

# AGUTTES

## Forgotten SANYU Work Rediscovered by AGUTTES

Auction sale by Aguttes at 2.30pm on 18 December 2017  
at Drouot in Paris



**AGUTTES is offering an exceptional artwork at auction in Drouot on December 18th, by Franco-Chinese painter SANYU (1901-1966) which had been unaccounted for since being exhibited in the Netherlands in the 1930s/40s.**

This oil painting is an artwork that was known to exist and recorded in the catalogue raisonnée along with a black and white picture taken approx. 70 years ago during an exhibition by the artist in the Netherlands.

Forgotten since the early 1950s, this major artwork is being auctioned for the first time ever. The current proprietors approached Aguttes following the results obtained in 2015 for works by the same artist.

This painting is offered at an estimate of **€3 to 4 million**.

### SANYU (1901-1966)

*Pot de fleurs ou Pivoines, circa 1930*

Oil on canvas, signed lower right, inscribed on reverse Pivoines par Sanyu

36 1/4 x 29 in

**3 000 000 / 4 000 000 €**

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

*Sanyu: Catalogue Raisonné Oil Paintings. Rita Wong. Yageo Foundation & Lin & Keng Art Publications, 2001. Reproduced in black and white on page 268, n°154.*

*Sanyu: Catalogue Raisonné Oil Paintings Volume 2. Rita Wong. Li-Ching Cultural and Educational Foundation, 2011.*

Reproductions on p. 24 (fig. 5), p. 133 (fig. 154), and p. 160 (fig. 22).

### EXHIBITIONS

Sanyu in the Netherlands in the 1940s. Work reproduced on location at the exhibition in volume 2 of the catalogue raisonné, p. 24 (fig. 5) and p. 160 (fig. 22).

### PROVENANCE

Private collection, Île-de-France (Parisian Region)





Our painting presented in the center of the Sanyu exhibition in the Netherlands in the years 1930-1940. Photo reproduced in the *Catalogue Raisonné*, Vol. 2, p.24, figure 5, and p.160, figure 22.

Noticed by the versed art dealer Henri-Pierre Roché around 1930 (who had spotted other artists before, including Picasso, Picabia, Brancusi, Man Ray, and Dubuffet), Sanyu was born in Sichuan Province in the Republic of China in 1901, and settled in Paris in 1920, where he died in 1966.

Although known for his nudes, subjects for which he was sometimes nicknamed “the Chinese Matisse”, the flower bouquets on a black background, which he painted in the 1930s and 1950s, have been the most successful in the international art market.

**A powerful player in the French art market, AGUTTES is also the international market leader for Asian artists in France at the beginning of the 20th century. Charlotte Reynier-Aguttes, the expert in charge of the Modern and Impressionists department, had found two of SANYU's most important paintings, which realized more than 4 million euros each in June 2015, a French record for the artist.**

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“Following the recent records, I would like to express my personal thanks to all early collectors who chose to support Asian painters when they required assistance, and those who are today deciding to trust us. I very much hope this splendid artwork will obtain a magnificent result.”

**Charlotte Reynier-Aguttes**, Associate Directeur

## **MODERN PAINTINGS AUCTION**

Monday, December 18th 2017  
at 2.30 p.m.

in Room 5 of Drouot-Richelieu, Paris

### **Partial exhibitions - Aguttes Neuilly**

164 B Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine

From 4 to 7 December (10am-1pm & 2pm-5.30pm)

and 8 December (10am-1pm)

From 11 to 14 December (10am-1pm & 2pm-6pm)

### **Complete exhibitions**

Drouot-Richelieu - 9 rue Drouot, 75009 Paris

Saturday 16 December (11am-6pm)

Monday 18 December (11am-12pm)

### **Press contact :**

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**About AGUTTES**, Established in Neuilly-sur-Seine for more than 20 years and also active in Drouot and Lyon, AGUTTES is one of the largest French auction houses. Directed by Claude Aguttes since 1974, and today assisted by two of his daughters, Philippine Dupré la Tour and Charlotte Reynier-Aguttes, who was recently chosen to organize the auction sale of the splendid and vast collection of old manuscripts assembled by Aristophil.

AGUTTES actively engages in all areas of the art market with a particular emphasis on 20th-century painting, jewelry, natural pearls, and collectors' automobiles.

