

SCORCHED EARTH

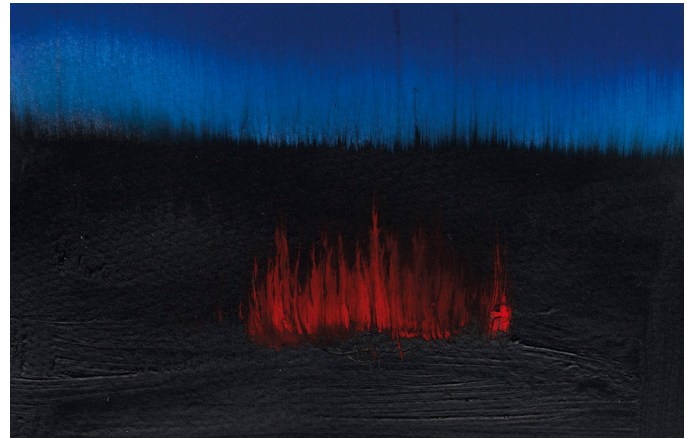
Post- War and Contemporary Day Sale Auction at
Christie's London: Friday 23 October 2020

Contemporary Day Sale preview: 6– 22 October 2020

Migrate Art announces 'Scorched Earth'



Simon Butler from Migrate Art collecting ash in Iraqi Kurdistan in 2019.



Anish Kapoor, Scorched Earth (2020). Image courtesy the artist & Migrate Art

Following on from a successful exhibition, Migrate Art presents an auction of brand new works from some of the world's leading artists. Each work has been created using Migrate Art's custom 'Scorched Earth' paint, which was pigmented with ash from the burnt crop fields of Iraqi Kurdistan. The initiative is raising funds to support the work of our three charity partners- RefuAid, Refugee Community Kitchen and The Lotus Flower.

Participating artists include: **ANTONY GORMLEY, ANISH KAPOOR, CONOR HARRINGTON, LOIE HOLLOWELL, JULES DE BALINCOURT, JASON MARTIN, MONA HATOUM, NATHALIE DU PASQUIER, PIERS SECUNDA, RACHEL WHITEREAD, RAQIB SHAW, RICHARD DEACON, RICHARD LONG, YAHON CHANG, WALID SITI**

In 2019, Migrate Art visited refugee camps in Iraq with one of our charity partners- The Lotus Flower, to meet some of the thousands of people our projects have benefitted. One of the first things that stood out about the region was decimation of the land. It has been estimated that hundreds of thousands of acres of crops have been burnt across Iraq since our visit in 2019- amounting to tens of millions of dollars of possible revenue and resultant loss of food that is desperately needed amongst an already ailing population. General consensus suggests that these fires function as intimidation tactics organised by militia groups- most likely ISIS.

Whilst on this trip Simon Butler, Migrate Art's founder collected some of the ash from the burnt crop fields with the idea of incorporating it into paint for artists to use when making an original artwork. Jackson's Art Supplies kindly helped us produce high-quality oil and acrylic paints, using this ash as pigment. The paint was sent to some of the worlds leading artists and the resulting artworks will be sold as part of Christie's Post War and Contemporary Day Sale on the 23rd October 2020, and on view from the 10th-22nd of October. All of the funds raised will go towards supporting the work of our three charity partners.

"Whether or not today's refugees are fleeing from political or economical trouble, I identify with, and have great empathy for the sense of displacement they must feel. The only way I can express my true feelings is through my art - as a means of release and escapism - so I am happy to be contributing to the Migrate project in aid of this worthwhile cause"

- **Raqib Shaw**

"When I was approached to take part in Migrate Art's project, I kept thinking about this intense, primal love that a mother has over her children, how I feel about my two children. As a mother, there is no greater fear than being displaced or without shelter for me and my family. I felt inspired to participate because providing safe passage for families and refugees is important work, and I'm honoured to be able to help. I hope that my small contribution is able to provide lasting housing and resources to people in need."

- **Loie Holliwell**

"Coming from the region and having witnessed what happened to Yezidis through friends and media as well visiting the refugee camps near Duhok in 2018, the cause of this project resonated with my sense of rage, helplessness and the urge to help as an artist. My work increasingly considers the precarious relations between collective identity, interdependence and its constraints on the individual through considerations of heritage, tradition, homes, borders, mobility and migration in general so with this project I'm combining many of these themes within this new work titled 'Trials'."

- **Walid Siti**

Notes to Editors:

For all PRESS enquiries please contact:

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Press preview: Thursday 17 September, 10am– 3pm

(For an appointment, please contact Hannah Vitos at Rees & Co.)

Exhibition runs: 19– 27 September at Cork Street Galleries, 24 Cork Street, London, W1S 3NJ

Opening hours: 12– 6pm every day (closed Monday 21 September)

All day opening event: takes place from 12– 6pm on Saturday 19 September with free refreshments.

About Migrate Art:

Founded in 2016 by Simon Butler, and later joined by Ian Syer, Migrate Art works with leading contemporary artists in support of projects which aid refugees around the world. The Migrate Art team has over 20 years combined experience working in contemporary art. Butler has worked in many of London's most prominent galleries and Syer co-founded My Art Broker, one of the UK's leading online art marketplaces. Major past projects include 'Multicolour' which invited artists including Anish Kapoor, Sean Scully and Rachel Whiteread to create works using pencils and crayons found on the former site of the demolished Calais Jungle refugee camp. The works were auctioned at Phillips in 2019, raising £131,000. Migrate Art has raised over £200,000, helping to fund projects across three continents, positively impacting the lives of over 15,000 people.

About RefuAid:

RefuAid has developed a programme that supports access to language tuition, education, employment and family reunification for refugees who are granted asylum in the UK. RefuAid offers interest-free loans for those who have been forced to leave their country and are unable to find suitable employment once in the UK. RefuAid's programme provides an opportunity to gain relevant qualifications, re-train, learn English and find employment.

About The Lotus Flower:

The Lotus Flower provides safety, support and education for women and children who have been displaced by war and develops opportunities and tools for these women to become financially independent. They offer psychological support for those who have experienced extreme violence or sexual assault in their home country. The Lotus Flower was founded by Taban Shoresh, a former Kurdish child refugee, who escaped the clutches of Saddam Hussain's regime in the 1980s.

About Refugee Community Kitchen:

Refugee Community Kitchen serves nourishing food to displaced people in the UK and northern France. Entirely volunteer-run and donation-based, they are committed to serving wholesome food with dignity and respect to people in need. Since December 2015, they have served over 2 million hot meals.

About Christie's:

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had auction sales in 2019 that totalled £4.5 billion \approx \$5.8 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and international expertise. Christie's offers around 350 auctions annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$100 million. Christie's also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War & Contemporary, Impressionist & Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Alongside regular sales online, Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

*Please note when quoting estimates above that other fees will apply in addition to the hammer price - see Section D of the Conditions of Sale at the back of the sale catalogue.

*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.

About Jackson's Art Supplies:

Jackson's is one of the world's largest fine art suppliers with a range that is second to none. They are dedicated to sourcing and providing the finest art materials in the world, catering to the unique needs of every artist. From humble beginnings in a gallery basement, they now ship orders to tens of thousands of artists around the globe. www.jacksonsart.com

Key supporter: **MYARTBROKER.**

This project is also generously supported by: *Jackson's* CORK STREET GALLERIES **Flight Logistics**
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