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A needlework sampler commemorating the rescue and death, in memory of Mrs Sanderson, who was left stranded on The Brison rocks after the ship her husband skippered, the New Commercial, heading from Mersey to Jamiaca was caught in a violent storm. This needlework by Elizabeth Warren 1851, Price £5750.

ART

## Market News: museums' star buys

*We discover which museums are bringing back exotic contemporary art, Birmingham's Antiques for Everyone fair turns 30, and Phillips showcases inexpensive up-and-coming talent*



BY COLIN GLEADELL  
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Museums take a long time to announce acquisitions (on the “buy now, pay later” principle) and news is just beginning to filter through about some museum sales at last year’s Art Dubai fair for contemporary art. For contemporary art in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia, this is the leading fair, so interested curators always go, often taking part in the excellent talks programme. In recent weeks I have heard of a number of works that sold to the Guggenheim in Abu Dhabi.

The most recent news is that [Tate Modern](#) bought a painting by Lebanese artist Nabil Nahas that was shown by the Lawrie Shabibi gallery. Eclipse (1978) shows how the artist merged the influence of Western abstract painting with the geometric and chromatic qualities of Islamic art. Prices for Nabas’s paintings, which are also represented in major museums in Boston and New York,



One Of Lute Vink's paintings for The Jungle Book 'The Quick Panther Canter'

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and in the British Museum in London, range from \$50,000 to \$300,000 (£35,000 to £200,000).

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Online saleroom, [The Auction Room](#), last week set an auction record for Cameroon-based, Belgian-born Pascale Marthine Tayou, who is currently enjoying an exhibition at the Serpentine gallery of his colourful, craft-based work. Tayou's intricate painting, Home Sweet Home sold

for £31,250, and was the top lot in the sale devoted to contemporary African art.

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Antique caddy spoons and writing equipment will be twin features of Birmingham's [Antiques for Everyone](#) fair, which celebrates its 30th anniversary this week. Paintings and drawings for The Jungle Book by Lute Vink and drawings by LS Lowry can also be found among the 230 stands – as well as primitive English provincial art, such as a charmingly detailed 1851 needlework sampler of rescue action for a Jamaica-bound ship impaled on the Brison Rocks, priced at £5,750 with John Shepherd and Erna Hiscock from Kent.

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Phillips has cleverly chosen next week, when the global contemporary art market is not staging some major event or other, to hold its [Under the Influence](#) sale for relatively inexpensive young contemporary artists. With most work priced under £10,000, this is a sale to test the water with hot artists of the moment – Lucien Smith, Oscar Murillo, Jonas Wood and Christian Rosa. Phillips's new deputy chairman in Europe, Matt Carey-Williams, says the sale "provides access to artists whose work may not be available in their galleries".

It's also a sale where Charles Saatchi is depositing some of his cast-offs from recent shows of American and German art without expecting to realise any great profit, and where a whole section is given to art that is being sold "without reserve". That means the owners just want to sell, for whatever reason, without asking for a minimum price. While the bidding can start as low as £100, it invariably goes up into the thousands. Still, it's worth having a go for a Stella Vine or a Sarah Lucas here, if that's your thing. On view from today.