

Review 2025

Strauss&co

Africa's Leading Art Auction House

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Strauss & Co

Africa's Leading Art Auction House



Jacob Hendrik Pierneef, *Transvaal Landscape with Farmhouse* Sold for R 3 145 313

Now inviting consignments

Modern and Contemporary Art for our March and May Flagship Sales

Cape Town, Tuesday 24 March 2026 at 7pm

Johannesburg, Tuesday 26 May 2026 at 7pm

Entries close

Friday 30 January and

Friday 19 March respectively

Enquiries:

011 728 8246 | jhb@straussart.co.za

www.straussart.co.za

Strauss & co



Georga Pemba, *Seated Xhosa Woman* (detail)

Sold for R 187 600

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PORTWAY TO COHEN:

A Collector's Legacy and Other Properties

Cape Town, Saturday 21 February 2026 at 6pm



Steven Cohen, *My Mother and Her Maid* R 18 000 - 24 000

UPCOMING AUCTION HIGHLIGHT

Sales Calendar First Half 2026

LIVE VIRTUAL AUCTIONS

Hair Matters: A Selection of Work from the Georgina Jaffee Collection

Saturday 21 February | 4pm

Portway to Cohen: A Collector's Legacy and Other Properties

Saturday 21 February | 6pm

TIMED ONLINE AUCTIONS

Monthly Art Auctions

Wednesday 21 January – Monday 9 February

Friday 20 February – Monday 9 March

Thursday 2 April – Monday 20 April

Friday 24 April – Monday 11 May

Monday 1 June – Wednesday 17 June

Wine

Rhône

Wednesday 28 January – Monday 9 February

Private Cellar Collection

Wednesday 25 February – Monday 9 March

Bordeaux

Thursday 2 April – Monday 20 April

Private Cellar Collection

Monday 4 - Monday 25 May

Sweets and Fortifieds

Friday 5 June – Monday 22 June

Watches

Friday 19 June – Monday 13 July

Dates and titles are subject to change

Cape Town Auction Week

Tuesday 24 March – Wednesday 25 March

Flagship Evening Sale, Tuesday 24 March | 7pm

Johannesburg Auction Week

Tuesday 26 May – Wednesday 27 May

Flagship Evening Sale, Tuesday 26 May | 7pm

Design, Fibre and Furniture

Woven Legacies: Fibre & Form

Friday 23 January – Tuesday 24 February

Celebrating Silver

Monday 2 March – Thursday 26 March

Generations of Collecting: Important Cape Silver, Ceramics, Furniture and Art

Wednesday 25 March | 2pm and 7pm

100 Years: Lalique, Silver and Art from the collection of Vera Dubin and Other Properties

Monday 25 May | 7pm

Select Works from the Late Stephan Welz and Mrs Carmen Welz Collection

Thursday 30 April – Wednesday 27 May

May Interiors: Silver and Furniture

Monday 4 May – Monday 25 May

South African: Design Past & Present

Friday 5 June - Wednesday 24 June

Jewellery

Friday 6 March – Thursday 26 March

Friday 15 May – Tuesday 9 June

HAIR MATTERS

A Selection of Works from The Georgina Jaffee Collection

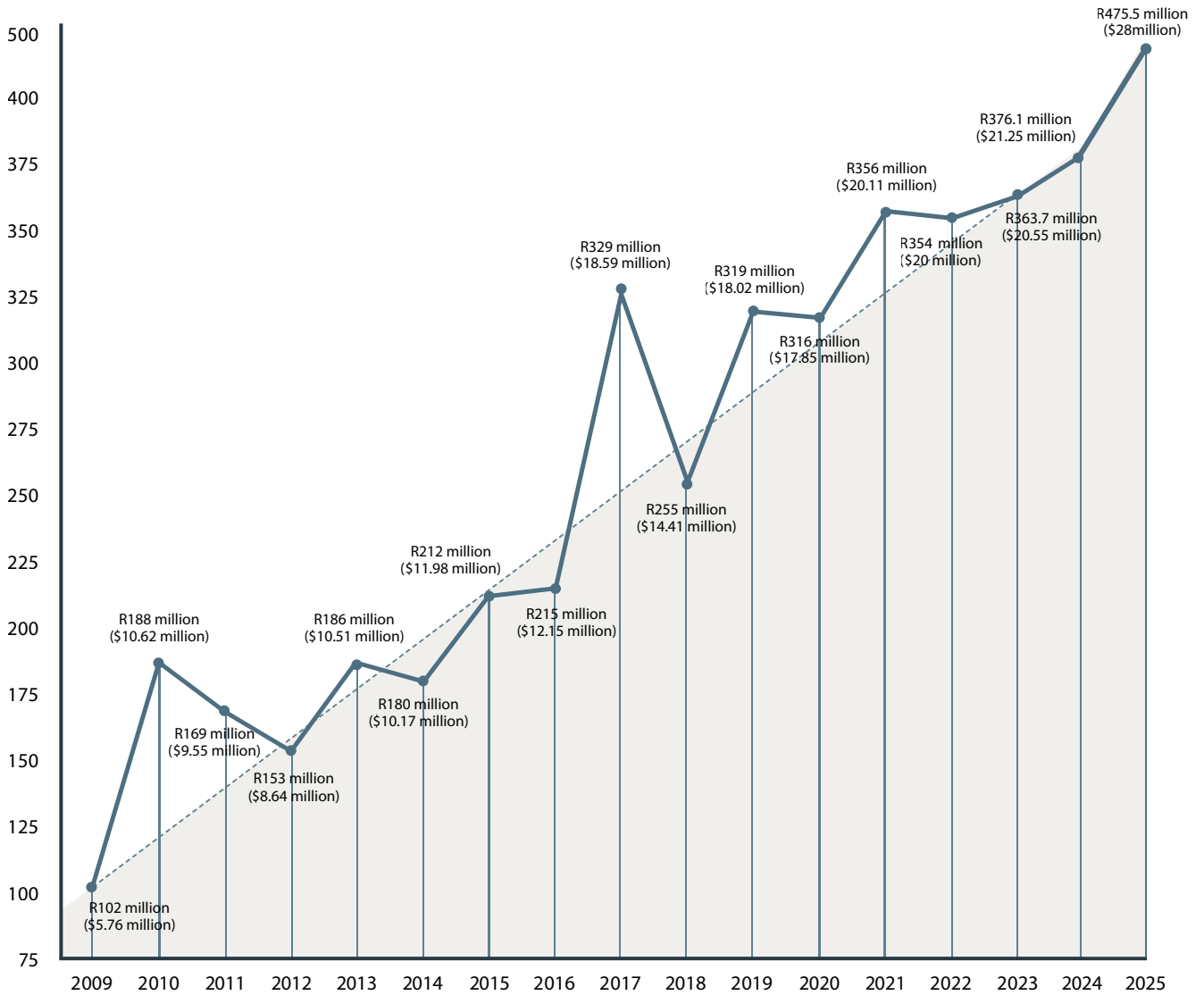
Cape Town, Saturday 21 February 2026 at 4pm



Imraan Christian, *Meta II, Ma se Kinders Series* R15 000 - 20 000

UPCOMING AUCTION HIGHLIGHT

Strauss & Co Turnover (2009–2025)



Strauss & Co achieved sales of R475.5m / \$28m from 6 927 lots sold through our various sales channels in 2025. Our turnover increased by 26% over 2024.

The above total revenue excludes private non-art auctions

Key takeaways from 2025 at Strauss & Co

- ❑ Strauss & Co achieved sales of R475.5m / \$28m from 6 927 lots sold. The figure reflects turnover generated at 83 non-charity, revenue-generating auctions including private sales.
- ❑ The headline turnover increased by 26% over 2024.
- ❑ The sell-through rate was 70%, which speaks to the discipline of Strauss & Co specialists in securing property and offering it at estimates attractive to bidders and buyers.
- ❑ Key factors contributing to this growth were: an increase in the number of auctions, a broadening of artists, makers and producers offered at auction, and the introduction of new categories of collectables, including luxury watches and South African art jewellery.
- ❑ Revenue was buoyed by impeccable single-owner and corporate collections, notably the Mary Eleanor Hibbert Cape Silver Collection, The Starcke Collection of African Art and the Engen Collection of art and wine.
- ❑ South Africa's positive macroeconomic outlook also brought renewed optimism to the market. Jitters around American import tariffs on South African products were counterbalanced by strong positives, including consistent interest rate cuts, robust performance by the state power utility, and a favourable foreign-currency long-term sovereign rating.
- ❑ Art remains Strauss & Co's principal revenue stream.
- ❑ The ten top-earning artists sold through Strauss & Co in 2025 collectively generated 55% of the company's aggregated income. Strauss & Co earned R260.2 m / \$15.3m from 493 lots sold by Walter Battiss, William Kentridge, Maggie Laubser, John Meyer, J.H. Pierneef, Alexis Preller, Gerard Sekoto, Irma Stern, Vladimir Tretchikoff and Anton van Wouw in 2025.
- ❑ Vladimir Tretchikoff emerged as a new champion at auction when his 1955 portrait *Lady from the Orient* achieved R31.1m / \$1.8m at the May flagship auction.
- ❑ Irma Stern remains the top-ranking artist by value from combined sales, earning R64.4m / \$3.8m from 40 lots sold in 2025, beating Tretchikoff, who netted R52.6m / \$3.1m from 14 lots sold.
- ❑ Demand for high-value artworks remained steady, with 14 artworks selling above R5m / \$295 000 in 2025.
- ❑ Private sales continued to grow, contributing approximately 17% to the total revenue.
- ❑ The revitalised design department, which incorporates furniture, silver, ceramics, textiles, jewellery, watches, gems and handbags, achieved critical mass in expertise and sales outcomes, earning R31.5m / \$1.85m from 1 100 lots sold.
- ❑ The thriving wine department maintained its status as

the premier marketplace for rare and high-quality wines and liquors, earning R27.4m / \$1.6m from 1 795 lots sold.

❑ Four out of every five lots sold (84%) were traded digitally through Strauss & Co's 67 timed-online auctions. These sales earned R102.4m from 5 862 lots, confirming an entrenched shift to online buying.

❑ Strauss & Co continued to grow the number of new registrants and new buyers. In 2025 its auctions drew 1664 new registrants, of which 741 bid and 650 bought for a total of R175m, representing 37% of turnover. One in five clients is located outside South Africa and the company expanded its international buyer reach to 56 countries.

❑ Growing its international footprint, both in Africa and Europe, remained a core strategic focus. Strauss & Co was present at exhibitions featuring Gerard Sekoto in Paris and Irma Stern in Berlin.

❑ The inaugural Art Auction East Africa | Strauss & Co, in Nairobi, was a huge success, with more than 80% of lots sold and new auction benchmarks were established for Tanzanian modernists Sam Ntiro and K.F. Msangi.

❑ Exhibition making is a core part of the company's marketing and educational outreach. Strauss & Co presented the exhibitions *Prelude to Podlashuc*, *Working Life in South Africa: Gerard Sekoto & Lena Hugo*, *What the Fook? The Life and Work of Walter Battiss*, *Kalahari Studio: Honouring the Past, Shaping Legacies* and *The Boerneef Collection* at its Cape Town

and Johannesburg showrooms. It also staged dynamic exhibitions at RMB Latitudes Art Fair in Johannesburg, and Toyota Stellenbosch Woordfees in Stellenbosch.

❑ Key sponsorships in 2025 included Hermanus FynArts, Toyota Stellenbosch Woordfees, Welgemeend Art Month, Hermanus FynArts Festival and the Cassirer Welz Award.

❑ Operationally, internal staff promotions saw Dr. Alastair Meredith appointed as a director and Kirsty Colledge as an EXCO member, Elmarie van Straten promoted to senior art specialist, Leigh Leyde promoted to art specialist and Khanya Daniels-Poyiya promoted to silver specialist following training in London.





TIMED-ONLINE AUCTION OFFERING

INTRODUCING

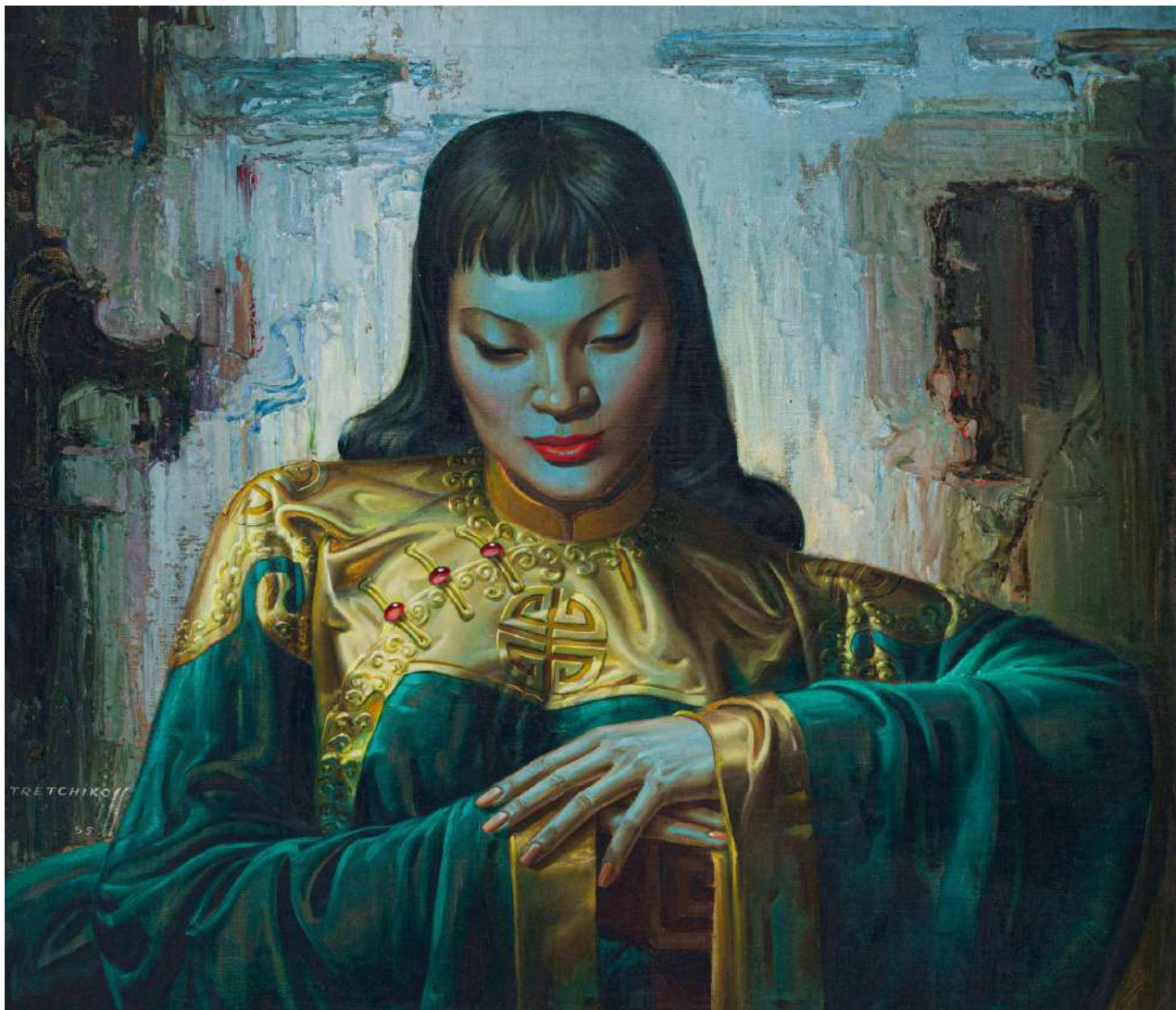
Early Bird Bidding

First to bid discounts on auction lots.

Be the first to bid on a lot during Strauss & Co's February and March timed-online sales of Art and Design and receive a 15% discount on your premium if you successfully win the lot.

T&C's apply. Early Bird Bidding applies only to timed-online auctions, and excludes live virtual auctions.

Strauss & co



Vladimir Tretchikoff, *Lady from the Orient* **Sold for R31 110 000**

WORLD AUCTION RECORD

Modern and Contemporary Art: Evening Sale
Johannesburg, 27 May 2025

Chairperson's Report

Frank Kilbourn, Chairperson, Strauss & Co



"Notwithstanding a challenging global backdrop, Strauss & Co delivered another year of steady growth in 2025, driven by an expanded auction programme, strong demand for exceptional works, and the continued diversification of our collecting categories. The energy in our salerooms, the depth of participation across digital and live platforms, and the success of our international and regional initiatives all point to a resilient and confident market. In the space of a few short months, we've seen the public art market return not only to viability, but vibrancy. We enter the year ahead well positioned, with a focused and well-motivated team, a broadened audience and sustained momentum across all facets of the business."

I am pleased to present this Chairperson's Report summarising the trading year at Strauss & Co for the period January to December 2025.

As is customary, my report provides a broad overview of our sales activities, highlighting important results and trends across Strauss & Co's various departments. It has been a seesaw year for the global art market, but despite intermittent headwinds I am delighted to report that we remain on a steady growth trajectory. Strauss & Co delivered a strong performance over the past year, achieving solid growth across its core business and new collecting categories.

Strauss & Co achieved sales of R475.5m / \$28m from 6 927 lots sold through our various sales channels in 2025. Our turnover increased by 26% over 2024.

I attribute this momentum to our expanded auction programme, a broader range of artists and makers, and the successful introduction of luxury collectables alongside established strengths in fine and decorative art. Landmark single-owner and corporate collections further enhanced the auction calendar, while a generally improving domestic economic outlook helped restore confidence among buyers and consignors.

Art remains the company's principal revenue stream, with sustained demand for high-value works, a healthy contribution from private sales, and continued dominance by leading South African masters.

Earlier this year, I wrote in a letter that works of exceptional quality consistently stand out and provide stability in periods of uncertainty and market fluctuation. Two works sold by Strauss & Co in 2025 emphasise my point.

In May, at our flagship Johannesburg auction, Vladimir Tretchikoff's 1955 signature portrait *Lady from the Orient* sold for R31.1m / \$1.8m to a telephone bidder after a dramatic flurry of 89 bids. The astonishing price is a new world record for the artist.

In October, at our International Sale in Cape Town, six bidders vied for Irma Stern's magnificent 1946 portrait *Malay (Black Headdress)*, which eventually sold to a resolute telephone bidder for R21.7m/\$1.26m. The fevered enthusiasm can be ascribed to the quality of this work and for the fact that the same family had held it over a half century.

At both these sales, and again at our November flagship auction in Johannesburg, there was a palpable buzz in the room. I came of age as a collector in the era of packed bidding rooms in Cape Town and Johannesburg, London and New York. The increasing digitalisation of trade and industry, while hugely beneficial to our business, has changed age-old habits. It is gratifying to see new and old friends participate in the social aspects of collecting: from attending preview exhibitions, walkabouts and educational talks to bidding in the room for a prized work.

In 2025, Strauss & Co also made important strategic advances. The revitalised design, furniture and jewellery department reached a new level of maturity,

while the wine division consolidated its position as the leading marketplace for rare and fine bottles. Digital auctions continued to underpin growth, accounting for the majority of lots sold, supported by steady increases in new registrants and buyers from across the globe.




International engagement remained a priority, with focused marketing activities in Europe and a highly successful inaugural auction in Kenya, extending the company's regional footprint. Internally, the year was marked by meaningful staff development through senior promotions, strengthening institutional expertise and leadership for the future.











Thank you for your continued loyalty to Strauss & Co. We look forward to welcoming you to our Cape Town salesroom in February as we kick off our exciting programme for 2026. Ours is a shared passion, and we at Strauss & Co are grateful for the opportunity to steward it together.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank Kilbourn" with a stylized flourish at the end.



Top 20 Artworks Sold at Strauss & Co 2025

	Artist	Title	Sold	Sale Date
	Vladimir Tretchikoff	<i>Lady from the Orient</i> WORLD RECORD	R31 110 000	27 May 2025
	Irma Stern	<i>Malay (Black Headdress)</i> AFRICAN RECORD	R21 731 250	28 October 2025
	Vladimir Tretchikoff	<i>Malay Girl</i>	R4 803 750	16 September 2025
	Irma Stern	<i>Fishing Harbour, Algeciras</i>	R4 200 000	16 September 2025
	Alexis Preller	<i>Homage to Hieronymus Bosch</i>	R3 431 250	31 March 2025
	Jacob Hendrik Pierneef	<i>Naby Ficksburg, Oos Vrystaat</i> (Near Ficksburg, East Free State)	R3 431 250	18 November 2025
	Jacob Hendrik Pierneef	<i>Transvaal Landscape with Farmhouse</i>	R3 145 313	18 November 2025
	Jacob Hendrik Pierneef	<i>Bosveld by Krokodilrivier</i> (Bushveld by Crocodile River)	R2 630 625	18 November 2025
	Anton van Wouw	<i>Slegte Nuus</i>	R2 516 250	27 May 2025
	William Kentridge	<i>Untitled, Masked Ball Series</i>	R2 516 250	27 May 2025

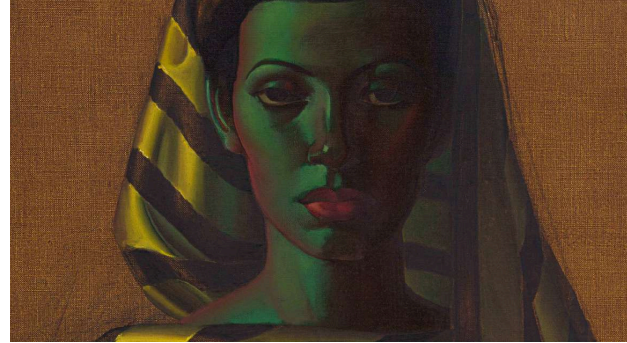
	Artist	Title	Sold	Sale Date
	Maggie Laubser	<i>Seascape with Woman Carrying Bucket; Boats and Houses in Background</i>	R2 453 000	17 February 2025
	Irma Stern	<i>Still Life with Roses and Fruit</i>	R2 287 500	18 November 2025
	Irma Stern	<i>A Small Canal, Venice</i>	R2 173 125	18 November 2025
	Jacob Hendrik Pierneef	<i>Cottage in a Mountain Landscape</i>	R2 058 750	27 May 2025
	Jacob Hendrik Pierneef	<i>Karoo Farmhouse near Hofmeyer</i>	R2 058 750	27 May 2025
	Vladimir Tretchikoff	<i>Masai</i>	R1 830 000	16 September 2025
	Vladimir Tretchikoff	<i>Post Office Flower Seller</i>	R1 715 625	17 February 2025
	William Kentridge	<i>Hyacinths (Wait Once Again for Better People)</i>	R1 715 625	27 May 2025
	Jacob Hendrik Pierneef	<i>Old Mill, Pretoria West</i>	R1 715 625	18 November 2025
	Vladimir Tretchikoff	<i>Self Portrait with Muse</i>	R1 601 250	16 September 2025

Top 10 Earning Artists Sold by Strauss & Co 2025



Irma Stern

sold 40 of 48 lots offered
R 64 402 636
83% sell-through rate



Vladimir Tretchikoff

sold 14 of 15 lots offered
R 52 563 380
93% sell-through rate



Jacob Hendrik Pierneef

sold 89 of 105 lots offered
R 48 377 197
85% sell-through rate



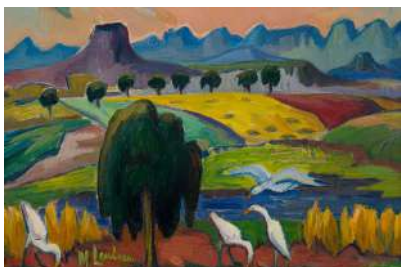
Alexis Preller

sold 32 of 38 lots offered
R34 565 769
84% sell-through rate



Wiliam Kentridge

sold 80 of 107 lots offered
R 25 259 024
75% sell-through rate



Maggie Laubser

sold 28 of 38 lots offered
R 9 347 040
74% sell-through rate



Walter Battiss

sold 172 of 196 lots offered
R 8 489 297
88% sell-through rate



John Meyer

sold 19 of 29 lots offered
R 7 237 490
66% sell-through rate



Anton van Wouw

sold 5 of 7 lots offered
R 5 125 025
71% sell-through rate



Gerard Sekoto

sold 14 of 18 lots offered
R 4 894 443
78% sell-through rate

The ten top-earning artists sold through Strauss & Co in 2025 collectively generated 55% of the company's aggregated income.

Blue-chip artists dominate Strauss & Co sales

Art remains Strauss & Co's principal revenue stream.

The ten top-earning artists sold through Strauss & Co in 2025 collectively generated 55% of the company's aggregated income. Strauss & Co earned R260.2m / \$15.3m from 493 lots sold by Walter Battiss, William Kentridge, Maggie Laubser, John Meyer, J.H. Pierneef, Alexis Preller, Gerard Sekoto, Irma Stern, Vladimir Tretchikoff and Anton van Wouw in 2025.

Vladimir Tretchikoff emerged as a new champion at auction when his 1955 portrait *Lady from the Orient* sold for R31.1m / \$1.8m at the May flagship auction. The price is a new world record.

Irma Stern remains the top-ranking artist by value from combined sales, earning R64.4m / \$3.8m from 40 lots sold in 2025, beating Tretchikoff, who earned R52.6m / \$3.1m from 14 lots sold. They were followed respectively by Pierneef (R48.4m from 89 lots sold), Preller (R34.6m from 32 lots sold) and Kentridge (R25.3m from 80 lots sold).

The sell-through rate for the ten top-earners was particularly high for Tretchikoff (93%), Battiss (88%), Pierneef (85%), Preller (84%) and Stern (83%). The uptick in positive sentiment was especially noticeable around Battiss, Laubser and Preller, much-admired artists who had, until recently, languished in the auction doldrums.

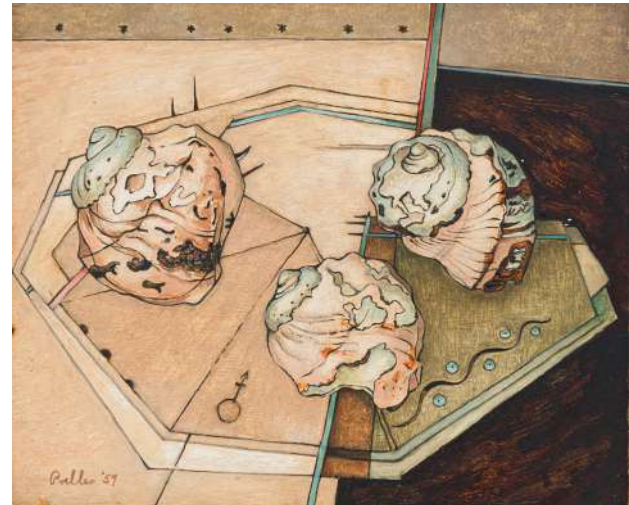
Notwithstanding economic uncertainty and trade fragmentation in the broader art market, demand for high-value artworks remained steady, with 14 works

selling above R5m / \$295 000 in 2025.

Boutique single-artist auctions attracted considerable interest, with two white-glove sales in which 100% lots sold: a sale of Pierneef's prints (July) and a sale of Kentridge's wildlife drawings from 1985 from the Engen Collection (November).

Revenue was buoyed by impeccable single-owner collections, notably *The Starcke Collection of African Art* and *Engen Collection*.

There is now a metronomic consistency to Strauss & Co's monthly multi-session, online-only auctions. They now account for the bulk of trade in art and are an important platform for cultivating emergent collectors.



Alexis Preller, *The Shells* Sold R 577 625

The English model of the ascending auction with open outcry is the foundation of Strauss & Co's business model. Despite the growing success of online and private sales, live auctions remain vitally important. They offer a reliable platform for trading high-value artworks. Live auctions are the best way to focus energy on a particular work or spotlight a deserving artist. They are also important networking forums and essential to Strauss & Co's various educational initiatives. Live sales are the golden thread that binds together an increasingly complex fabric of discrete sales methods and marketing initiatives.

The year started positively in February with the live sale *Perspectives on Africa: Modern and Contemporary Art* in Cape Town, which earned R12.6m / \$686 700. The sale featured high-value paintings by Maggie Laubser, whose 1926 marine landscape *Seascape with Woman Carrying Bucket; Boats and Houses in Background* topped the results, selling to a telephone bidder for R2.5m/ \$133 265. An online bidder secured Vladimir Tretchikoff's 1949 portrait of a Cape Town flower seller for R1.7m / \$93 206. The sale also confirmed George Pemba's strong market appeal.

The first flagship sale of the year, held in Cape Town in April, achieved R29.8m / \$1.75m, with a 63% lot sell-through rate. The overall total was buoyed by strong post-sales of high-value paintings by Irma Stern and Alexis Preller. The indifferent mood among buyers in the first half of 2025 reflected a broader trend in the global art market, in which uncertainty and relative stagnation were hallmarks. Persistent geopolitical tensions and fragile economic conditions created a flat market, even at the high end.



Maggie Laubser, *Seascape with Woman Carrying Bucket; Boats and Houses in Background* **Sold R 2 453 000**



Vladimir Tretchikoff, *Post Office Flower Seller*
Sold R 1 715 625



HIGH NOTE: MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART
INCLUDING SELECTED WORKS FROM THE MIMICRY COLLECTION

22 July 2025 at 7 pm



July Auction Preview, Johannesburg





PRIVATE SALES

HEAD OF PRIVATE SALES

Kirsty Colledge

kirsty@straussart.co.za | 021 683 6560



Nothing was predictable about 2025, even the uncertainty. In May, at the first Johannesburg flagship sale, Tretchikoff emerged as the new torchbearer at auction. "It is always good when there is a murmur before a big lot," said auctioneer Alastair Meredith when he introduced *Lady from the Orient*, one of Tretchikoff's most recognisable works. Bidding quickly escalated. "We've breached the \$1 million mark," said Meredith after accepting a bid of R18m. The iconic 1955 painting depicting 21-year-old Valerie Howe, the daughter of a Cape Town grocer, sold to an anonymous telephone bidder after a dramatic flurry of 89 bids, narrowly beating a determined in-room contender. The final price is a new world record.

The May auction delivered some impressive results, particularly for works by William Kentridge, J.H. Pierneef and Anton van Wouw. The 100-lot sale of modern and contemporary art earned a combined total of over R64.6m. The cover lot, Gerard Sekoto's *The Mother on the Road* c.1945-47, surprisingly went unsold. The auction was characterised generally by soft demand for contemporary art and works by lesser-known modernists. By mid year it appeared that 2025 would see a repeat of 2024, in which aggregate global art sales declined by 12%. Strauss & Co confronted the challenging market by hosting a series of innovative boutique sales aimed at highlighting individual artists and materials.



Jacob Hendrik Pierneef, *Karoo Farmhouse near Hofmeyer* **Sold R 2 058 750**



Anton van Wouw, *Slegte Nuus* Sold R 2 516 250



Making Impressions: Deborah Bell & David Krut, Collaboration in Print, Johannesburg



In February, *Prelude to Podlashuc* showcased paintings by influential teacher and artist Alexander Podlashuc. In June, Deborah Bell's collaboration with publisher David Krut formed the basis of the well-received sale *Making Impressions*. Also in June, there was strong interest by new buyers in the 96 lots comprising *What the Fook? The Life and Work of Walter Battiss*.

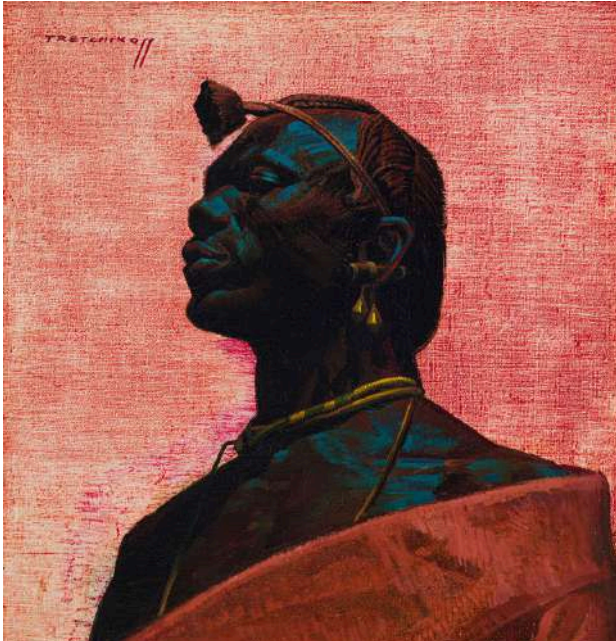
J.H. Pierneef provided the model for these single-artist spotlights in the early 2020s. Marking a shift from past single-artist sales of his work, *IMPR: Etchings and Linocuts by JH Pierneef*, in July, focussed on his printmaking. All 29 lots found buyers. Also in July, the sale *Eastern Cape Echoes* adopted a regional focus, presenting works by artists from Tsitsikamma to Lusikisiki.



Ceramics, or clay art, long regarded as an orphan discipline, continued to receive support. *Contemporary South African Ceramics: New Perspectives*, a medium-specific sale held in July, achieved an 83% lot sell-through rate. *Andrew Verster: Gorgeous and Free*, presented in September, revived interest in this admired artist, writer and activist, with 90% lots sold. Capping a year of inventive presentations, *William Kentridge: Drawings from the Engen Collection*, held in November, saw all 15 animal drawings from 1985 find buyers.



Live auctions continued to offer a barometer of broader patterns in collector behaviour and taste.



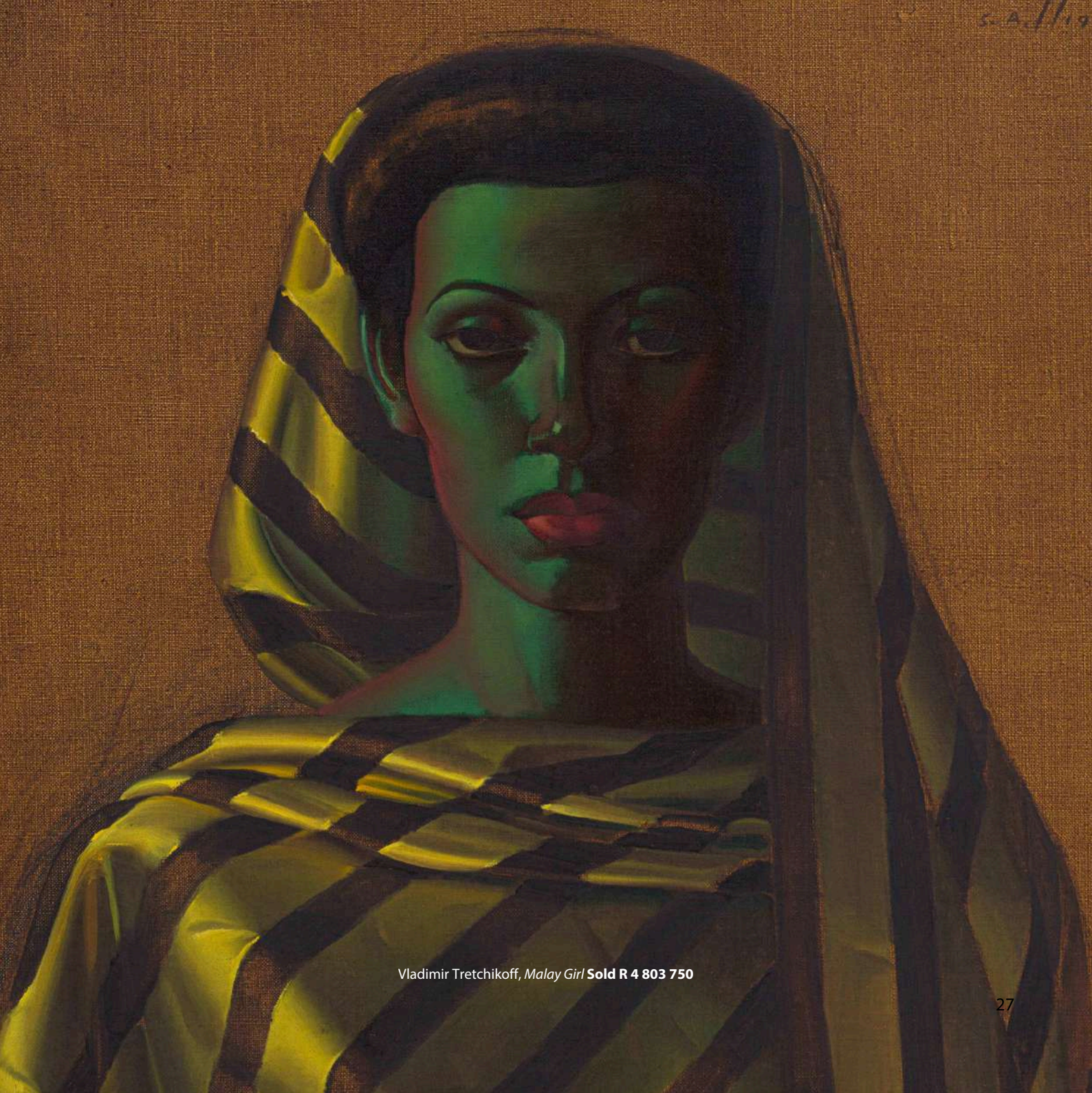
Vladimir Tretchikoff, *Masai* **Sold R 1 830 000**



Vladimir Tretchikoff, *Self-Portrait with Muse* **Sold R 1 601 250**

In September, at the second Cape Town flagship sale, the remarkable rise of Tretchikoff at market continued. The Russian-born South African artist accounted for six of the ten most valuable works in the sale.

The top three lots were all Tretchikoff portraits. *Malay Girl* (1951), an early work in which the artist introduced the subtle green and blue skin tones that would make him world famous, sold to a telephone bidder for R4.8m / \$276 498. *Self-Portrait with Muse* also attracted strong bidding, selling to an online bidder for R1.6m / \$92 166.



Vladimir Tretchikoff, *Malay Girl* Sold R 4 803 750



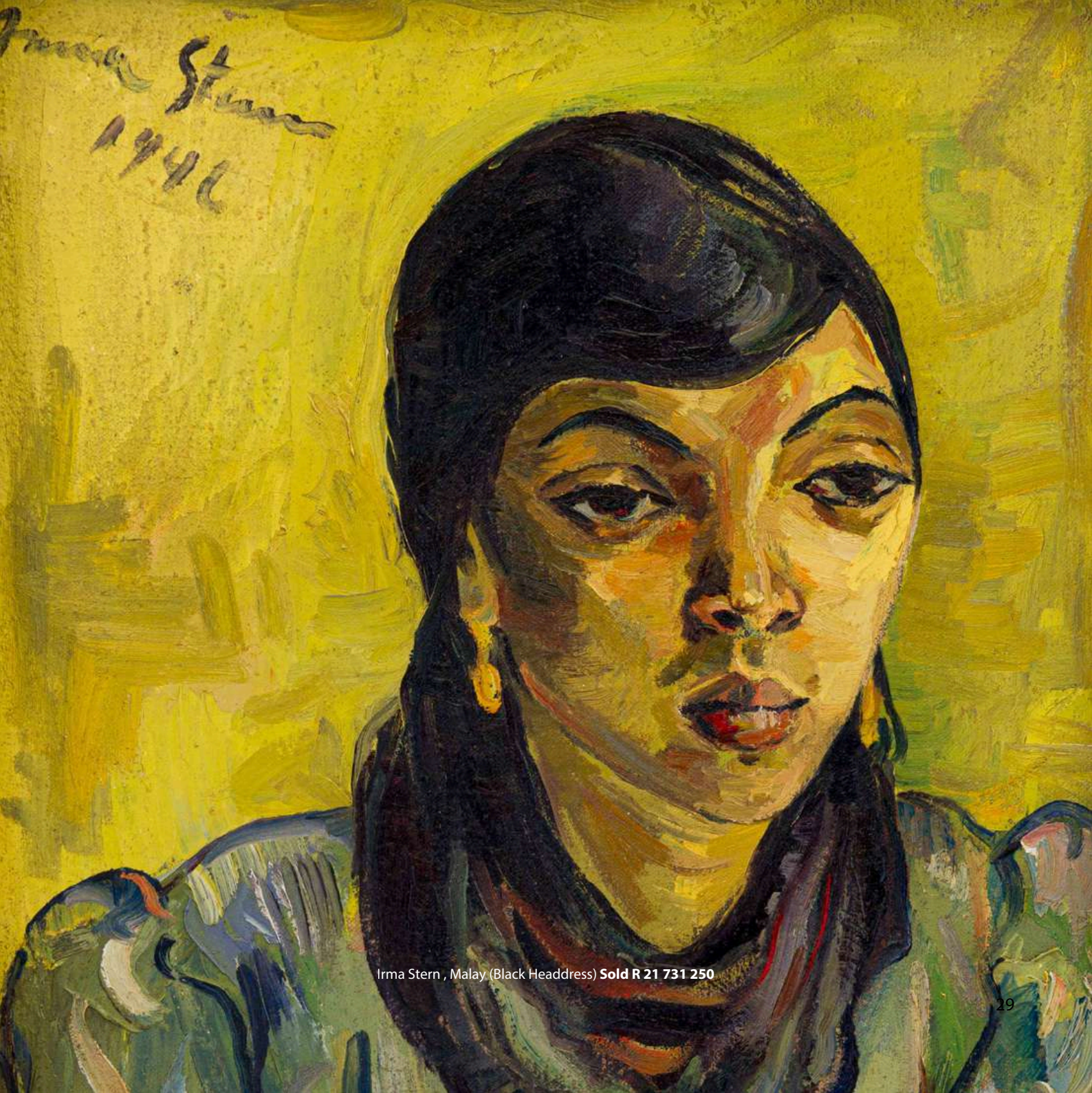
In October, Stern reasserted her status as auction royalty. A chorus of enthusiastic bidders, five on the telephone and one in the salesroom, competed for her 1946 portrait *Malay (Black Headdress)*. The cover lot for the third edition of Strauss & Co's annual International Sale, Stern's mesmerising portrait of a Cape Muslim woman sold to a resolute telephone bidder for R21.7m / US\$1.26m achieving an African Record for a portrait by the artist.



Irma Stern, Image courtesy of the Irma Stern Museum.



*Irma Stern. A Modern Artist between Berlin and Cape Town
Exhibition at Brücke Museum, Berlin*



Irma Stern , Malay (Black Headdress) Sold R 21 731 250

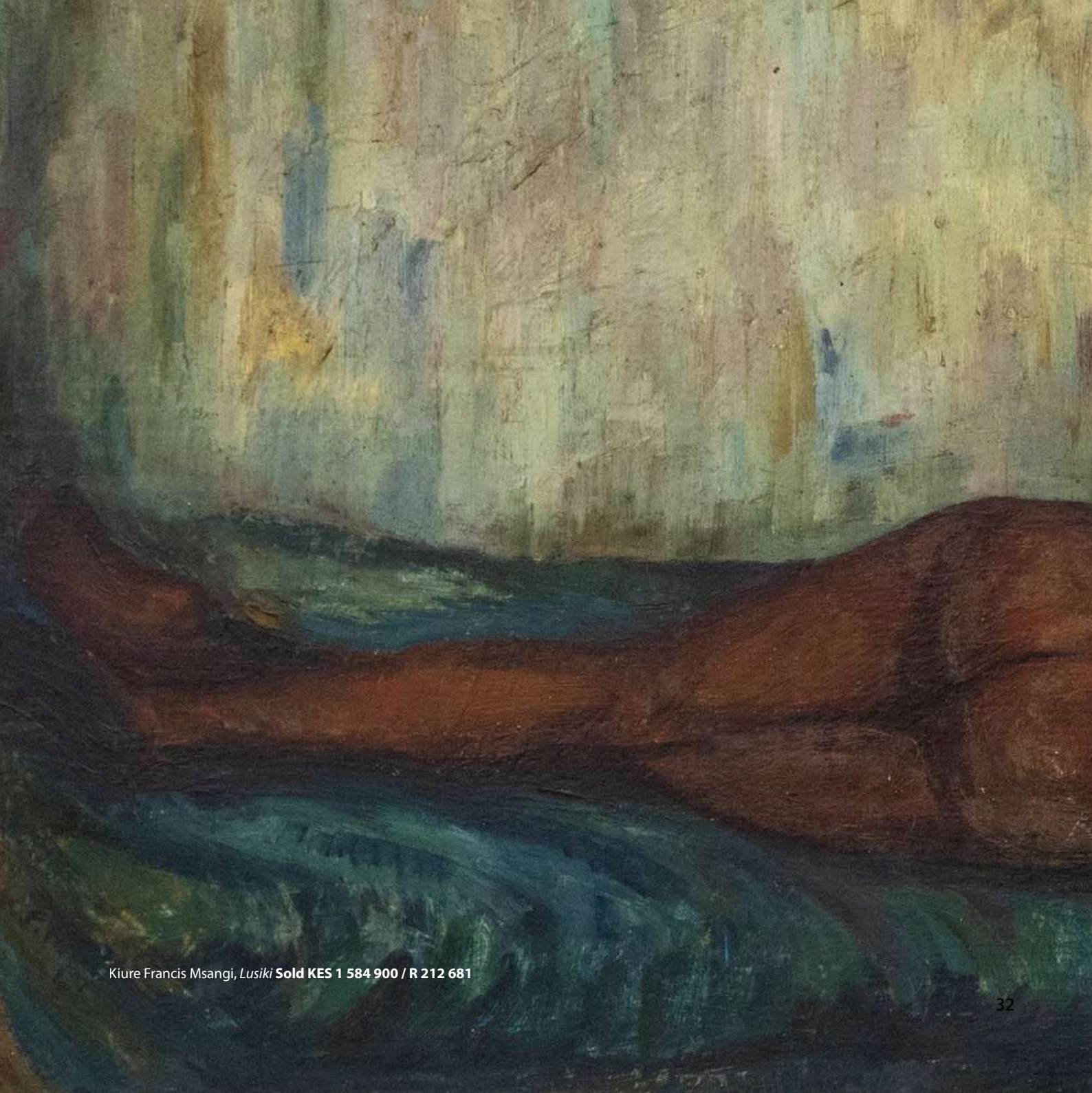
Art Auction East Africa | Strauss & Co

Two artists do not make an art market. Diversification is key to a viable auction business. In November, Strauss & Co presented two exciting live sales – in Johannesburg and Nairobi – characterised by their diversified offering.

A strong turnout of prospective buyers to the inaugural edition of *Art Auction East Africa | Strauss & Co*, a collaboration between Nairobi-based Danda Jaroljmek's Circle Art Agency and Strauss & Co, produced robust bidding for rare and important art from East Africa. Held at Circle Art Gallery in Nairobi, the sale featured rare-to-market paintings by Tanzanian modernists Sam Ntiro and K.F. Msangi. New auction benchmarks were established and contacts were made. The successful auction was an important step in Strauss & Co's strategic development of African markets.







Kiure Francis Msangi, *Lusiki* Sold KES 1 584 900 / R 212 681





Jacob Hendrik Pierneef, *Near Ficksburg, East Free State* **Sold R3 431 250**

The second flagship sale in Johannesburg, also in November, delivered encouraging signs of dynamic salesroom activity. The live sale earned R43.6m / \$2.6m from 79 lots sold, with an excellent lot sell-through rate of 76%. Pierneef's 1929 composition *Near Ficksburg, East Free State* was the top earner, selling to an online bidder for R3.4m / \$.217 650. Pierneef posted four of the evening's top ten results, followed by Stern with two works.

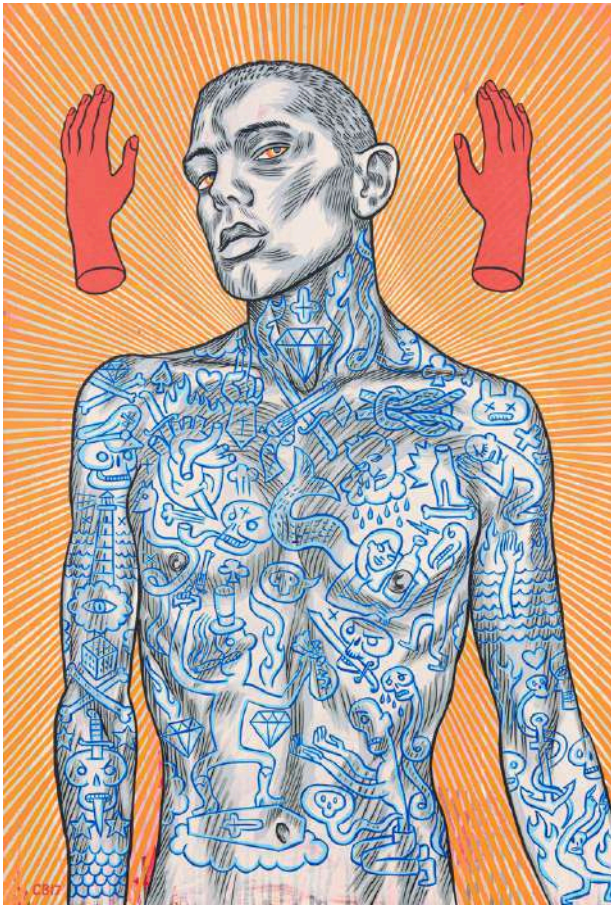


Alexis Preller, *The Hay Cart* **Sold R 901 095**



Maggie Laubser, *Portrait of a Woman* **Sold R 542 968**

Quality influenced bidding. Important works by Laubser, Pemba and Preller that had previously featured in museum surveys attracted strong bids. Robert Hodgins bounced back after a period of indifferent sales. Encouragingly, contemporary artists Wim Botha, Conrad Botes, Guy du Toit, Phillemon Hlungwani and Brett Murray also recorded strong results.



Conrad Botes, *Untitled (Tattooed Figure and Red Hands)*
Sold R 175 875



Brett Murray, *Capture* **Sold R 293 125**



Guy du Toit, *Elephant* **Sold R 335 023**

South Africa's macroeconomic outlook, long a drag on sentiment in the art market, may have contributed to the overall good mood at the sale. The South African Reserve Bank cut interest rates by 125 basis points across 2025. S&P Global raised the country's foreign-currency long-term sovereign rating to "BB" from "BB-", citing stronger growth prospects, an improving fiscal outlook and reduced contingent liabilities following better performance at state power utility Eskom, according to Reuters.

"This renewed economic confidence carried through to our flagship Johannesburg auctions in November," said Frank Kilbourn, Chairperson, Strauss & Co at the conclusion of Johannesburg Auction Week. "The depth of bidding across so many categories shows a clear shift in sentiment after a quieter period in the South African auction market. The overall strong results point to a much-needed resurgence in demand and a growing sense of optimism about the years immediately ahead of us."



Irma Stern, *Still Life with Roses and Fruit* Sold for R 2 287 500

An important note on Irma Stern

On 31 October 2025, a few days after Irma Stern's 1946 portrait *Malay (Black Headdress)* sold for a record sum at Strauss & Co, the Irma Stern Museum announced its permanent closure. It followed a decision by the University of Cape Town and the Irma Stern Trust to conclude their long-standing partnership in managing the museum. The decision was met with shock and dismay.

The Irma Stern Museum was, until its closure, the only permanent home of a major artist in South Africa. Opened in 1971, it drew enthusiasts and scholars alike. Over many decades it became an integral part of the cultural landscape of Cape Town, an irreplaceable cultural icon where many artists of promise held exhibitions early in their careers.

Ironically, the museum's closure coincided with a resurgence of international attention and esteem for Stern's work. In 2025, she was honoured with a comprehensive career survey at the Brücke Museum in Berlin, the first time an institution in the city of her formative years accorded her such recognition. This exhibition followed closely on her inclusion in the main exhibition of the 60th Venice Biennale in 2024, further underscoring her renewed global visibility.

Harnessing the interest and goodwill that Stern's work continues to elicit could provide an opportunity for renewed thinking about the future of the Irma Stern Museum.

"I believe the situation calls for a renewed effort by Nedbank and the trustees of the Irma Stern Trust to enter into a dialogue with role players and leaders in the art industry to examine the merits of alternative ways to deal with the challenges they face in fulfilling her wishes, contained in her will, of encouraging and promoting art within and outside South Africa," says Frank Kilbourn, Chairperson, Strauss & Co. "Strauss & Co is open to being part of this debate. We are willing to play a constructive role in facilitating a deeper understanding of the issues involved as well as generating and examining new solutions."



Irma Stern, *Maid in uniform*; Courtesy of the Irma Stern Trust

Faces of Cape Town

Portraits by Irma Stern

Strauss & Co is honoured to be hosting a capsule exhibition of a selection of works from the Irma Trust Collection, *Faces of Cape Town: Portraits by Irma Stern*.

13 - 23 February 2026

Strauss & Co, 2nd floor Brickfield Canvas, 35 Brickfield Road, Woodstock

VIEWING

Weekday Viewing 9am - 5pm

Saturday 14 & 21 and Sunday 15 February 10am - 4pm

Faces of Cape Town is presented as a companion to *The Berlin Years*, the opening exhibition in the major new series **Irma Stern: A life of displacement**, curated by Senior Curator Karel Nel, presented by the Norval Foundation in partnership with the Irma Stern Trust and supported by Nedbank.

SHORT FILM

Irma Stern: A Modern Artist between Cape Town and Berlin, filmed during the landmark exhibition at Brücke Museum in 2025 will be screened in the venue, at intervals, throughout the exhibition.

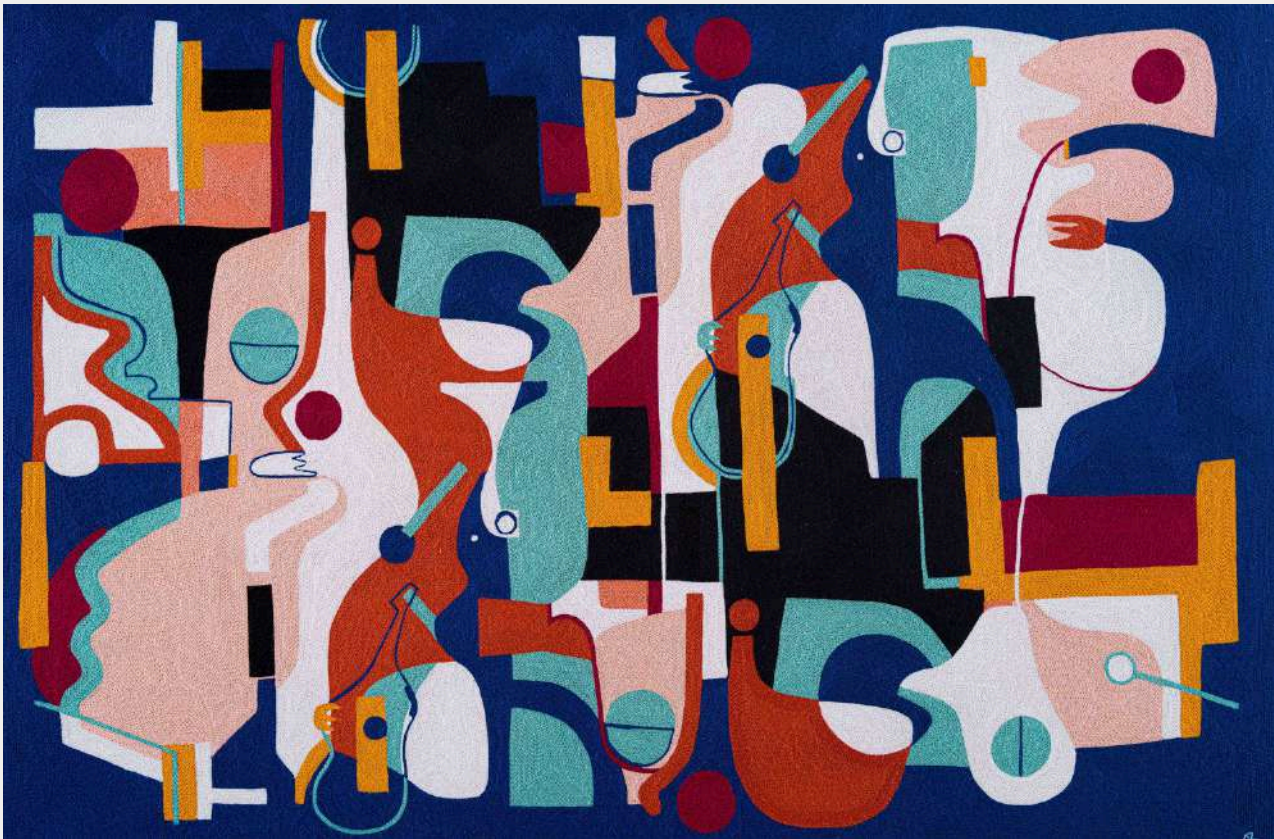
Strauss & Co
Africa's Leading Art Auction House

BRICKFIELD *Canvas*

WOVEN LEGACIES

Fibre & Form

23 January - 24 February 2026



Framed embroidered piece, R 70 000 - 90 000

UPCOMING AUCTION HIGHLIGHT

Luxury lifestyle collectables are reshaping contemporary collecting

- ❑ The revitalised design department – comprising furniture, silver, ceramics, textiles, jewellery, watches, gems and handbags – earned R31.5m / \$1.85m from 1 100 lots sold.
- ❑ New category sales devoted to watches and South African art jewellery introduced in 2025.
- ❑ Top-selling jewel is a fancy yellow diamond weighing approximately 7.29 ct, sold for R1.7m / \$1m.
- ❑ Top-selling furniture piece is a metal bench by Conrad Hicks, sold for R293 125 / \$17 242.
- ❑ Top-selling silver item is a Cape silver sugar basket by an unknown 18th-century maker from the Mary Eleanor Hibbert Collection, sold for R257 950 / \$15 175.

The art economist Dr. Clare McAndrew, writing in a 2025 art market report, identified “a widening definition of connoisseurship, where art increasingly sits alongside design, luxury goods and lifestyle collectables.”

Her insight is not specific to South Africa, but Strauss & Co was responsive to these new behaviours. The revitalised design department organised a number of dynamic sales exploring the interrelationship of craft and luxury, all with an eye on history.



Diamond tennis necklace, Browns **Sold for R 404 338**



Loose fancy yellow diamond, 7.29 ct **Sold for R 1 715 625**



Linn Ware Ceramic, Dinner plates, five
Sold for R 15 243



Linn Ware Ceramic Studio *Side plates*, five
Sold for R 12 897



Conrad Hicks, *Wife? Bench*, 2019 **Sold for R 335 023**





Senior Art Specialist Wilhelm van Rensburg presenting the exhibition *Kalahari Studio (1948-73)*, Johannesburg



Rolex, 18ct yellow gold Cellini Cellissima ladies wristwatch, **Sold for R 120 125**



Patek Philippe 18ct yellow gold Calatrava gentleman's wristwatch, **Sold for R 257 950**



Patek Philippe stainless steel Ladies Twenty-4 wristwatch, **Sold for R 152 425**

Its activities were booked by a sale and exhibition of wares from the *Kalahari Studio (1948-73)*, presented in January, and *The Gift of Time*, a small online sale of luxury watches in November. Watches were one of two new categories introduced in 2025. *Launched in April, Watches through the Decades: 1950-2000* presented sumptuous timepieces by Cartier, Omega, Rolex and other luxury brands.



Johan Hendrik Vos, A Cape silver covered trophy,
c.1760-1810, Mary Eleanor Hibbert Collection **Sold R 222 775**



Cape silver sugar basket, unknown maker HNS, 18th century,
Mary Eleanor Hibbert Collection **Sold for R257 950**



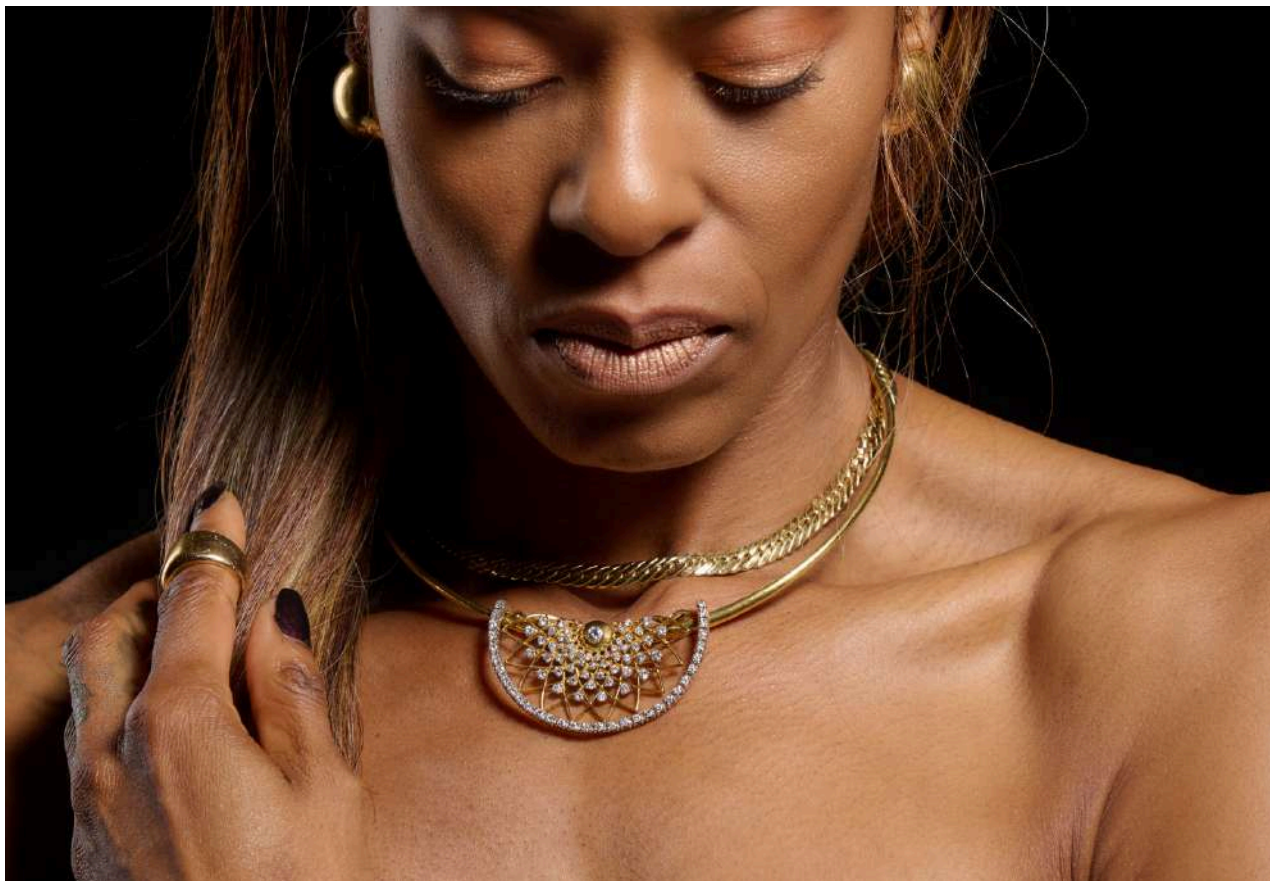
Johan Hendrik Vos, A Cape silver teapot,
c.1760-1810, Mary Eleanor Hibbert Collection **Sold R 222 775**

Single-owner collections, whether of art or design, always add extra pedigree to objects offered at auction. The excellent results achieved with the *Mary Eleanor Hibbert Cape Silver Collection*, presented in July, speak to the quality on offer. The sale earned R2.7m with 97% lots sold. The top-selling lot was a silver sugar basket by an unknown 18th-century maker, sold for R257 950 / \$15 175.

A teapot and covered trophy by Cape silversmith Johan Hendrik Vos also placed high in the sales tallies. A further sale from the Hibbert Collection in October also generated solid results. Silver, like furniture, is an established focus area of the design department. The appointment of Khanya Daniels-Poyiya as silver specialist following training in London brings renewed energy and momentum to this specialism.



Silver Specialist , Shirley Daniels-Poyiya



In 2025 gold markedly outperformed most major financial assets, with prices rallying strongly throughout the year and reaching unprecedented levels by year-end. Benchmark prices climbed from around \$2 620 per ounce at the start of 2025 to over \$4 300 per ounce by December. The strong appreciation made 2025 one of gold's best performing years in decades – and an opportunity for a gold-themed sale of jewellery, *Africa Gold Edition*, held in May.

But it was diamonds, not gold, that topped the tables for the jewellery department's biggest auction of 2025. *The Fine Jewellery Sale*, held in October, generated R8.4m / \$494 450 in sales. The top-selling lot was a yellow cut-cornered square modified brilliant-cut diamond weighing approximately 7.29 ct, sold for R1.7m / \$1m. A platinum solitaire ring featuring an eight claw-set round brilliant-cut diamond weighing approximately 5.50 ct sold for R658 493 / \$38 734.



Diamond solitaire ring, *an eight claw-set round brilliant-cut diamond weighing approximately 5.50 ct, colour K-L, clarity VS1*
Sold R 658 492









Head of Design Department, Jill van Duqteren
Woven Legacies: Tradition and Innovation, Cape Town



*A Cape stinkwood, beefwood and ebony armoire, late 18th century,
Sold R 211 050*

Strauss & Co's offering of furniture has always been diverse and tends to straddle centuries rather than decades. Curation is crucial. The design department, under the energetic stewardship of Jill van Dugteren, presented a mix of general and specialist furniture sales. They included *Woven Legacies: Tradition & Innovation*, which highlighted materials, techniques and processes from regions across Southern, Central and Western Africa.



*A large Japanese Arita VOC dish, second half 17th century,
Sold 105 525*

A forged iron and copper bench made in 2019 by Cape Town designer and metal smith Conrad Hicks sold for R293 125 / \$17 242. It was the highest price paid for a furniture piece in 2025. In July, an 18th-century Cape armoire presented in *South African Design: Past & Present* sold for R211 050 / \$12 414.

ANDREW VERSTER GORGEOUS AND FREE

Visual Drive Auction | 1-18 September 2025



October Auction Preview, Cape Town. Curated by Simone Hirsch





In October, *Mid-Century Modern Furniture & Design* paid tribute to South Africa's mid-century design movement with standout works by Frystark, Hermann Kallenbach and EE Meyer. Simone Hirsch of Simone Katherine Interiors was actively involved in curating the striking assembly of furniture, lighting, silverware, ceramics, rugs and glass in this sale. Her gusto and determination brought incredible focus to the preview presentation.



Kai Kristiansen, *Extending teak dining table for Feldballes Mobelfabrik*, Denmark, **Sold R 52 763**



Farsø Møbelfabrik, *Teak highboard*, Denmark, **Sold R 52 763**



Gundorph Albertus - Georg Jensen, **Sold 99 663**



Georg Jensen, *A set of Georg Jensen Old Danish silver flatware*, c. 1945, **Sold R 128 975**



Collaboration was also integral to the success of *Origins & Legacy of Art Jewellery* in South Africa, an auction and exhibition was organised in association with Stellenbosch University's Creative Jewellery and Metal Design Division. The project explored both the beginnings of South African art jewellery, through pioneering immigrant goldsmiths, and its contemporary vitality, with works by 16 innovative present-day artisans. The exhibition in the *Oude Leeskamer* formed part of the 2025 Toyota Stellenbosch Wordfees.



Erich Frey, *amethyst and gold ring*, **Sold R 36 000**



Geraldine Fenn, *'Marigold' brooch*, **Sold R 4 565**



SELL WITH US Jewellery Valuations

Strauss & Co conducts regular jewellery valuations and appraisals in Cape Town and Johannesburg. Our jewellery experts provide confidential valuations for estate, antique, or vintage jewellery consigned for sale through our auctions.

**BOOK AN APPOINTMENT, CONTACT
jewellery@straussart.co.za**

Strauss & Co

Wine department remains premier fine wine marketplace

- ❑ The thriving wine department maintained its status as the premier marketplace for rare and high-quality wines and liquors, earning R27.4m / \$1.6m from 1 795 lots sold.
- ❑ The 2025 CWG auction was an enormous success, earning R18.9m / \$1.1m, with all 502 lots offered sold.
- ❑ Other white-glove sales, in which all the lots offered sold, included the *Engen Cellar Collection* and *Cape Winemakers Guild Online Protégé Auction*.
- ❑ The top-earning single bottle sold in 2025 was a 2007 *Romanée-Conti*, which fetched R234 500 / \$13 795.
- ❑ The top-earning single bottle of South African wine was *Joubert Family's Muscat d'Alexandrie 1800*, sold for R46 900.
- ❑ Another top earning lot was a 2 bottle lot of *Meerlust Cabernet Sauvignon 1975* from the *Engen Private Collection*, selling for R 23 450.



Meerlust, Cabernet Sauvignon 1975 Sold R 23 450





Samantha O'Keefe, Vice Chair of the Cape Winemakers Guild

Strauss & Co's wine department resumed its brisk trade with a Rhône-themed sale, in February, earning R782 644 / \$42 519 from two sessions (80% sold). South African producers Porseleinberg and Sadie Family topped the overall rankings. In 2022, Strauss & Co partnered with the Cape Winemakers Guild, a body formed in 1982 to promote and develop South African fine wines that today offers fine wine from 42 leading winemakers across the Cape. The 2025 edition of the CWG auction was an enormous success. The white-glove live sale, held over two days at the Lord Charles Hotel in Somerset West, earned R17.2m / \$1m from 502 lots sold. The top-selling lot was an extremely rare

of *Sémillon Gris* produced by winemaker Andrea Mullineux. Offered in a lot of six cases, *Mullineux's The Gris' Old Vine Sémillon 2024* fetched R116 000 / \$6 824.

The online CWG Protégé Auction, a charity that supports emerging winemakers, also sold out, earning a total of R766 110 / \$45 065. In July, in the lead up to the auction, Strauss & Co hosted the Grootbos Cape Winemakers Guild experience, a weekend at the Grootbos Private Nature Reserve and journey through the Cape with vintage CWG wines and benchmark international wines.

From Total

ZAR

USD

EUR

GBP

CHF

18 000





Highlights from the Engen Cellar Collection: A Rare Glimpse into South Africa's Wine Legacy (1975–1988)

Another highlight of the 2025 sales programme was the *Engen Cellar Collection: A Rare Glimpse into South Africa's Wine Legacy (1975–1988)*, a landmark fine wine auction celebrating the country's vinous heritage. This exceptional single-owner cellar of rare and historically significant wines was remarkable for its provenance, condition and careful conservation. The collection offered collectors an unusually intact survey of the pioneers of the modern South African wine industry. This single-owner sale achieved a 100% sell-through, realising R745 945 / \$43 880.



Klein Constantia, *Vin de Constance 2008* **Sold R 44 555**



Joubert Family, *Muscat d'Alexandrie 1800* **Sold R 46 900**

Across 2025, the department presented several dynamically themed sales. They included Rhône and Bordeaux themed sales of sought-after selections, also sweet and fortified wines as well as brandies. A single bottle of *Joubert Family's Muscat d'Alexandrie 1800*, South Africa's oldest living wine, sold for R46 900 / \$2 758 in June. A 1986 vintage *Klein Constantia's iconic Vin de Constance* sold for R44 555 / \$2 620 at the same auction.

The catalogue for 2015 Vintage featured a list of wines a decade into maturity. Le Riche, David & Nadia and Restless River presented three distinguished South African producers renowned for their dedication to terroir and craftsmanship. A curated selection of rare and collectable wines from the world's most prestigious wine regions, presented in September, earned R1.3m / \$75 412 from 89% lots sold.



Romanée-Conti , *Romanée-Conti 2007* **Sold R 234 500**



Porseleinberg, *Syrah Vertical* **Sold R 29 313**

The top earner was a 2007 vintage of *Romanée-Conti*, the most celebrated Grand Cru vineyard in Burgundy, and one the most valuable and sought-after wines in the world – which sold for R234 500 / \$13 795.

In October, Strauss & Co featured *Tim Atkin's Vintage Highlights*, an online auction celebrating the people, the wines and the country shaping the future of fine wines. Tim Atkin is a revered British Master of Wine and journalist and was proud to have his name associated with this auction.

The top-selling lot was a 2016 to 2021 vertical of *Porseleinberg's Syrah*, sold for R29 313 / \$1 725



Tim Atkins – celebrating advances in South African wine production.

From Africa, by Africa, for Africa

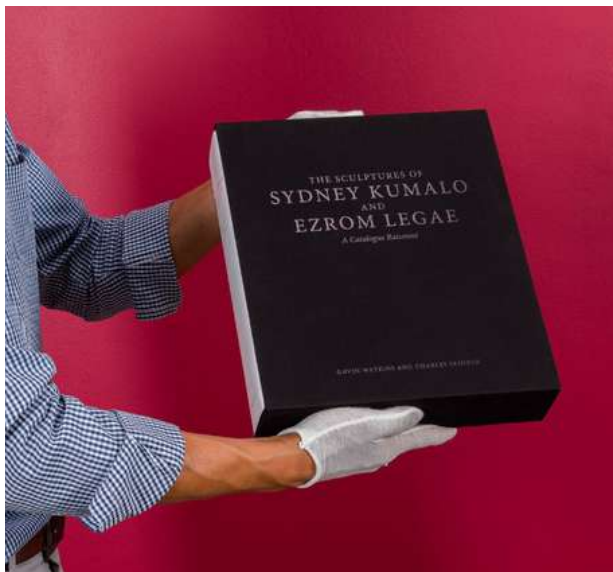
Strauss & Co is Africa's leading art auction house presenting collectable art, design and fine wine from the continent to audiences across Africa and internationally. The company is committed to positioning African cultural production within a truly global marketplace, particularly in Africa and Europe.

The inaugural *Art Auction East Africa | Strauss & Co*, in Nairobi, was a huge success, with more than 80% lots sold and new auction benchmarks established of the Tanzanian modernists Sam Ntiro and K.F. Msangi. Over 70% of the sold lots sold were within or above the high estimate, demonstrating the competitive nature of the bidding. Over 45% of the bidders were new buyers, which is exciting for the longevity of this sale.

In Europe, Strauss & Co was present at exhibitions featuring Gerard Sekoto and Irma Stern. To mark the opening of *Paris Noir: Artistic Circulations and Anti-Colonial Resistance, 1950–2000*, a group exhibition at the Centre Pompidou that included Sekoto's self-portrait from 1947, Strauss & Co hosted a Paris edition of ART Club. Kate Fellens, Strauss & Co's London-based head of international business development, also coordinated a Berlin edition of ART Club at the Brücke Museum on the opening weekend of *Irma Stern: A Modern Artist between Berlin and Cape Town*. Dr. Alastair Meredith, Strauss & Co's art department head, participated in a panel discussion.

Strauss & Co also provided assistance towards the *Ezrom Legae: Beasts* at the High Museum of Art, Atlanta.





Curated by Lauren Tate Baeza, it was the first major museum exhibition in the United States for Legae. In 2023, Strauss & Co sponsored and published *The Sculptures of Sydney Kumalo and Ezrom Legae*, an exhaustive catalogue raisonné authored by Charles Skinner Gavin Watkins.

Strauss & Co collaborated with investment manager Stonehage Fleming on the production of a new, twice-yearly digital guide to African and diasporic African artists exhibiting in Europe and the United Kingdom, which has been very well received. The next edition will include a focus on the 2026 Venice Biennale.

Strauss & Co's South African roots matter. Key local sponsorships in 2025 included Hermanus FynArts, Toyota Stellenbosch Woordfees (discussed later), Welgemeend Art Month (Cape Town), Plett Arts



Festival (Plettenburg Bay) and the Cassirer Welz Award (Johannesburg). The winner of the 15th Cassirer Welz Award was Smiso Cele, who was awarded a three-month artists residency at Bag Factory Artists' Studios.

The 12th edition of Welgemeend Art Month, an annual initiative aimed at raising funds to preserve the historic Welgemeend manor house and its contents, was anchored by the exhibition *In en Om Ons / In and Around Us*, curated by Frank Kilbourn and Sean O'Toole. Drawing on the Kilbourn Collection, the exhibition explored how artists working after the advent of photography interpret themes of home, play, labour and self. Works in the exhibition spanned painting, photography, sculpture and ceramics. Strauss & Co provided logistical support and hosted an online charity auction.



Om Ons / In and Around Us, Welgemeend Art Month, Cape Town





Working Life in South Africa: Gerard Sekoto & Lena Hugo, Johannesburg

Exhibitions are strategic soft-power initiatives

Exhibitions are a central pillar of Strauss & Co's marketing, scholarly and educational outreach. They function both as a platform for collector education and as a form of cultural soft power extending the company's brand beyond the auction room. Strauss & Co's Cape Town and Johannesburg showrooms hosted innovative exhibitions to complement its programme of themed auctions. The aim of these exhibitions was to deepen public understanding of artistic lineages, historical networks and creative labour. They included *Prelude to Podlashuc*, *What the Fook? The Life and Work of Walter Battis*, *Kalahari Studio: Honouring the Past, Shaping Legacies* and *The Starcke Collection of African Art*.

Curated by Wilhelm van Rensburg, Senior Art Specialist and Head Curator at Strauss & Co, *Working Life in South Africa: Gerard Sekoto & Lena Hugo* explored Sekoto's depictions of labourers alongside Hugo's pastel drawings of heavy-machinery operators. The exhibition forms part of a longstanding series of annual two-person exhibitions juxtaposing modern and contemporary artists. Coinciding with Welgemeend Art Month, Strauss & Co showcased *The Boerneef Collection*, a collection of artworks assembled by the poet and linguist Prof. I.W. van der Merwe, held at Welgemeend. Over and above free public walkabouts, Wilhelm van Rensburg utilised these exhibitions to lead rigorous training workshops for secondary school teachers of art. Funded and sponsored by Strauss & Co, this ongoing initiative is an important aspect of the company's commitment to art education.





*Toyota Stellenbosch Woordfees Fashion Show,
Viviers x Strauss & Co at Oude Leeskamer*





Complementing these dynamic in-house presentations, Strauss & Co presented exhibitions at RMB Latitudes Art Fair in Johannesburg and Toyota Stellenbosch Woordfees in Stellenbosch. Strauss & Co is a proud silver sponsor of Toyota Stellenbosch Woordfees. For the 2025 edition, the company presented a multifaceted programme of exhibitions, talks, film screenings and a benefit art auction, curated under the guidance of art patron and Strauss & Co director and shareholder Caro Wiese and centred at the historic Oude Leeskamer in Stellenbosch. The project was anchored by two exhibitions: *Seeing Ourselves: South African Portraits Past and Present*, a non-selling



exhibition pairing museum-quality modern and contemporary portraiture, and *Origins & Legacy of Art Jewellery in South Africa*, developed in collaboration with Stellenbosch University. The Woordfees project included a dynamic collaboration between online investment platform Easy Equities, which offered to match the buyer's premium on works acquired by Easy Equities clients from the Strauss & Co Woordfees Auction. The collaboration extended to the town hall debate involving Carel Nolte, Chief Enablement Officer at Easy Equities, and Strauss & Co's Frank Kilbourn and Dr Alastair Meredith, facilitated by Sean O'Toole.







Strauss & Co

Africa's Leading Art Auction House



It takes hard work to secure first-rate works; equally, it involves substantial work finding new homes for them. High-traffic cultural platforms like RMB Latitudes Art Fair and Toyota Stellenbosch Wordfees reach far bigger audiences than the company's showrooms.

Tellingly, the two highest value artworks sold by Strauss & Co in 2025 were publicly exhibited at these forums. Tretchikoff's *Lady from the Orient* was exhibited at RMB Latitudes Art Fair and Stern's *Malay (Black Headdress)* was shown at Toyota Stellenbosch Wordfees.

ART CLUB

Alongside its programme of exhibitions, Strauss & Co's monthly ART Club gatherings have become an important source of in-person contact with clients. Held in Cape Town, Johannesburg, London and more, these convivial get-togethers provided collectors with valuable insights into artists, movements and makers, for example, the history behind Wallter Battiss' Fook Island, the origin of Linn Ware and an overview of painting from the Eastern Cape region.

Glenelly Estate, an award-winning winemaker located on the lower slopes of the Simonsberg Mountain in Stellenbosch, generously sponsored the wine table.

For details of the 2026 programme, see www.straussart.co.za/art-club





New collaborations and promoting from within

Leveraging the reach, robustness and market credibility of its digital auction infrastructure, Strauss & Co has long collaborated with third parties in hosting charity auctions.

Noteworthy collaborations in 2025 included the Norval Sovereign African Art Prize 2025 sponsored by Schroders (March), Black Coffee's Birthday Charity Auction (March), SAFIM Art Collective Yearly Fundraising auction (May), Ardmore 40th Anniversary Charity Auction in support of the Ardmore Community Fund (June), PLEDGE FUND | Building the Future: Welgemeend Restoration Fund Auction (August), 2025 Toyota Stellenbosch Woordfees Benefit Auction x RESERVOIR (October), Foschini x Rich Mnisi Benefit Auction (October), L'Art de Donner to raise funds for the upgrading of Alliance Française du Cap (October) and ArtAngels Ellerman House (November).



Senior Auctioneer Bina Genovese at the Foschini x Rich Mnisi Benefit Auction, Cape Town

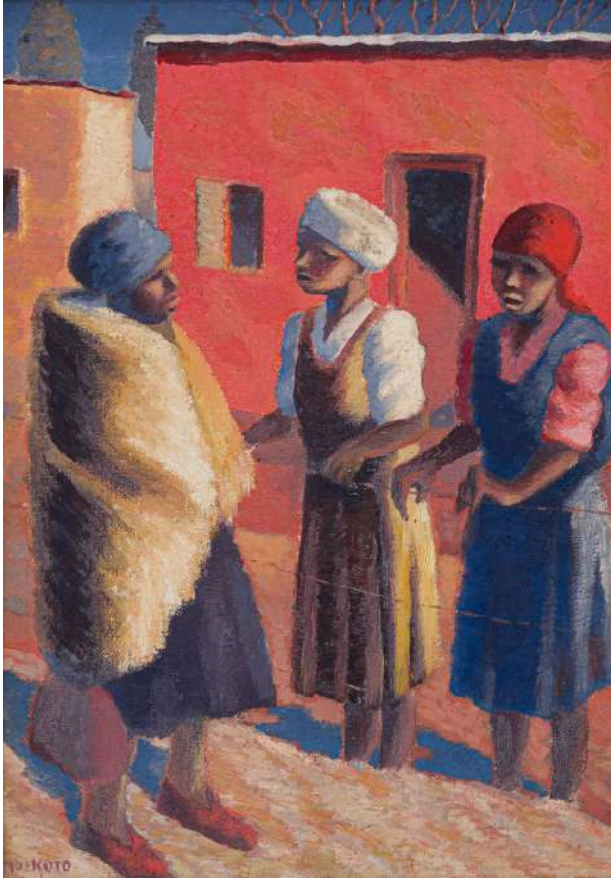


RESERVOIR Projects co-founders and curators of the 2025 Toyota Stellenbosch Woordfees, Shona van der Merwe and Heinrich Groenewald



BMW M760e xDrive **Sold R3.66m / \$219 159**

Strauss & Co also partnered with BMW South Africa on two very special collaborations. The Gary Player Signature BMW 7 Series was commissioned by BMW Group South Africa as a bespoke tribute to the legendary golfer's 90th birthday, with proceeds benefiting the Blair Atholl Pre-Primary School through The Gary and Vivienne Player Foundation. The one-of-a-kind BMW M760e xDrive, completed under the BMW Individual Manufaktur programme and personally signed off by Mr Player at BMW's Dingolfing plant in Germany, was sold online for R3.66m / \$219 159. Strauss & Co also hosted and administered an invitation-only private auction of limited-edition BMWs. This project showed the adaptability of Strauss & Co's digital infrastructure in servicing third-party clients.



Gerard Sekoto, *Three Women in Conversation* Sold R 1 155 250

Operationally, the year saw a number of important internal promotions. Dr Alastair Meredith was appointed a director. Kirsty Colledge was appointed to EXCO. Elmarie van Straten was promoted to senior art specialist. Leigh Leyde was promoted to art specialist. Khanya Daniels-Poyiya was promoted to silver specialist following training in London. These promotions acknowledge the deep reservoir of talent within the company's existing human resources pool.

Strauss & Co revised its commission structure in September. The fee on sales below R100 000 was increased from 15% to 17.5%. The updated all-inclusive fee structure ensures clarity for clients and reflects rising service costs, while maintaining the premium care and expertise for which Strauss & Co is known.

New seller's commission and buyers premium structure:

R1 – R100 000: 17.5%

R100 000 – R250 000: 15%

R250 000 – R1 million: 13.5%

Above R1 million: 12.5%

Hello 2026, we're excited to work with you

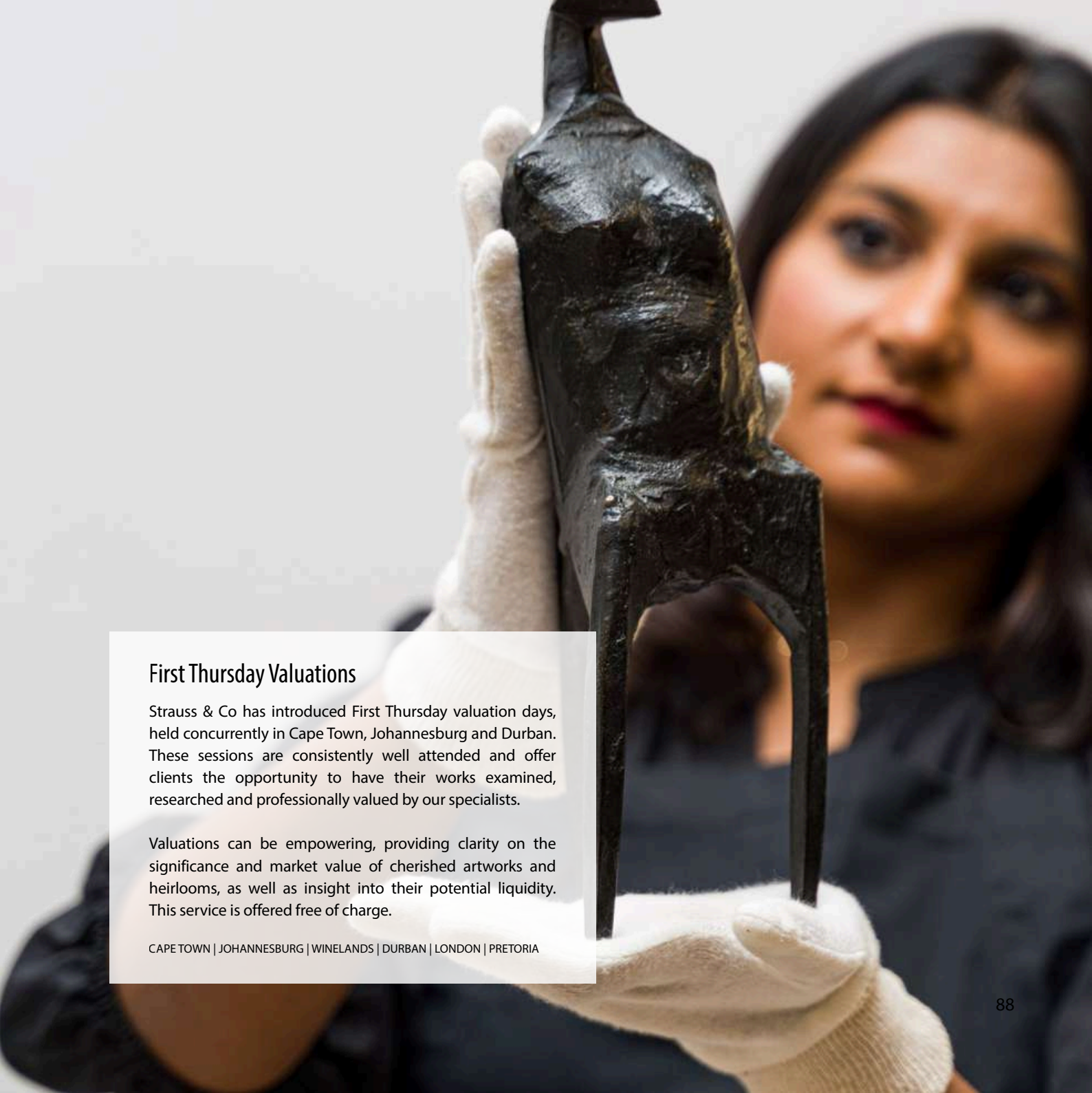
Strauss & Co's digital auctions will mark the transition into 2026 with two online-only sales concluding in mid-January. The specialist auction *Celebrating South African Ceramics* reiterates Strauss & Co's commitment to this democratic medium. The strength and efficiency of the company's digital infrastructure enable it to focus on the presentation of major live auctions and their accompanying exhibitions.

The first live auction of 2026 is *Portway to Cohen: A Collector's Legacy and other properties*, which will take place in February. The catalogue features a strong selection of contemporary works by Breyten Breytenbach, Steven Cohen, Dan Halter, William Kentridge, Ayanda Mabulu, Mohau Modisakeng, Mongezi Ncapayi, Karel Nel, Serge Alain Nitegeka, Lyndi Sales, Guy Tillim and Andrew Verster. Also in February, the second instalment of *Woven Legacies* will highlight materials, techniques and processes drawn from regions across Southern, Central and Western Africa. Michael Heuermann, a long-time lover and collector of handwoven textiles and the tactile arts of Africa, will guest curate this exciting sale.

February is a peak period for the visual arts in Cape Town. Strauss & Co will host a series of curated public talks as part of the 2026 Investec Cape Town Art Fair (Friday 20 February 2026 3-7pm). These talks, within the floor plan of the fair in the Cape Town International Convention Centre, will offer insight into contemporary collecting strategies and habits.

Strauss & Co will also host a dynamic programme of events ahead of and during Investec Cape Town Art Fair. Following the closure of the Irma Stern Museum in October 2025, Strauss & Co, in collaboration with Brickfield Canvas, will present a capsule exhibition of selected works from the core collection of the Irma Stern Trust. Timed to coincide with the South Africa's busiest art week, the exhibition affords this seminal artist renewed prominence, offering collectors, advisors, curators and the broader public an opportunity to engage closely with Stern's enduring legacy.

Looking further ahead, the company is directing its marketing and educational initiatives towards the 61st edition of the Venice Biennale (9 May – 22 November 2026), presented under curator, the late Koyo Kouoh's vision of "In Minor Keys". Strauss & Co is a long-standing sponsor of the African Art in Venice Forum (AAVF), a free public platform held during the Biennale's opening week that in 2026 will be co-sponsored by The Smithsonian Museum of African Art. Strauss & Co will also present an updated digital guide to the 2026 edition of the Venice Biennale as well as host an edition of ART Club during the preview week (6 – 8 May 2026).



First Thursday Valuations

Strauss & Co has introduced First Thursday valuation days, held concurrently in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban. These sessions are consistently well attended and offer clients the opportunity to have their works examined, researched and professionally valued by our specialists.

Valuations can be empowering, providing clarity on the significance and market value of cherished artworks and heirlooms, as well as insight into their potential liquidity. This service is offered free of charge.

CAPE TOWN | JOHANNESBURG | WINELANDS | DURBAN | LONDON | PRETORIA

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of Specialists, Operations &
People, and Senior Auctioneer



Bina Genovese
Director, Managing Executive
of Business Development &
Marketing, and Senior
Auctioneer



Hennie Brand
Chief Financial Officer



Dr Alastair Meredith
Director, Head of Department,
Senior Art Specialist and
Senior Auctioneer



Khetiwe McClain
Client Advisory Executive
Director



Wimpie Nortje
Executive Head: Technology



Kirsty Colledge
Head of Private Sales and
Senior Art Specialist



Debbie Watson
Financial Manager

MANCO



Susie Goodman

Director, Managing Executive of Specialists, Operations & People, and Senior Auctioneer



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Chief Financial Officer



Wimpie Nortje

Executive Head: Technology



Kirsty Colledge

Head of Private Sales and Senior Art Specialist



Debbie Watson

Financial Manager



Michelle Parfett

Head of Department, Operations Manager



Frances Holmes

Operations Manager



Jackie Murray

Business Development Specialist



Kim Goeller

Jewellery Specialist



Kate Fellens

Business Development Specialist



Sarah Jordaan
Head of Department, Wine



Elmarie van Straten
Senior Art Specialist



Jill van Dugteren
Head of Decorative Arts and
Design



Brooke Schafer
Marketing Coordinator

Bringing Strauss & Co to you

In addition to our two main selling centres, Cape Town and Johannesburg, Strauss & Co maintains offices and representation in various regions:



Kate Fellens

International Business Development Head, based in London, responsible for the United Kingdom, Europe and USA



Arisha Maharaj

Art Specialist, based in Munich, Germany



Marion Dixon

Senior Art Specialist and Regional Representative, based in Stellenbosch, responsible for the Cape Winelands



Bryony Clark

Art Specialist and Regional Representative, based in Howick, responsible for KwaZulu-Natal



Ian Hunter

Senior Art Specialist and Regional Representative, based in Knysna, responsible for Mossel Bay to Gqeberha





Irma Stern, Palmbloom Road, Newlands (detail) Sold R 577 625

We are currently inviting consignments for our forthcoming auctions. Please call for an obligation-free valuation

JOHANNESBURG

Tel: +27 (0) 11 728 8246 Mobile: +27 (0) 79 407 5140

jhb@straussart.co.za

89 Central Street, Houghton, 2198

P O Box 851, Houghton, 2041

CAPE TOWN

Tel: +27 (0) 21 683 6560 Mobile: +27 (0) 78 044 8185

ct@straussart.co.za

2nd floor, Brickfield Canvas, 35 Brickfield Road, Woodstock, 7925

GET YOUR DUCKS IN A ROW

Start Your Wishlist

Log your Wishlists and Interests on our web platform

1. Register your Wishlist with us

Create a unique Wishlist on our website. This function allows you to track artists, makers, designers, producers and item categories. You will receive email notifications linked to your Wishlist whenever that special artwork or item is included in one of our auctions.

2. Sign up for Art Club

Art Club is a monthly social and educational initiative in Cape Town, Johannesburg and London. In 2025 we will launch further events at our new branches in the Garden Route, KwaZulu-Natal and the Winelands.

Sign up and connect.



Strauss&co

Africa's Leading Art Auction House