

# All-Time All-Stars



**WHICH ARTISTS RULE THE AUCTION** market over the long run? To gauge their relative success, we analyzed more than 5.2 million auction lots over the past 45 years, enabling us to tease out not only who is on top, but also which artists have had the most staying power in terms of market value. Not surprisingly, Pablo Picasso (#1), Andy Warhol (#2), and Claude Monet (#3) top our list in terms of dollar volume. Between 1970 and 2014, their works collectively fetched \$10 billion, nearly as much as the artists ranked 21 to 50 combined. Several interesting figures also emerged: The \$3.3 billion in sales of works by Warhol (#2), for instance, was generated by 3,165 transactions while the \$1.6 billion in sales of works by Francis Bacon (#4), whose *Three Studies of Lucian Freud*, 1960, commanded a record-setting \$142 million at Christie's in November 2013, came from 176. Some \$404 million in sales of works by Gustav Klimt (#28) was the result of 46 transactions. Some of the market's current favorites,

Last year a new record was established for **Joan Mitchell**, the only woman to crack the top 50, when *Untitled*, 1960, sold for an artist record \$11,925,000 (est. \$6–9 million) at Christie's New York in May 2014.

Zeng Fanzhi (#32) and Damien Hirst (#33), who first appear in the list in 2007, and Christopher Wool (#47), who made the top 50 for the first time in 2010, may soon find themselves higher on our list should their works remain in demand. BY ROMAN KRAEUSSL

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POSITION	ARTIST	ARTIST DATES, NATIONALITY	FIRST YEAR IN TOP 50	YEARS IN TOP 50	TOTAL SALES	NUMBER OF SALES	RECORD ARTWORK	RECORD PRICE	RECORD SALE
1	Pablo Picasso	1881–1973, Spanish	1970	45	\$4,218,746,235	1,594	<i>Nude, Green Leaves, and Bus</i> , 1932	\$106,482,500	Christie's New York May 4, 2010
2	Andy Warhol	1928–1987, American	1988	24	\$3,272,643,724	3,165	<i>Silver Car Crash, Double Disaster</i> , 1963	\$105,445,000	Sotheby's New York November 13, 2013
3	Claude Monet	1840–1926, French	1970	45	\$2,506,801,406	959	<i>Le bassin aux nymphéas</i> , 1919	\$80,451,178	Christie's London June 24, 2008
4	Francis Bacon	1909–1992, British	1987	21	\$1,567,182,921	173	<i>Three Studies of Lucian Freud</i> , 1969	\$142,405,000	Christie's New York November 12, 2013
5	Pierre-Auguste Renoir	1841–1919, French	1970	45	\$1,561,758,738	3,011	<i>Au Moulin de la Galette</i> , 1876	\$71,000,000	Sotheby's New York May 17, 1990
6	Gerhard Richter	b. 1932, German	1991	23	\$1,473,016,253	1,253	<i>Domplatz, Mailand (Cathedral Square, Milan)</i> , 1968	\$37,125,000	Sotheby's New York May 14, 2013
7	Mark Rothko	1903–1970, American	1976	27	\$1,178,911,643	234	<i>Orange, Red, Yellow</i> , 1961	\$86,882,500	Christie's New York May 8, 2012
8	Jean-Michel Basquiat	1960–1988, American	1989	20	\$1,054,021,647	890	<i>Dustheads</i> , 1982	\$48,843,750	Christie's New York May 15, 2013
9	Amedeo Modigliani	1884–1920, Italian	1970	36	\$907,692,919	220	<i>Nu assis sur un divan (La Belle Romaine)</i> , 1917	\$68,962,500	Sotheby's New York November 2, 2010
10	Marc Chagall	1887–1985, Russian	1971	43	\$884,025,708	1,210	<i>Anniversaire</i> , 1915	\$13,500,000	Sotheby's New York May 17, 1990
11	Henri Matisse	1869–1954, French	1970	42	\$880,970,752	442	<i>Les coucous, tapis bleu et rose</i> , 1911	\$45,286,022	Christie's Paris February 23, 2009
12	Willem de Kooning	1904–1997, Dutch	1983	25	\$850,024,309	622	<i>Untitled VIII</i> , 1977	\$32,085,000	Christie's New York November 12, 2013
13	Fernand Léger	1881–1955, French	1971	43	\$832,270,664	930	<i>Etude pour "la femme en bleu,"</i> 1912–13	\$39,241,000	Sotheby's New York May 7, 2008
14	Roy Lichtenstein	1923–1997, American	1970	26	\$829,469,476	476	<i>Woman with Flowered Hat</i> , 1963	\$56,123,750	Christie's New York May 15, 2013
15	Paul Cézanne	1839–1906, French	1970	38	\$829,452,762	286	<i>Rideau, cruchon, et comptoir</i> , 1893–94	\$55,000,000	Sotheby's New York May 10, 1999
16	Vincent van Gogh	1853–1890, Dutch	1970	35	\$782,090,583	184	<i>Portrait du Dr. Gachet</i> , 1890	\$82,500,000	Christie's New York May 15, 1990

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17	Joan Miró	1893–1983, Spanish	1974	37	\$715,797,072	706	<i>Peinture (Étoile bleue)</i> , 1927	\$36,946,396	Sotheby's London June 19, 2012
18	Camille Pissarro	1830–1903, French	1970	45	\$667,787,149	919	<i>Le Boulevard Montmartre, matinée de printemps</i> , 1897	\$32,102,157	Sotheby's London February 5, 2014
19	Zao Wou-Ki	1921–2013, Chinese	2003	11	\$629,033,274	765	<i>Abstraction</i> , 1958	\$14,725,456	Sotheby's Beijing December 1, 2013
20	Lucio Fontana	1899–1968, Italian	1990	14	\$578,372,537	942	<i>Concetto spaziale, La fine di Dio</i> , 1963	\$20,885,000	Christie's New York November 12, 2013
21	Paul Gauguin	1848–1903, French	1970	34	\$495,067,157	242	<i>L'homme à la hache</i> , 1891	\$36,000,000	Christie's New York November 8, 2006
22	René Magritte	1898–1967, Belgian	1970	38	\$492,256,125	509	<i>Le beau monde</i> , 1962	\$12,923,974	Sotheby's London February 5, 2014
23	Cy Twombly	1928–2011, American	1990	15	\$444,002,180	286	<i>Untitled</i> , 1970	\$69,605,000	Christie's New York November 12, 2014
24	Kees van Dongen	1877–1968, Dutch	1970	42	\$433,734,471	1,148	<i>Jeune Arabe</i> , 1910	\$13,802,500	Sotheby's New York November 4, 2009
25	Pierre Bonnard	1867–1947, French	1970	38	\$431,976,429	1,095	<i>Terrasse à Vernon</i> , 1923	\$11,578,056	Christie's London February 9, 2011
26	Maurice de Vlaminck	1876–1958, French	1970	41	\$421,889,521	2,765	<i>Paysage de banlieue</i> , 1905	\$22,482,500	Christie's New York May 4, 2011
27	Yves Klein	1928–1962, French	2000	9	\$412,473,958	333	<i>Le Rose du bleu (RE 22)</i> , 1960	\$36,779,111	Christie's London June 27, 2012
28	Gustav Klimt	1862–1918, Austrian	1983	9	\$403,916,898	46	<i>Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer II</i> , 1912	\$78,500,000	Christie's New York November 8, 2006
29	Wassily Kandinsky	1866–1944, Russian	1971	29	\$395,348,457	271	<i>Studie für Improvisation 8</i> , 1909	\$23,042,500	Christie's New York November 7, 2012
30	Jean Dubuffet	1901–1985, French	1970	33	\$382,410,279	1,070	<i>Cité Fantoche</i> , 1963	\$7,445,000	Sotheby's New York November 11, 2014
31	Alfred Sisley	1839–1899, French	1970	42	\$375,587,102	513	<i>Le Loing à Moret en été</i> , 1891	\$5,761,673	Sotheby's London February 5, 2007
32	Zeng Fanzhi	b. 1964, Chinese	2007	8	\$335,908,404	289	<i>The Last Supper</i> , 2001	\$23,276,759	Sotheby's Hong Kong October 5, 2013
33	Damien Hirst	b. 1965, British	2007	7	\$333,032,260	705	<i>Lullaby Spring</i> , 2002	\$22,800,000	Sotheby's London June 21, 2007
34	Georges Braque	1882–1963, French	1970	36	\$321,057,085	660	<i>Paysage à la Ciotat</i> , 1907	\$15,845,000	Sotheby's New York May 7, 2013
35	Edouard Manet	1832–1883, French	1973	14	\$319,186,658	117	<i>Le Printemps</i> , 1881	\$65,125,000	Christie's New York November 5, 2014
36	Juan Gris	1887–1927, Spanish	1971	26	\$315,867,696	211	<i>Nature morte à la nappe à carreaux</i> , 1915	\$56,658,470	Christie's London February 4, 2014
37	Paul Signac	1863–1935, French	1970	28	\$306,566,122	392	<i>Cassis. Cap Canaille</i> , 1889	\$14,041,000	Christie's New York November 6, 2007
38	Alexej von Jawlensky	1864–1941, Russian	1974	23	\$301,707,198	989	<i>Schokko (Schokko mit, Tellerhut) Schokko (Schokko with wide-rimmed hat)</i> , 1910	\$18,624,116	Sotheby's London February 5, 2008
39	Pieter Brueghel	1564–1637, Flemish	1970	30	\$299,930,091	470	<i>The Battle Between Carnival and Lent</i> , n.d.	\$10,722,270	Christie's London December 6, 2011
40	Jackson Pollock	1912–1956, American	1987	11	\$298,387,941	79	<i>Number 19</i> , 1948	\$58,363,750	Christie's New York May 15, 2013
41	Canaletto	1697–1768, Italian	1970	26	\$286,483,448	406	<i>Venice, the Grand Canal, looking north-east from the Palazzo Balbi to the Rialto Bridge</i> , 1726–27	\$32,568,600	Sotheby's London July 7, 2005
42	Joan Mitchell	1925–1992, American	2004	11	\$282,208,287	355	<i>Untitled</i> , 1960	\$11,925,000	Christie's New York May 13, 2014
43	Giorgio de Chirico	1888–1978, Italian	1970	33	\$275,030,480	1,416	<i>Il Ritornante</i> , 1918	\$14,285,461	Christie's Paris February 23, 2009
44	Chu Teh-Chun	1920–2014, Chinese	2007	6	\$273,967,999	646	<i>Untitled</i> , 1963	\$9,162,538	Christie's Hong Kong November 23, 2013
45	Lucian Freud	1922–2011, British	1998	8	\$268,705,896	106	<i>Benefits Supervisor Sleeping</i> , 1995	\$33,641,000	Christie's New York May 13, 2008
46	Jasper Johns	b. 1930, American	1970	16	\$266,942,248	86	<i>Flag</i> , 1983	\$36,005,000	Sotheby's New York November 11, 2014
47	Christopher Wool	b. 1955, American	2010	4	\$261,862,426	269	<i>Apocalypse Now</i> , 1988	\$26,485,000	Christie's New York November 12, 2013
48	Piet Mondrian	1872–1944, Dutch	1975	17	\$260,478,433	247	<i>Composition avec bleu, rouge, jaune, et noir</i> , 1922	\$27,805,131	Christie's Paris February 23, 2009
49	Chaim Soutine	1893–1943, French	1970	20	\$251,337,192	397	<i>Le petit pâtissier</i> , 1927	\$18,043,750	Christie's New York May 8, 2013
50	Wu Guanzhong	1919–2010, Chinese	2005	7	\$248,294,042	248	<i>Golden Autumn</i> , 1972	\$1,248,793	Christie's Hong Kong May 24, 2014