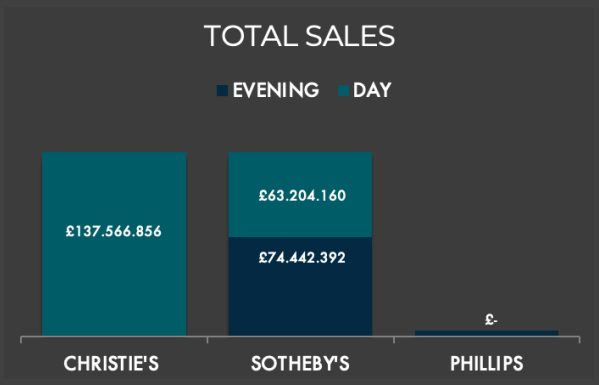
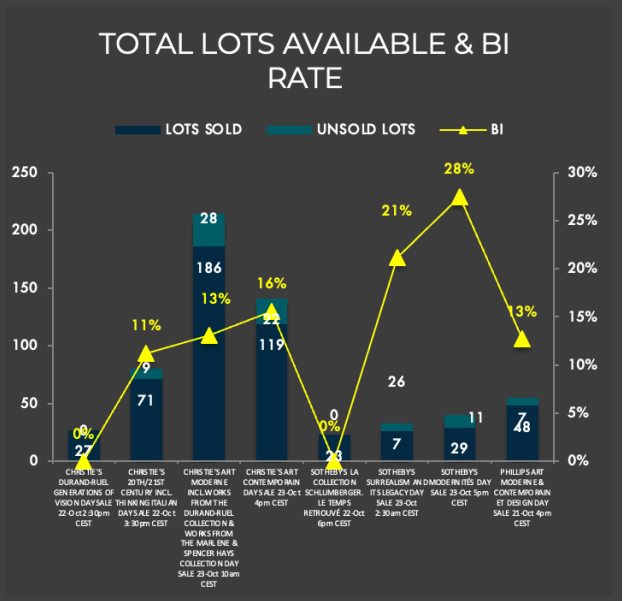
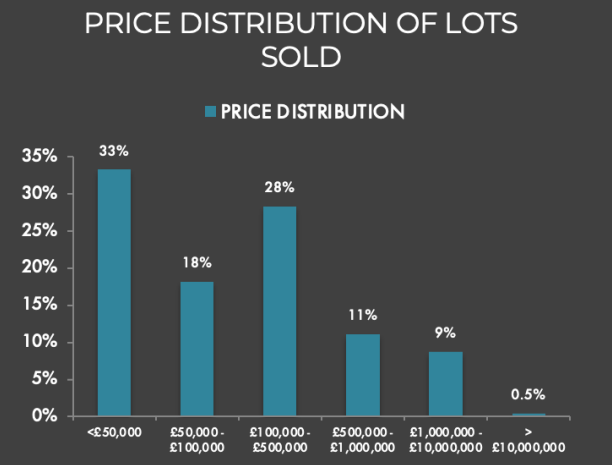
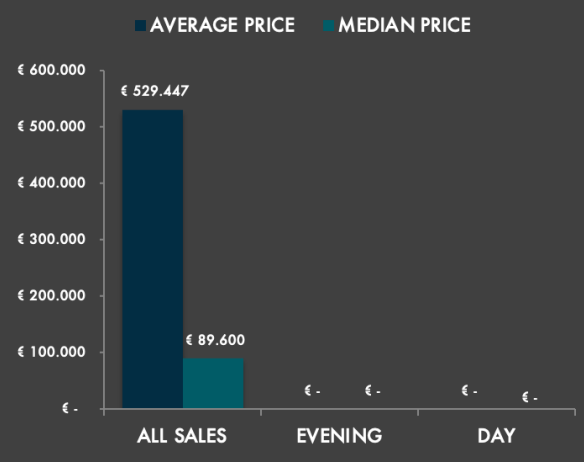
ARTEMUNDI®

20TH & 21ST CENTURY ART AUCTIONS PARIS, OCTOBER 2026









A week after London's celebration of auctions and Frieze art fair, the art world moved to Paris: last week Christie's, Sotheby's and Phillips held a total of eight auctions of Impressionist, Modern, Post-War and Contemporary art to coincide with Art Basel Paris. With just over 600 lots and a total of EUR 280 million, Paris' auctions were second to London, yet a closer look at the results shows a strong and growing French hub, no longer to be overlooked. While Sotheby's London results lagged Christie's as well as behind its own June performance, in Paris Sotheby's returned as one of the winners of the week. The other winner of the week was without doubt Claude Monet: the artist entered the top ten list four times and all top three lots were by the French Impressionist.

Three of the Monet's came from the famed Schlumberger Collection, sold at Sotheby's, including the best-selling lot: Monet's late Iris sold for EUR 50,045,000. The work alone contributed 18% to the week's total and significantly outperformed London's best-selling lot a week before (Kandinsky, GBP 31 million). The second best-selling work was a Durand-Ruel Monet and sold for EUR 12,785,000. Yet not all Monet's sold. Paris confirmed buyers' discipline as it we had seen it already during the London auctions: works do not turn into important sales by artist fame and reputation alone. Quality, condition, provenance and other factors can be just as relevant when it comes to genuine masterpieces.

The overall success of the Paris auctions was in line with Art Basel Paris' first days: the fair reported important sales (over 300 works for about USD 147 million in total) and boldly confirmed that the protests that had shaken Paris just a few days earlier did not have an immediate effect on buying. However, galleries had to swallow a bitter pill when the fair announced mid-week that Friday would be its last open day and that Saturday and Sunday were canceled in anticipation of new protests in the French capital. Some said that clients, who had seen a work during the VIP days often returned during the weekend to buy and lamented the potential loss. We will see whether this will have an impact on the next important art world events, namely the New York auctions in November and Art Basel Miami Beach in December.

10 TOP SOLD LOTS

	Artist	Title	Venue	Sale price
1	Claude Monet	Iris	Sotheby's	€ 50.045.000
2	Claude Monet	Bord de falaises à Pourville	Christie's	€ 12.785.000
3	Claude Monet	Saule Pleureur or L'Arbre de Feu	Sotheby's	€ 9.680.000
4	František Kupka	Espace non-descriptif	Sotheby's	€ 8.990.000
5	Alberto Giacometti	Tête crâne.	Sotheby's	€ 8.645.000
6	Lucio Fontana	Concetto Spaziale (Mezzogiorno..)	Christie's	€ 6.815.000
7	Amedeo Modigliani	Minoutcha	Christie's	€ 6.206.000
8	P.-A. Renoir	Jeunes filles au bord de la mer	Christie's	€ 5.839.000
9	Joan Miró	La tige de la fleur rouge...	Sotheby's	€ 5.717.000
10	Claude Monet	La Seine a Vernon l'arbre	Sotheby's	€ 4.253.000
			TOTAL SALES	€ 118.974.000