

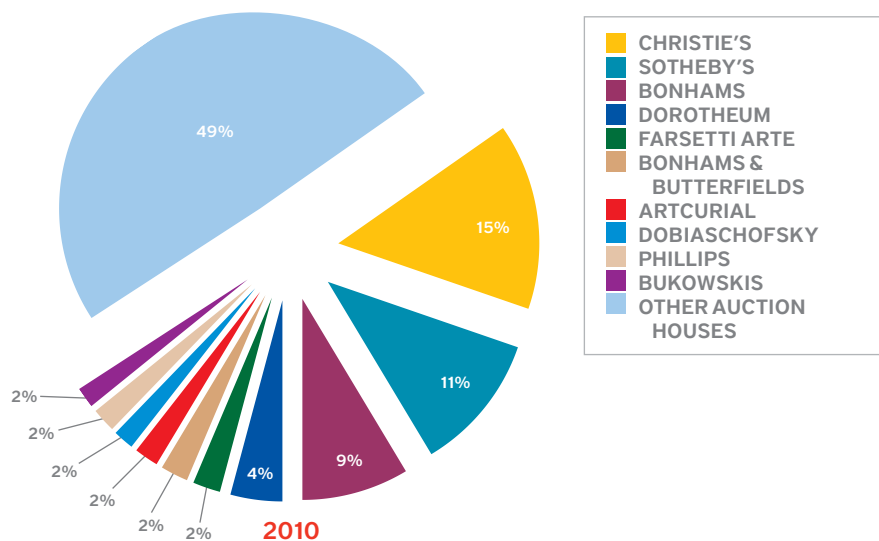
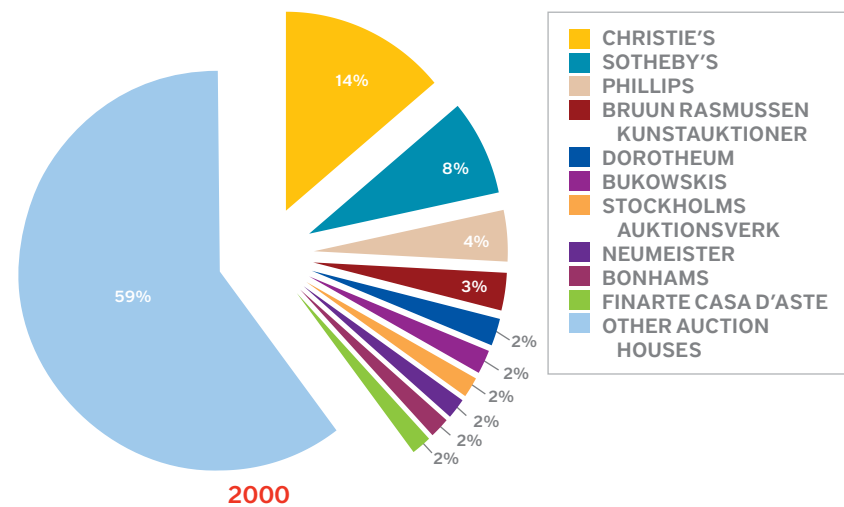
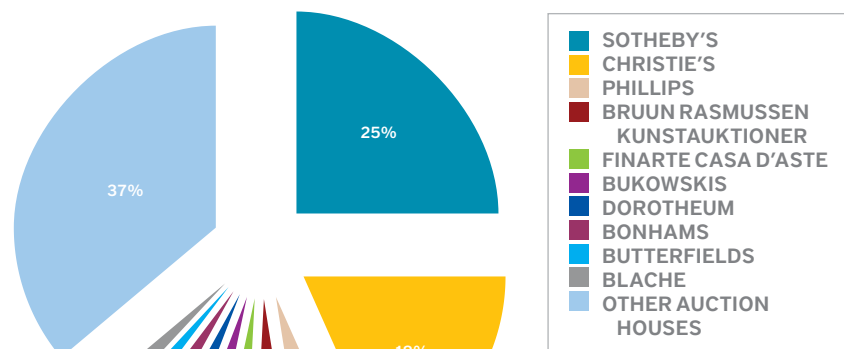
# POWER HOUSES

## SLICING UP THE AUCTION MARKET

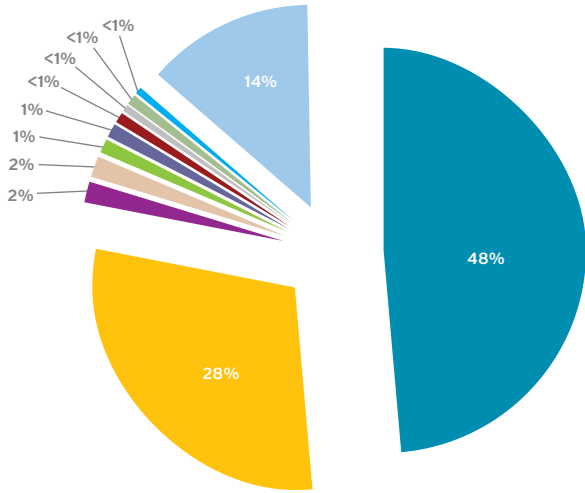
The auction business is massive, with billions of dollars changing hands each year. To determine how the terrain is shifting, we crunched some numbers, specifically, the dollar and volume totals for sales of paintings—from Asian and Old Master to Impressionist and contemporary, for the years 1985 and 2000 and the first half of 2010, at more than 1,000 auction houses. The graphs on the left show the top 10 auction houses, in terms of volume, while those on the right indicate the top 10 in terms of total sales. One of our most interesting findings is that in 2000, Sotheby's and Christie's lost ground to other houses in terms of volume but not in terms of dollar totals. In the "other" category are hundreds of auctioneers from around the world, including Pierre Bergé, in Paris and Brussels; Doyle New York; Dallas-based Heritage Auctions; St. Louis's Ivey-Selkirk; Skinner, in Boston; the Zurich-based Koller; and Lempertz, in Cologne.

ROMAN KRAEUSSL

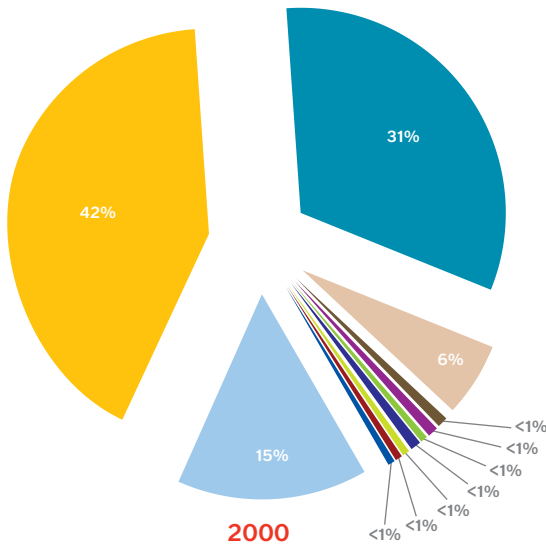
### VOLUME SHARE



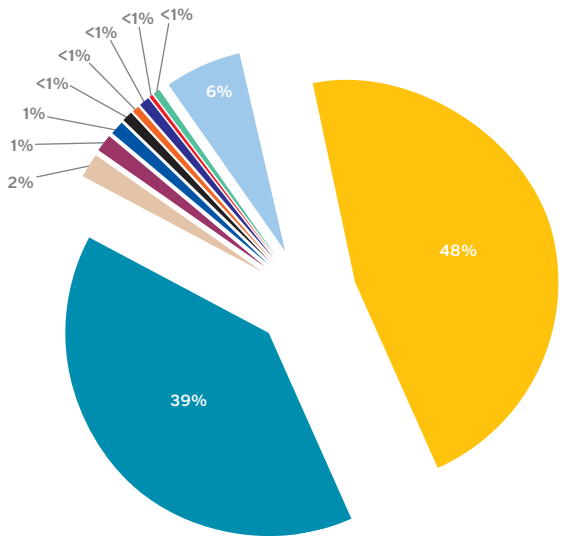
## DOLLAR SHARE



1985



2000



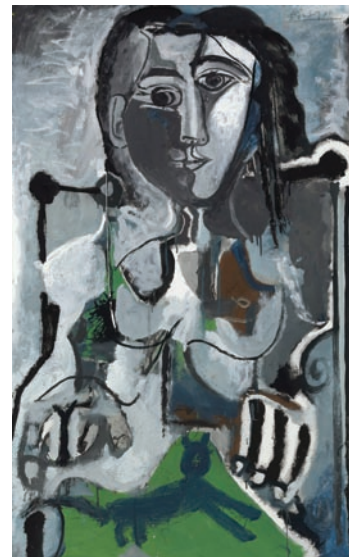
2010



**1985** Christie's London sold Andrea Mantegna's *Adoration of the Magi*, 1495–1505, to the Getty Museum for \$10.5 million, then the auction record for any artwork and a sizable chunk of its roughly \$139 million painting sales total that year.



**2000** Mark Rothko's *No. 2 (Blue, Red, and Green)*, 1953, brought \$11,005,750 at Sotheby's New York. That year the house sold around \$563 million worth of paintings.



**2010** Picasso's 1964 *Femme au chat assise dans un fauteuil* brought \$18 million at Christie's New York in May. In the first half of 2010, the house's paintings total was already \$1.2 billion.