New York / Berlin, October 15, 2013—artnet Auctions is proud to present *Prints from Chiron Press*, live from October 15 through 24, 2013. During its brief existence from 1963 to 1968, Chiron Press acted as a breeding ground for many future Pop artists, collaborating with artists such as Roy Lichtenstein, Andy Warhol, and James Rosenquist, among others. Pop Art was not Chiron’s only focus. During its six year duration, the atelier produced prints that reflected the divergent artistic voices of the time. The sale also includes notable screenprints by Nicholas Krushenick, Marisol, Elaine de Kooning, Helen Frankenthaler, and Robert Mangold.

*Prints from Chiron Press* features over 35 prints, the majority of which come from the collection of Stephen Poleskie, Chiron’s master printer and owner. The auction includes a preparatory drawing, as well as extremely rare prints that have never been offered.
Chiron Press (named after the mythical centaur) was the brainchild of Poleskie, an artist who had worked briefly in commercial screenprinting in Miami before moving to New York City to E. 10th Street, the nexus of the downtown New York art scene. In 1963, after fielding numerous questions from fellow artists about how to print screenprints, Poleskie opened a print shop (originally called Aardvark Press) at 614 E. 11th Street and became the master printer, employing Brice Marden (American, b.1938) as his press assistant.

This auction features the first prints ever made at Chiron Press, a suite of four screenprints by Alfred Jensen entitled Duality Triumphant: I, II, III, and IV, 1963, with an estimate of US$2,500 to 3,500. A highlight of the auction is Roy Lichtenstein’s first screenprint, Brushstroke, 1965, estimated at US$12,000 to 18,000. In this revolutionary work, Lichtenstein drew a picture of a brushstroke that looked as though it had been rendered by a commercial artist. Since screen printing was at this time still considered a purely commercial process and never intended for artists, its use to produce Brushstroke was an innovative graphic approach for Lichtenstein. Warhol worked with Chiron Press on two separate occasions. The resulting sculptural prints bore a resemblance to Oldenburg’s large soft sculptures of the period. Included in the sale is Lincoln Center Ticket, 1967, estimated at US$7,500 to 8,500, an enormous ticket stub measuring 45 x 24 inches and printed on opaque acrylic, published by the Leo Castelli Gallery to commemorate the fifth New York Film Festival at Lincoln Center.

The sale, Prints from Chiron Press, presents a unique opportunity to acquire early Pop prints from an important historical source. The sale is live on artnet Auctions from October 15 through 24, 2013, and is on view at http://www.artnet.com/auctions/search/?q=keyword-chiron_2013/.

For more detailed information on Chiron Press, read the profile article on artnet Insights.

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