



Sale 01: *London*

**Contemporary**

**Turkish Contemporary Art**  
Sotheby's London,  
4 March 2009

This month, Sotheby's will host its inaugural auction of Turkish Contemporary Art in London. In the mid-1990s, Sotheby's tried a handful of Turkish art sales. All were swiftly discontinued. "In the past 12 years, the Turkish art scene has evolved in an exciting direction, and we certainly hope to establish this collecting category as an annual London sale," says head of sale Dalya Islam. Building on the continued success of the applauded Istanbul Biennial (this year will be the event's 11th), Islam is keen to ensure a result from the inaugural auction, with 73 carefully picked lots making up the collective estimate of €1.3m. — TM

**Hot lots:**

- 01 **Erol Akyavas: *The Kiss***  
(below, top)  
Estimate: €27,000
- 02 **Taner Ceylan: *Spiritual***  
(below, bottom)  
Estimate: €32,000
- 03 **Huseyin Alptekin:**  
*Hotel October*  
Estimate: €13,000

Sale 02: *New York*

**Contemporary**

**American Paintings,  
Drawings and Sculpture**  
Christie's and Sotheby's  
New York

4 & 5 March 2009

After a good few years of Dubya-inspired America-bashing, the US now has reason for hope. Its economy might be in turmoil (whose isn't?), but the mid-season American Paintings sales in New York this month comes at the perfect time for a bit of back-patting in the form of solid 19th- and 20th-century oils. Both Christie's and Sotheby's will host sales, with Sotheby's selling a handful of works from the Bank of America's art collection (including five Oscar Edmund Berninghaus's) – so plenty of opportunity to pledge your allegiance in the country's hour of need. If the Yanks are still feeling low, they should at least take heart in the fact that they have the chance to snap up two of Dunbar Dyson Beck's greatest works, "The Big Fight" and "The Night of the Big Fight". — TM



**Hot lots:**

- 01 **Sydney Mortimer  
Laurence: *The  
Northern Lights*** (left, top)  
Estimate: €12,000  
at Sotheby's
- 02 **Ralph Brownell McGrew:**  
*An Old Navajo* (left,  
bottom)  
Estimate: €15,500  
at Christie's

**Art fairs**

**Art Dubai**

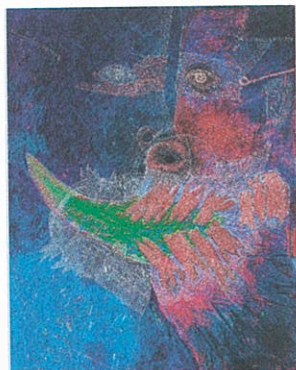
Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai  
18-21 March 2009

**Sharjah Biennial**

Sharjah's Department of Culture  
and Information, Dubai  
19 March-16 May 2009

Art Dubai has quickly established itself as a fair player, and eyes will be trained on the third edition as a barometer of the market. With London's Albion, Paris's Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin and New York's Goff + Rosenthal all helping to decorate the walls, the three-day event will also coincide with the ninth Sharjah Biennial. — TM

Q&A: *Ben Janssens — Chairman, European Fine Art Fair*



**New design section at  
TEFAF 2009**

This year's European Fine Art Fair (TEFAF) in Maastricht sees the opening of a new section dedicated to 20th-century applied art and design. It will feature leading international dealers, including Sebastian & Barquet (New York) and Bel Etage, Wolfgang Bauer (Vienna).

**Ben Janssens**  
Chairman of TEFAF

**You initiated the launch of  
a design section at TEFAF,  
why now?**

A lot of our exhibitors have clients who are also keen on 20th-century design, and the general interest in 1930s, 1940s, 1950s and 1960s design is strong, so I thought it needed to

be represented at TEFAF. Dealers showed a lot of interest and we had more applications than we could accommodate.

**Does modern design have a  
better chance of weathering  
the current financial climate  
than traditional art?**

When the more speculative element goes out of art, the movement is back to more traditional areas, such as antiques and paintings. Quality artworks will always retain their value. That goes for 20th-century design as much as for traditional art. The success of participants will depend on how realistic their pricing is. — LR

13-22 March, MECC,  
Forum 100, Maastricht  
tefaf.com