A special sale celebrating Contemporary Japanese Art, live on artnet Auctions from March 13 through 25, 2014

New York / Berlin, March 14, 2014—artnet Auctions is pleased to announce Contemporary Japanese Art, a special live auction that presents a dynamic selection of works by established, mid-career, and emerging Contemporary Japanese artists Aiko, Yoshitaka Amano, Nobuyoshi Araki, Hiro Ando, Yayoi Kusama, Hiroyuki Matsuura, Daido Moriyama, Takashi Murakami, MR., Yoshitomo Nara, Tomoko Sawada, Hiroshi Sugimoto, and Aya Takano, among others. This sale presents paintings, sculptures, photographs, and prints for collectors at all levels, with estimates ranging from US$3,500 to over 80,000.

Paintings and works on paper by several Contemporary Japanese artists are featured in the sale, including Weaving Girl of Turkey, one of the finest, most colorful, and intricately detailed of the surreal, figurative paintings by acclaimed Japanese female artist Aya Takano (b.1976), with a pre-sale estimate of US$45,000 to 55,000. Paintings by Aiko, Yoshitaka Amano, Hiroyuki Matsuura,
Takashi Murakami, Aya Toshikawa, and Kenichi Yokono are also offered.

*New Tokyo Ferry Terminal (Ariake 4-chrome)* (2004–2005) is a rare and celebratory large-scale sculpture in the round by famous Contemporary Japanese artist MR. (b.1969), depicting one of the artist’s iconic, wide-eyed, smiling, young girls, with psychedelic eyes, painted cheeks, and vivid, purple hair in pig-tails. With a pre-sale estimate of US$80,000 to 90,000, and from an edition of just 5 + 2AP, this museum-level work is one of the most important sculptures by the artist to come to international auction.

Among the photographs featured in the sale is an exceptional gelatin silver print, *Hi-Way 39 Drive-in Orange* (1993), by legendary Japanese photographer Hiroshi Sugimoto (b.1948). From Sugimoto’s acclaimed *Theaters* series of black and white photographs, this image of a desolate California drive-in is both nostalgic and visually meditative. Edition one of just 25, this rarely offered photograph has a pre-sale estimate of US$25,000 to 35,000. Photographs by Nobuyoshi Araki, Daido Moriyama, Tomoko Sawada, and Kohei Yoshiyuki are also featured.

Prints in the sale include *Country Home* (2011), a celebratory woodblock print in colors by acclaimed Japanese artist Yoshitomo Nara (b.1959), which depicts a young girl singing and playing a guitar as she stands atop a peaked roof. From an edition of just 50, and with a pre-sale estimate of US$10,000 to 15,000, this is an exciting opportunity to acquire a sought-after and celebratory work by Nara.


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For more information about this sale, please contact artnet Auctions specialist:

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