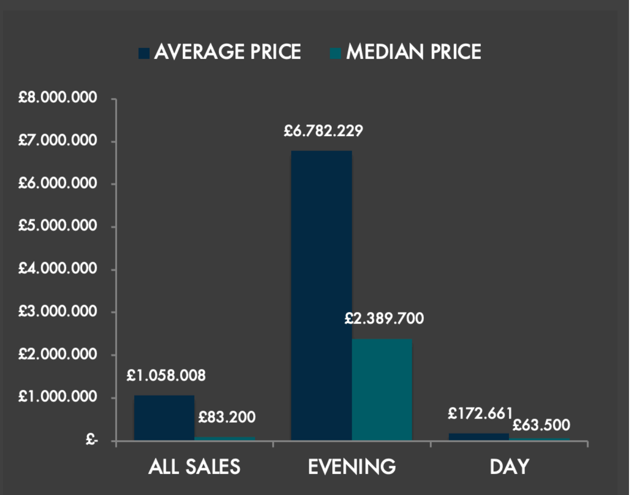
ARTEMUNDI®

20TH & 21ST CENTURY ART AUCTIONS LONDON, JUNE 2026









Last week Christie's, Sotheby's and Phillips closed the first half of 2026 before the summer break with their June auctions in London of Impressionist, Modern, Post-War and Contemporary art. A total of seven sales, including two evening sales and two single-owner sales, offered just over 500 lots. While this is around half the volume of the February London sales, the number of lots is up 10% compared to last June's auctions and shows a strengthening of the London summer sales. Furthermore, the total for last week of GBP 458,117,345 surpasses the February results by 8.3%, with an average price per lot of over GBP 1,000,000 compared to just over GBP 470,000 in February.

The lion's share of this week's success comes from Sotheby's: the auction house's four sales, including one single-owner sale and the only two evening sales of the week, brought in 92% of the total. Christie's, which held two-day sales, contributed 6% and Phillips' only sale 3%. Sotheby's single owner sale of the Lewis Collection included 25 lots, of which 24 sold and made up 65% of last week's total, highlighting the importance of a single sale for the entire week's result.

Unsurprisingly, nine out of ten top selling lots originate from the Lewis Collection, headed by Amedeo Modigliani's Nu assis au collier, which sold for GBP 48,235,000, turning into the fourth highest price paid for a work by the artist. The second best-selling lot, Claude Monet's Nymphéas, changed hands for GBP 40,760,000. The iconic work last sold for USD 56,495,000 in 2022, marking a 5% loss considering current exchange rates. Still, the painting sold just above its high estimate pointing towards the anticipated recalibration of prices with a market aiming for consolidation rather than unsustainable price races.

Interestingly, nine of the top ten sellers are artworks from the first half of the twentieth century, underlining the strength of consolidated artists and their continued appeal.

Christie's offered the second single-owner sale of the week, contemporary and ultra-contemporary art from the esteemed European collection of the Zabludowicz family. The genre's recent downfall had many guessing why the family decided to sell these works when their market is still significantly contracting. The result of the auction fell within its pre-sale estimate and remained without any unexpected prices. Overall, 84% of lots sold with Bought-In rates ranging from 4% to 21% across sales slightly higher than during the February auctions but two percentage points better than during last June's sales.

For Sotheby's, this year's June auctions are a good reason to celebrate. Also, for the rest of the art world, last week's results are a positive indicator of a solid market with recalibrating prices and stable results.

10 TOP SOLD LOTS

	Artist	Title	Venue	Sale price
1	Amedeo Modigliani	Nu assis au collier	Sotheby's	£ 48.235.000
2	Claude Monet	Nymphéas	Sotheby's	£ 40.760.000
3	Gustav Klimt	Bildnis Gertrud Loew	Sotheby's	£ 36.160.000
4	Lucian Freud	Sleeping by the Lion Carpet	Sotheby's	£ 29.260.000
5	Edgar Degas	Petite danseuse de 14 ans	Sotheby's	£ 25.120.000
6	Pablo Picasso	Buste de femme	Sotheby's	£ 23.855.000
7	Amedeo Modigliani	Homme à la pipe	Sotheby's	£ 23.280.000
8	Egon Schiele	Danaë	Sotheby's	£ 17.932.500
9	René Magritte	La belle promenade	Sotheby's	£ 16.035.000
10	Gustave Caillebotte	Portrait de Paul Hugot	Sotheby's	£ 10.285.000
			TOTAL SALES	£ 270.922.500