

CHRISTINE AY TJOE
Indonesian artist

CHRISTINE AY TJOE is the best known contemporary female artist in Indonesia. With cumulative sales of \$3.2 million (15 lots), she ranked 69th in the Art price World Ranking of art products in 2017/2018.

In February 2012, Christine Ay TJoe sold a work entitled "Langit - Langit Merah (Red Ceiling)" for \$257,600 at Sotheby's Hong Kong. The artist's progression has been remarkable: in May 2016, she sold a work entitled 'Generation 01'(2006) for \$70,800 at Christies HK. The same work was sold \$4,009 at Christie's in Hong Kong on November 26, 2006. On May 28, 2017, her work "Small Flies and Other Wings" (2013) exceeded its estimated value, and was sold at Phillips Hong Kong \$1.5 million, making her a jump in sales results.

The artist

Christine Ay Tjoe is born in 1973 in Bandung (Indonesia) where she is living. She studied printmaking and graphic at the Bandung Institute of Technology, from which she graduated (1997). She also studied in Germany in 2004 and was artist-in-resident in Singapore in 2008.

Artwork

Christine Ay Tjoe is especially known for her colourful paintings with overlays and her use of the dry tip (technical drypoint). She also creates sculptures, kinetic art and large-scale installations. She uses protean oil bars, mixing figuration and abstraction. Unlike other artists who have been able or tended towards political satire in Indonesia, Christine Ay Tjoe talks more about her personal life, modern society and human existence. Through her art, she expresses her deep feelings such as melancholy, suffering, struggle or joy. Her work also shows her rejection of glamour and profitable commercial productions.

The artist was awarded the SCMP Art Futures Prize at the Hong Kong International Art Fair in 2009 and the Top 5 Philip Morris Indonesian Art Award in 2011. She also won the Prudential Eye Award for "Best Emerging Artist Using Painting" by Ota Fine Arts in Singapore in January 2015.

In 2016, she exhibited for the first time in the United Kingdom, in London, at the White Cube Bermondsey, 10 paintings including two large diptychs. In her latest paintings, Christine Ay Tjoe looks at our consumer age: hyper-urbanity, population density, the increase in information and the inevitable quest for competitiveness. In her recent solo exhibition at Ota Fine Arts Shanghai in October 2018, "The Black Side," Christine Ay Tjoe explored the complexity of human relationships and described the brutal aspects of human emotions in today's society. The dominant black features and dark colors of her works allude to her dark vision of contemporary society. In her exhibition at the White Cube Bermondsey at the end of 2018, 'Black, kcalB, Black, kcalB', Christine Aj Tjoe was still exploring the idea of blackness with large-format oil paintings and drawings on aluminum plates.

