

STRAUS ART GROUP

Expert Fine Art Advisory and Appraisal Services
Since 1995



McCormick Place to Sell 'Past Times' by Kerry James Marshall

Past Times (1997) by artist Kerry James Marshall is set to hit a new record for the artist when it goes to auction at Sotheby's this Wednesday, May 16.

For Straus Art Group this is a major milestone. Straus first met Marshall as an emerging artist in the early 1990s. By 1997 Marshall's career was already on the rise, with *Past Times* alongside several of the artist's paintings selected for the 1997 Whitney Biennial. Seeing this work as a perfect fit for McCormick Place Convention Center's permanent collection, Straus spoke with Marshall and was able to jump the waiting list as the artist saw the importance of *Past Times* belonging to Chicago's South side public art collection. Straus arranged the purchase of the painting on behalf of the Metropolitan Planning and Exposition Authority, for \$25,000. From this investment back in 1997, the work now carries a pre-sale estimate of \$8-12 million.

Straus Art Group consistently advises clients to make strategic and informed acquisitions that appreciate their collection over time.



Philanthropy On Display at the MCA

When you're next at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, make sure to check out works from the 1960s by Peter Alexander, Craig Kauffman and Billy Al Bengston in the exhibition 'Endless Summer'. Straus Art Group recently facilitated the gifting of these works and others from the Estates of Walter Netsch and Dawn Clark Netsch to the MCA, Smart Museum at the University of Chicago and the Block Gallery at Northwestern University.

Straus Art Group assists their clients with art collection succession planning and estate settlements including the implementation of philanthropic plans that bring a lifetime of personal collecting to the public.



Spring Cataloging

We recently finished opening over 350 crates from a private collection that had been in storage for decades. Largely unlabeled and undocumented, each unpacked crate and box became a research project. Fortunately, Joel and crew recognized many works that had been last seen in exhibitions during the 1980s and early 90s.

There is no substitute for cataloging your collection. As part of Straus Art Group's portfolio of services, we provide professional ongoing cataloging to ensure the sustained maintenance of your collection for future generations.

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