



**DOERR DALLAS
VALUATIONS**



Dave Dallas
Old Master Specialist

LAST WEEK'S OLD MASTER SALES IN LONDON

Last week's Old Master sales in London proved once again, that good Old Masters in an excellent state of preservation and fresh to the market make very solid prices.

The pick of the bunch were definitely at Christie's where the evening sale made £45M as opposed to Sotheby's comparatively paltry £17.2M. In fact, the tiny pen and ink study of the Head of a Bear by Leonardo da Vinci, which sold at Christies for £8.857M made half the whole of the Sotheby's evening sale on it's own. My stand-out lots at Christie's were first the exquisite Music Lesson by Frans van Mieris, on panel made out from a small arched-top painting to a larger rectangle by the artist himself, which, at £3.5M indicated that no-one was put off by the alteration to its shape. Second was the magnificent large View of Verona by Bernardo Bellotto, Canaletto's nephew, which took £10.575M. My third choice was the very rare canvas of Saint Andrew by the French follower of Caravaggio, Georges de la Tour. This made a very respectable £4M. I don't know how many paintings by this rare master are still in private hands, but it will be a tiny number. The only disappointment to my mind was the beautiful Lawrence portrait of Richard Meade, which sold for £598K, within the estimate but not a true reflection of its worth.

Sotheby's was not such a rosy picture, with 21 of the 50 paintings not finding a buyer on the night. The large Turner sea piece of 1808 made £4.79M with premiums, but had recently been on the market for £8M. The Willem Kalf still life made £1.46M despite being in rather worn condition. One of my particular favourites was the luscious View of Port Louis in Mauritius, by William Hodges, R.A. in oil on paper. Hodges is famous for accompanying Captain Cook to the South Pacific and painted the only portrait of him from life. This canvas made a healthy £189,000.



Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519), *Head of a bear*,
Silverpoint on paper, 7 x 7 cm, **£8.857M**



Frans Van Mieris (1631-1685), *The Music Lesson*,
Oil on panel, 30.5 x 24.2 cm, **£3.5M**

Call us today to enquire about an appointment on **01883 722736** or email **enquiries@doerrvaluations.co.uk** or visit our website **www.doerrvaluations.co.uk**



Bernardo Bellotto (1721-1780), *View of Verona with the Ponte delle Navi*, Oil on canvas, 133.3 x 234.8 cm, **£10M**



Georges de la Tour (1593-1653), *Saint Andrew*, Oil on canvas, 62 x 50.5cm, **£4M**



Joseph Mallord William Turner, R.A. (1775-1851), *Fur fleet and the Essex Shore as seen from Long Reach*, Oil on canvas, 89.5 x 120 cm, **£4.79M**



Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A (1769-1830), *Portrait of Richard Meade, 3rd Earl of Clanwilliam*, Oil on canvas, 76.2 x 63.5 cm, **£598,000**



Willem Kalf (1619-1693), *Still life with a Chinese ginger jar*, Oil on Canvas, 100.3 x 82.7 cm, **£1.46M**



William Hodges, R.A. (1744-1797), *View of Port Louis, Mauritius from the sea*, Oil on paper, laid on canvas, 49 x 69cm, **£189,000**

Call us today to enquire about an appointment on **01883 722736** or email enquiries@doerrvaluations.co.uk or visit our website www.doerrvaluations.co.uk