
Monet Painting Draws \$110.7 Million At New York Auction

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New York: A Claude Monet painting from his celebrated "Meules" (Haystacks) series drew \$110.7 million in New York on Tuesday in an auction record for the French Impressionist master.

The sale at Sotheby's -- the first time the work had come to auction since 1986 -- fetched one of the 10 highest prices ever seen at auction.

The total, which includes fees and the commission, was more than 44 times higher than the previous record for the work.

Monet painted his 25 "Meules" compositions during the winter of 1890-1891 at his home in Giverny, in France's Normandy region.

In each piece, Monet showed the light and surroundings of the same scene as they changed at different times of day, with the varying seasons and during various types of weather.

Another painting from the series was sold in November 2016 by the Christie's auction house in New York for \$81.4 million.

The piece sold at Sotheby's is among the most immediately recognizable Monet paintings.

It distinguishes itself from others in the series by its vibrant paint palette, dramatic diagonal brushstrokes of varying directions that meet at the center and a unique perspective with only

part of the first haystack appearing in the foreground.

The anonymous collector who brought the painting to be auctioned had purchased it in 1986 at Christie's for just \$2.5 million.

The last record for a Monet painting was held in May 2018 during a Christie's sale of his "Nymphaes en fleur" (Water Lilies in Bloom) for \$84.6 million.
