Acceptance & Submission Guidelines

Classical Art





Classical Art Premium Positioning

At Catawiki, we auction a wide selection of Classical paintings, prints, and works on paper.

We focus on items that are hard to find and appealing to passionate Art enthusiasts.

Because potential buyers come to Catawiki looking for special, interesting items, our in-house experts select every piece for our auctions. They ensure items are of premium quality and are presented in the best possible way.

This expert selection helps keep our bidders excited, because they can find rare, special pieces they're interested in. This also helps our sellers have a great selling experience.



At Catawiki, we're constantly moving forward. We focus on premium products that really get buyers' attention. This opens up opportunities for success for you.

From the 14 million people who visit Catawiki every month, we gain valuable information on what they're passionate about and what they're looking to buy.

With your help, we want to make sure we meet this high demand and offer the special objects that excite our growing number of bidders.

In these guidelines, we've defined the special pieces that bidders look for in our Classical Art auctions. We'll also guide you through what you need to successfully offer your classical paintings, prints and works on paper for auction.

Our experts and account managers will be available to support and guide you towards success on Catawiki.

Thank you for joining us on this exciting journey!



Product Guidelines



Please be aware: it's possible that an object we accepted in the past may no longer be accepted.

For our Classical Art auctions, we're looking for works of art from the XVI century up to 1945, specifically:

- Paintings
- Prints
- Works on paper (watercolours, drawings, etc.)

These artworks should:

- Be in good condition
- Have a minimum value of €100
- Have shipping costs proportionate to the object's value



Auction Categories

Our auctions are organised into two main categories: artworks and prints. The Classical Artworks auctions are further divided by price range.

Classical Artworks

The minimum lot value for lots in this category is €300.

The minimum lot value for our Premium Classical Artworks auctions is €1000.

Affordable Classical Artworks

The price range of lots in this category is between €100 and €300.

Classical Prints

The minimum lot value for our Classical Prints auctions is €100.

The minimum lot value for our Premium Classical Prints auctions is €250.



Authentication

At Catawiki, we value the authenticity, content, and condition of the artwork. It is also more likely to sell an artwork when the potential buyer can be confident of the piece's authenticity.

For an artwork to be accepted, we may require you to provide documentation to support the authenticity of the piece, such as a Certificate of Authenticity (COA), an invoice, a reference to the artist's catalogue raisonné, details of the provenance or a document from the artist's estate or committee.

We will not be able to approve your lot if:

- There are doubts about the attribution, and you cannot provide supporting documents.
- There are suspicions about the artwork's provenance and you cannot provide proof of purchase and ownership.
- The condition of the artwork is deemed unsuitable due to damage, or the artwork has been too heavily restored.

Each artwork will be looked at by our experts and will be judged on a case-by-case basis.



Potential buyers are more likely to bid on lots with a good description, with all relevant information displayed clearly.



Classical Artworks

Lot description

To help encourage potential buyers to bid on your lot, you should include a detailed description of your object(s). This should be thorough and honest, and should follow the guidelines below.

If you use our website to upload your lots, fields will appear to give you guidance about what information we need to know about your lot. The fields you fill in present the information so that it's easy for the buyer to read and search by.

The required information includes:

- The full name of the artist + year of birth / death.
- The title of the artwork
- The technique of the artwork (e.g. oil on canvas)
- The total size of the artwork (in cm or inches) (including frame)
- The period and year of creation (when known)
- Whether the artwork is signed/stamped/marked/dated
- The edition of the artwork (original or published in a series)
- Whether the artwork is framed or not
- The condition of the artwork (please note: we may request a condition report for high-value old master
 paintings)

Guidelines on Attribution

Designation of the artist

This concerns works or objects bearing the signature or stamp of the artist

This entails that the artist mentioned is actually the author of the work unless an express reservation of the object's authenticity is indicated.

When the artist is not known, it is preferable to describe it as "School", for example, "Italian School of the XVII century". Avoid using terms such as "anonymous" or "unknown".

Attribution to the artist

You can describe a lot as "attributed to" after the artist's name, if it is considered that the work or object was executed during the production period of the artist mentioned and that serious presumptions refer to this one as the author credible.

Artist's workshop

The use of the words "workshop" followed by an artist's name guarantees that the work has been performed in the master's workshop or under his direction.

Circle of the artist

The use of the words "circle of" followed by an artist's name can only apply to a work_performed during the artist's lifetime or within fifty years after his death.



Description

It will help us to successfully sell your artwork if the following is included in the description box:

- Background information and history of the artist.
 Avoid copying word for word from external websites/books to avoid copyright infringement. Also, do not include links to external websites.
- Further details on materials and techniques.
- Dimensions of the canvas without frame.
- A detailed account of the condition of the piece. Also mention possible restoration/conservation.
- A detailed history of the artwork and provenance.
- Elements supporting authenticity or attribution (reference to catalogue raisonné/archive number/bibliography/exhibition...)
- Additional shipping information:
 - How will the artwork be shipped? including frame/canvas only/rolled up in a tube/boxed/ ...
 - Details on insurance
 - If applicable: import duties, export certificates, etc.



Our Prints auctions have some additional specific guidelines you should follow to ensure a successful sale.



Classical Prints

Lot description

- Always provide in your lot description the inner dimensions of the print, the edition, and details of any signature, stamps, watermarks.
- In all lots offered containing a reproduction print, the description must clearly state it is an "After".



Submission Guidelines - Classical Prints

Below you will find a list of print editions that we cannot, unfortunately, publish in our auctions. Some of them may be unauthorized or unknown reproductions; others will not reach our minimum value.

- * Please be aware that more editions may be added to this list in the future
- SDNE Societe Des Nouvelles Editions
- Studio Salvador Rosa Editions
- Johnson & Johnson Editions
- La Trec Spa. Blindstamp "trec" Editions
- Atlantis Kunst Verlag Freiburg Editions
- Birkhauser Kunstverlag Basel Editions
- Suc. Salerno & Hijos Editions
- Impression art certified Editions
- Atelier Jobin Paris Dali Editions
- Editions du Rhin (EdR)
- Erica De Jong Gallery Editeur with a George Israel Blindstamp
- Leo Castelli Gallery stamp with a George Israel Blindstamp
- All editions that carry a forged "S.P.A.D.E.M. Paris" Blindstamp
- All editions that carry a forged National Museum des Neunhundert Blindstamp (grammatically incorrect)
- All editions claiming to be produced by Munch Museet Oslo in 1995.



Submission Guidelines - Classical Prints

Additional:

- We do not accept any reproductions of Giorgio De Chirico (1888 1978) into our auctions since there are too many forgeries circulating in the art market.
- The George Israel blindstamp has been used in many questionable art print editions. This is why we will often ask for additional documentation on artworks that bear this blindstamp.



Including strong photographs is key to catching buyers' attention, ensuring they bid on your lot.

Buying online means bidders don't get a chance to see your lot in person. So detailed and high-quality photographs are very important.

Photographs

To allow our experts, as well as our bidders, to get an accurate impression of your item, we need a minimum of 5 high-quality photos showing:

 A complete view of the artwork, with and without frame, including details, the signature (if applicable), and eventual damage and signs of restoration (if necessary, using a UV light).



Image Guidelines

- For paintings, always include a picture of the back.
- For prints, also include a detailed image of the numbering/edition/signature/watermarks.
- Take photos of the artworks on a neutral background.
- Photograph in daylight or with professional lighting. Flash or artificial light can cause the colours to look different, making the photos less accurate.
- You may also add images of supporting documents regarding the authenticity, provenance, and images of bibliography/media articles about the artwork or artist.
- Include photos of any blemishes, signs of wear, repairs or restorations to avoid post-sale cancellations.
- The main image of the lot should be cropped, so no background, frame or mounting are visible.
- Don't use stock photos or images downloaded from the internet.
- Avoid including any body parts in the photos. You can use white gloves to take pictures of details.
- Only show the item(s) you're selling. Don't include details of the room (e.g. furniture, curtains). Don't
 photograph the object in a domestic setting, like on a sofa. Don't take photos of the object outdoors
 with a garden or landscape in the background.
- Don't use digital mock-ups of the artwork in an interior setting, images edited on Photoshop or filters.





















Thank you.