

“Modern Legacy: An Important Japanese Collection of 20th & 21st Century Masters / Bloom Now” A Legacy of Beauty, and Expressions in Full Bloom Today

SBI Art Auction will hold “The 77th SBI Art Auction | Modern Legacy: An Important Japanese Collection of 20th & 21st Century Masters” on Saturday, March 14, 2026, followed by “The 78th SBI Art Auction | Bloom Now” on Sunday, March 15, 2026.

“The 77th SBI Art Auction | Modern Legacy: An Important Japanese Collection of 20th & 21st Century Masters”



The “Modern Legacy” auction is a special sale centered on an important single-owner collection from Japan. Through masterpieces spanning the 20th and 21st centuries, the auction traces both the boarder flow of art history and the aesthetic journey shaped by one collector over time. Carefully selected over many years and quietly passed down, these works speak eloquently to the universality of art beyond era and geography.

At the heart of the sale is Léonard Tsuguharu FOUJITA’s *Portrait d’Hélène Franck*, a key work from the artist’s golden years in Paris—when he established his international reputation. Rendered with his distinctive “milky white ground,” the figure combines remarkable refinement with a powerful presence. From the figure’s attire to the interior setting, FOUJITA’s meticulous brushwork captures the refined cultural atmosphere of 1920s Paris with striking immediacy.

The auction also presents works by Edvard MUNCH and Egon SCHIELE, two defining figures of early 20th century European art. MUNCH’s *Madonna* (*Schiefler 33; Woll 39*) is renowned for its symbolic theme in which life and death, sensuality and mystery intertwine—a subject he developed across both painting and printmaking. In this print, a twisting female figure is framed by an ornate border, with a fetus-like motif appearing at the lower left. In contrast, SCHIELE, who forged an intensely personal and incisive approach to the human form, depicts a boldly posed female figure in *Female Nude*. With pared-down lines and unflinching clarity, the work suggests an inward intensity characteristic of the artist.

From American art, the sale features a 1969 work by James ROSENQUIST, a leading figure of Pop Art. Drawing on his background as a billboard painter, ROSENQUIST enlarges and fragments images from consumer culture, reassembling them like a collage to reveal both the allure and unease embedded in modern visual information.

The auction also includes several rare sculptures, ranging from monumental to smaller-scale works. Anish KAPOOR's *Untitled* draws surrounding space into its gently curved stainless-steel surface, subtly destabilizing perception and presence. Jaume PLENSA's *Tokyo's soul*, a seated figure in a fetal-like posture, evokes themes of silence and introspection—offering viewers a moment to turn inward. In addition, a bust of Victor HUGO by Auguste RODIN is presented. Regarded as a foundational figure of modern sculpture, RODIN is often described as creating “sculpture of the spirit,” an essence powerfully embodied in this work.

The “Modern Legacy” auction is not simply a gathering of masterpieces. Through a collection formed across different periods and cultural contexts, the sale offers a multifaceted perspective on art history and evolving aesthetic values. It presents an exceptional opportunity to reconsider a lineage of beauty that has been carefully preserved and passed on.

■ Auction Information

“The 77th SBI Art Auction | Modern Legacy: An Important Japanese Collection of 20th&21st Century Masters”
Auction:

- Date: Saturday, March 14, 2026, 2:00PM (JST)-
- Venue: Tokyo International Forum, Hall D5 (3-5-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda City, Tokyo 100-0005)

Preview:

- Date:
Thursday, March 12, 2026, 11:00AM – 7:00PM (JST)
Friday, March 13, 2026, 11:00AM – 7:00PM (JST)
Saturday, March 14, 2026, 11:00AM – 1:00PM (JST)
- Venue: Tokyo International Forum, Hall D7 (3-5-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda City, Tokyo 100-0005)

Bidding Methods:

- On-site, Telephone, Absentee, and Online bidding.

Auction Live Streaming:

- [YouTube Streaming](#)

■ Highlights

[Access to the online catalogue](#) (to be released on Thursday, February 12, 2026)



Lot 043
Léonard Tsuguharu FOUJITA
Portrait d'Hélène Franck
1924
Estimate: 200,000,000 - 400,000,000 JPY



Lot 023
Yves KLEIN
La Vénus d'Alexandrie (Wember S41; Ledeur S41)
1962 cast in 1982
Estimate: 10,000,000 – 15,000,000 JPY



Lot 024
Anish KAPOOR
Untitled
1999
Estimate: 50,000,000 - 100,000,000 JPY



Lot 044
Edvard MUNCH
Madonna (Schiefler 33; Woll 39)
1902
Estimate: 40,000,000 - 70,000,000 JPY



Lot 037
Egon SCHIELE
Female Nude
1917
Estimate: 30,000,000 - 50,000,000 JPY



Lot 031
James ROSENQUIST
Untitled
1969
Estimate: 30,000,000 - 50,000,000 JPY

For press inquiries OKAMURA (Ms.), SUZUKI (Ms.)

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Lot 025
Jaume PLENSA
Tokyo's soul
2007
Estimate: 15,000,000 - 30,000,000 JPY



Lot 047
Auguste RODIN
Buste de Victor Hugo dit a l'illustre maître
(réduction avec piédouche intégré)
1883 cast in 1980
Estimate: 3,000,000 - 5,000,000 JPY



Lot 072
SAITO Yoshishige
Work 1
1960
Estimate: 20,000,000 - 30,000,000 JPY

“The 78th SBI Art Auction | Bloom Now”



Renamed “Bloom Now” last year, the March sale—held annually since 2022—returns with a selection of works that reflect the diverse expressions of contemporary art at the start of spring. By bringing together works grounded in historical context and those shaped by the present moment, the sale offers new points of view.

One of the highlights is TAKEDA Teppei’s *Painting of Painting 040*. A work from the same *Painting of Painting* series achieved a notable result at our auction in 2022, and works from the series are rarely seen on the domestic market. As such, this work is expected to attract considerable attention in the sale.

The sale also features works by Pop Art pioneers Roy LICHTENSTEIN and Tom WESSELMANN. LICHTENSTEIN’s *The Couple (Corlett 175)* is a woodcut composed of a restrained palette of red, yellow, blue, and black. One of the fifty editions is part of the collection of the Museum of Modern Art, New York (Object number 11.1987.4). WESSELMANN’s *Double Study for Bedroom Painting #2* is a preparatory work for his iconic *Bedroom Painting* series, developed from the 1960s. The work is characterized by bold composition and color, and by the juxtaposition of the female body with everyday motifs such as oranges, cigarettes, and an ashtray.

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Also included is a work by LEE U-fan from his long-running *From Line* series. Repeated vertical lines drawn from top to bottom create areas of open space, encouraging the viewer's imagination. Another key work is Javier CALLEJA's *No Words Today*, a large-scale canvas measuring approximately two meters in height. Works of this scale by the artist are rarely seen on the market in Japan.

The "Bloom Now" auction is open to a broad range of collectors, from those acquiring a first work to those seeking pieces that offer new perspectives. Within the continuous flow of art from past to present, the sale invites viewers to discover a work that resonates in a personal way.

■ Auction Information

"The 78th SBI Art Auction | Bloom Now"

Auction:

- Date: Sunday, March 15, 2026, 2:00PM (JST)-
- Venue: Tokyo International Forum, Hall D5 (3-5-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda City, Tokyo 100-0005)

Preview:

- Date:
Thursday, March 12, 2026, 11:00AM – 7:00PM (JST)
Friday, March 13, 2026, 11:00AM – 7:00PM (JST)
- Venue: Tokyo International Forum, Hall D1, D7 (3-5-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda City, Tokyo 100-0005)

Bidding Methods:

- On-site, Telephone, Absentee, and Online bidding.

Auction Live Streaming:

- [YouTube Streaming](#)

■ Highlights

[Access to the online catalogue](#) (to be released on Friday, February 13, 2026)



Lot 152
TAKEDA Teppei
Painting of Painting 040
2021
Estimate: 5,000,000 - 8,000,000 JPY



Lot 104
Roy LICHTENSTEIN
The Couple (Corlett 175)
1980
Estimate: 2,000,000 - 3,000,000 JPY



Lot 108
Tom WESSELMANN
Double Study for Bedroom Painting #2
1968
Estimate: 20,000,000 – 30,000,000 JPY



Lot 128
LEE U-fan
From Line
1978
Estimate: 50,000,000 - 80,000,000 JPY



Lot 120
Javier CALLEJA
No Words Today
2019
Estimate: 20,000,000 - 30,000,000 JPY

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SBI ART AUCTION TOKYO 2026 Satellite Exhibitions, Pop-ups, and a Stamp Rally



During the preview and auction period of both the “*Modern Legacy*” and “*Bloom Now*” sales, a stamp rally will be held at the venues and dates listed below. Visitors are invited to explore each location and collect stamps. Guests who complete the stamp rally by collecting all stamps will receive an original sticker as a gift.

In addition, a pop-up space will be open again this year at the Tokyo International Forum Plaza. Visitors who present an ART FAIR TOKYO 2026 ticket or an invitation email from SBI Art Auction will receive one complimentary cup of coffee. Please feel free to stop by.

- ① “Modern Legacy” Auction Preview - Main Venue
 - ・ Thursday, March 12, 11:00AM-7:00PM (JST)
 - ・ Friday, March 13, 11:00AM-7:00PM (JST)
 - ・ Saturday, March 14, 11:00AM-1:00PM (JST)
 Venue: Tokyo International Forum Hall D7
- ② “Bloom Now” Auction Preview – Main Venue (some works are also on view at Venue①, Hall D7)
 - ・ Thursday, March 12, 11:00AM-7:00PM (JST)
 - ・ Friday, March 13, 11:00AM-7:00PM (JST)
 Venue: Tokyo International Forum Hall D1
- ③ Jaume PLENSA, *Tokyo's soul* (“Modern Legacy” auction / Lot 025)
 - ・ Thursday, March 12, 11:00AM-7:00PM (JST)
 - ・ Friday, March 13, 11:00AM-7:00PM (JST)
 - ・ Saturday, March 14, 11:00AM-7:00PM (JST)
 Venue: Tokyo International Forum Lobby Gallery

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④ Auction Sale Room

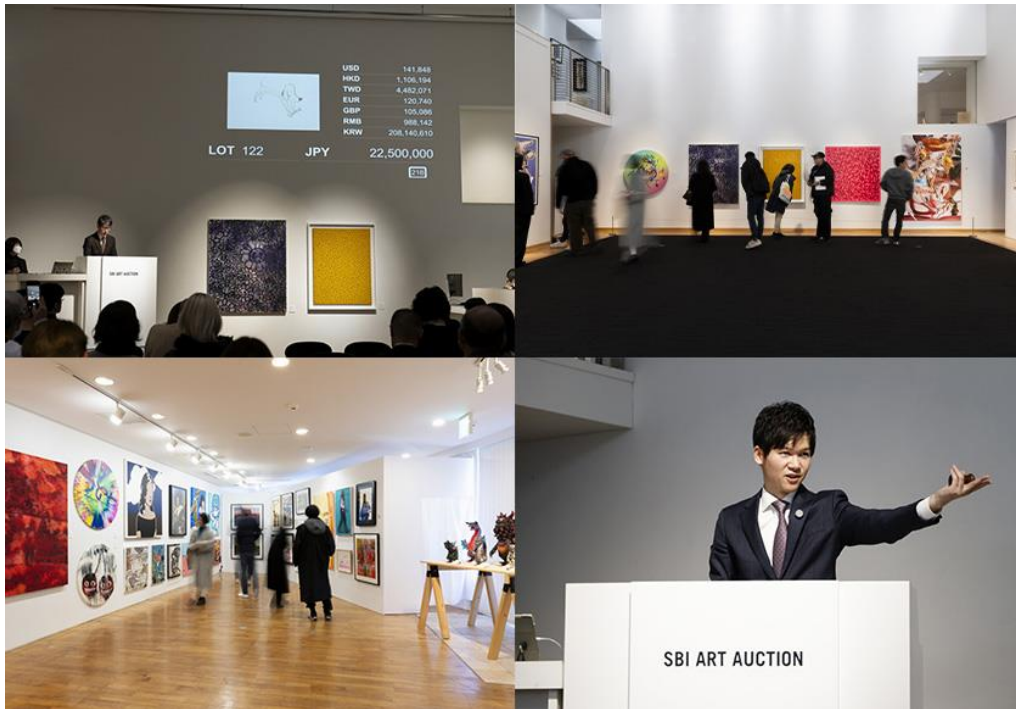
- Talk Event about Léonard Tsuguharu FOUJITA: Saturday, March 14, 11:00AM-12:00PM (JST)
 - “Modern Legacy” Auction: Saturday, March 14, 2:00PM (JST)-
 - “Bloom Now” Auction: Sunday, March 15, 2:00PM (JST)-
- Venue: Tokyo International Forum Hall D5

⑤ Plaza Pop-up (No artworks will be exhibited. No stamp is available at this venue.)



- Thursday, March 12, 11:00AM-5:00PM (JST)
 - Friday, March 13, 11:00AM-5:00PM (JST)
 - Saturday, March 14, 1:00PM-5:00PM (JST)
 - Sunday, March 15, 1:00PM-5:00PM (JST)
- Venue: Tokyo International Forum Plaza

■About our auction



SBI Art Auction holds public auctions offering a diverse selection of fine works including contemporary art created in and after the 20th century, as well as modern art, photography, design, and crafts that enrich the lifestyles of a wide variety of clients.

With registered customers from over 63 countries* and approximately 50% of auction sales attributed to international bidders, SBI Art Auction proudly stands as Japan's most globally connected auction house.

In addition to showcase works by prominent Japanese artists, we will actively introduce works by international artists rarely featured in Japanese auctions, contributing to the growth and expansion of Japan's art market.

*As of January 2025

■How to participate in our auction

The auction is held by bidding for the sale price.

Customers who participate for the first time are requested to register in advance.

For more information on how to buy works at auction, please see the following page.

- [Details on how to participate and buy](#)

■Upcoming auction (TBC)

- “The 79th SBI Art Auction | Live Stream Auction”
Auction Date: Friday, April 10 – Saturday, April 11, 2026
- “The 80th SBI Art Auction | Modern and Contemporary Art”
Auction Date: Friday, May 22 – Saturday, May 23, 2026

■About us

SBI Art Auction Co., Ltd. provides a wide variety of services corresponding to our clients' needs, including auctioning, brokering private sales, financing, and consulting. Our aim is to ensure that more people come to appreciate the pleasure, importance, and fun of owning artworks, while at the same time helping them to keep their artworks in good condition over the long term and pass them along to the next generation.

Company name: SBI Art Auction Co., Ltd.

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Established: April 1, 2011

- [Homepage](#)
- [Instagram](#)

*Please be aware of impersonation attempts mimicking our website.

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