

PHILLIPS



ONE-OF-A-KIND RING BY SEVAN BIÇAKÇI AND A PRIVATE MEETING WITH THE ARTIST TO BE AUCTIONED AT PHILLIPS AUCTION HOUSE IN SUPPORT OF ONE DROP

100% of the net proceeds from this piece of art, graciously donated by Sevan Biçakçı, will fund the One Drop Foundation's vital mission of ensuring sustainable access to safe water

New York, New York (11, 06, 2019) – For their upcoming ***Jewels Auction on December 9, 2019*** in New York City, Phillips Auction House will offer a priceless lot — a one-of-a-kind ring with reverse intaglio carving by craftsman Sevan Biçakçı, a unique drawing of the masterpiece, a private meeting with the artist for a tour of his workshop located near Istanbul's Grand Bazaar, a visit of the architectural landmarks that have inspired his work, as well as an exclusive invitation to Biçakçı's private yacht for a Bosphorus cruise tour. This lot will be included alongside a selection of remarkable jewels in Phillips' auction, all of which will be available for bidding by collectors around the globe.

Phillips, the leading global platform for buying and selling art and design, holds jewels auctions twice a year in both Hong Kong and in New York for an international clientele of collectors and connoisseurs. One Drop is an international foundation created in 2007 by Cirque du Soleil founder Guy Laliberté. Its mission is to ensure sustainable access to safe water and sanitation for the most vulnerable communities, through innovative partnerships, creativity and the power of art. Sevan Biçakçı is a world-renowned artisan who creates miniature masterpieces crafted from 24K gold, sterling silver, rose or antique-cut diamonds and a host of uniquely cut gemstones. His work is done entirely by hand using techniques that are hundreds and thousands of years old.

"We are grateful to our partner Phillips for continuing on this journey with us to ensure sustainable access to safe water and sanitation around the world. We are thrilled to join forces with Sevan, the true 'Lord of the Rings' and long-term supporter of One Drop with this exquisite ring. His craftsmanship attracts the attention of collectors globally and together and through our shared value of creativity, we are positively impacting countless lives all around the world," says Guy Laliberté, founder of One Drop.

For the lot donated by Biçakçı, the artist crafted a ring inspired by the title of a popular Turkish song from the 80s, 'Yagdir Mevlam Su' (*Oh Lord, Let It Rain*). The ring's gemstone carving depicts the intricate architecture of Istanbul, which plays a significant role in his artistic identity. Inversely carved within a rock quartz cabochon is an engraved intaglio of domes under a rainy Istanbul sky. A crown of 36 green diamonds surrounds the cabochon. Conceived to represent raindrops, the lower part of the

ring is embellished with 20 tear-shaped rock crystal cabochons scattered amongst 312 single-cut diamonds set in 24K gold and sterling silver.

“I support all movements that focus on love, kindness, teaching and saving lives. One Drop truly transforms the lives of millions of people in dire need and I’m honored to lend my voice in support of their vital mission,” says Sevan Bıçakçı.

Aligned with the United Nations Secretary-General’s Global Call to Action to support adequate water and sanitation in healthcare facilities and make this matter a priority, all net proceeds from the piece designed and donated by Sevan will go towards One Drop’s program dedicated to healthcare facilities and will help reduce infant and mother mortality rates.

One Drop’s most recent collaboration with Phillips Auction House was a resounding success: the *Art for One Drop* signature auction held in New York City in September 2018 raised \$8.7 million for safe water access in Latin America, setting a new fundraising record for the Foundation. Phillips Auction House and One Drop are proud to join forces and leverage their combined expertise once again, motivated by the same desire to create positive and meaningful impact on our world.

Susan Abeles, Phillips’ Head of Jewels, Americas, says, “Phillips is honored to be working with One Drop once again, following the successful fundraising efforts of the contemporary art sale in 2018. This season, thanks to Sevan Bıçakçı’s generous donation of this iconic ring, we are now able to offer contemporary art of a different kind in order to benefit this wonderful organization. At Phillips, we recognize the dialogue between art, jewels, and design and, as people around the world bid on this wearable work of art, we encourage them to remember the great deal of good that they will be doing as they raise their paddles.”

As part of Phillips’ continued efforts to support One Drop, two timepieces will be offered in the GAME CHANGERS watch auction in New York on December 10, the net proceeds from which will directly benefit the foundation.

A preview of Sevan Bıçakçı’s one-of-a-kind creation and the fine selection of jewelry that will be offered at the sale through Phillips Auction House can be viewed at phillips.com/jewels.

For press information, please contact:

Sarah Gargano at sarah@sarahgargano.com

Jaime Israni at jisrani@phillips.com

Erica Barnhill at ebarnhill@optimistconsulting.com

ABOUT ONE DROP™

One Drop is an international foundation created by Cirque du Soleil and Lune Rouge founder Guy Laliberté with the vision of a better world, where all have access to living conditions that allow empowerment and development. Our mission is to ensure sustainable access to safe water and sanitation for the most vulnerable communities through innovative partnerships, creativity and the power of art. Together with its partners, One Drop brings its unique *Social Art for Behaviour Change™* approach to promote the adoption of healthy practices around water, sanitation and hygiene through locally inspired social art programs, empowering the communities to take

ownership of the water projects over time. For this to be possible, One Drop puts together novel fundraising initiatives supported by a visionary community of partners and donors. One Drop counts over 10 years of turning water into action with projects that will soon have transformed the lives of over 1.6 million people around the world. The foundation was recognized by Charity Intelligence as one of the 2018 Top 10 Impact Charities in Canada.

To learn more about One Drop, visit www.onedrop.org

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ABOUT PHILLIPS AUCTION HOUSE

Phillips is a leading global platform for buying and selling 20th and 21st century art and design. With dedicated expertise in the areas of 20th century and Contemporary Art, Design, Photographs, Editions, Watches, and Jewelry, Phillips offers professional services and advice on all aspects of collecting. Auctions and exhibitions are held at salerooms in New York, London, Geneva, and Hong Kong, while clients are further served through representative offices based throughout Europe, the United States and Asia. Phillips also offers an online auction platform accessible anywhere in the world. In addition to providing selling and buying opportunities through auction, Phillips brokers private sales and offers assistance with appraisals, valuations, and other financial services.

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