

# ARTCURIAL

Presse release



## *The original drawing for the cover of Tintin in America at auction*

The World of Hergé, Tintin's Creator  
Auction on 10 February 2023, in Paris

On 10 February 2023, Artcurial will present for the first time at auction an exceptional artwork: Hergé's original drawing for the 1942 cover of the album *Tintin in America*, estimated at €2.2 to €3.2 million. This drawing is a unique and timeless work of art which is still in use, 80 years later, on the current cover of the album.

PARIS - On 10 February 2023, Artcurial will present as highlight of its *The World of Hergé, Tintin's Creator* auction a unique work by Hergé: the original drawing for the full-page cover of the 1942 edition of the album *Tintin in America*, estimated at €2.2 to €3.2 million.

## *Tintin in America, one of the best-selling albums of the series*

The third volume in the Tintin series which sees the young Belgian reporter travelling to the United States, spending time in Chicago and in the Midwest, is considered one of the best-selling of the series. *Tintin in America* was first published in 1932 with a small printed illustration on the cover showing Tintin sitting on a rock with Snowy lying next to him. On the occasion of the third edition, in 1937, the small cover illustration was replaced by one showing Tintin riding a horse. It was printed on paper and directly pasted onto the album's cover.

By the early 1940s, printing techniques had evolved and allowed for a full-page cover in colour. The drawing which will be presented at Artcurial is the original drawing for the cover of the 1942 edition, which was reused for the 1946 first colour edition and has been in use since.

## *The first full-page cover of Tintin in America at auction*

Artcurial holds several world auction records for works by Hergé. In 2012, the auction house sold the original drawing for the cover illustration of the 1932 edition of *Tintin in America* for a record €1,338,509.

Write down the 10<sup>th</sup> of February in your diary if you want to find out the auction result of the 1942 cover illustration!

**« This drawing has remained on the cover of the comic book since 1942. An outstanding piece that has inspired many generations of readers. »**

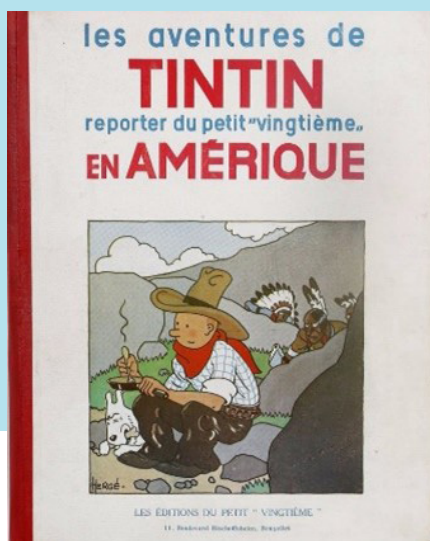
- Eric Leroy,  
Expert, Comic Strips, Artcurial



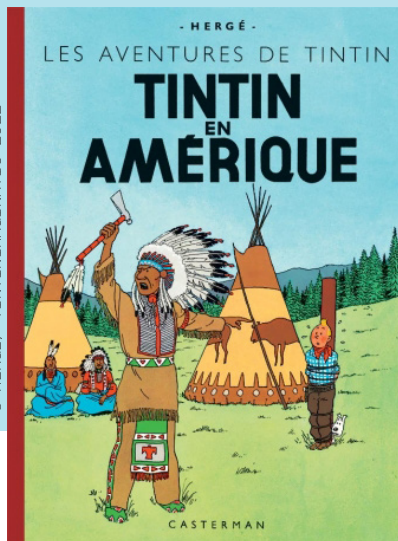
© HERGÉ / TINTINIMAGINATIO 2022

HERGÉ (pen name), Georges Remi  
1907-1983  
*Tintin in America*  
Indian ink, graphite and corrective gouache for the cover of the 1942 'full-page' edition of the comic book *Tintin in America*. Drawing used again for the cover of the 1946 colour edition. Together with its certificate from the Hergé authentication committee.  
46 x 32,8 cm  
Estimate : € 2,200,000 - € 3,200,000 €

*Tintin in America*  
« small cover illustration » of 1932



*Tintin in America*  
« full-page cover »



## *Hergé's timeless and universal aesthetics*

*The Adventures of Tintin* have been translated into over 100 languages, testifying to their universal character and the timeless aesthetic of the artist. Hergé's talent lies in the simplicity of the line and the forms: a simple line, readable and understandable by all. To this day that famous aesthetic, dubbed the «ligne claire» (the clear line), has lost none of its modernity.

Hergé was a great admirer of the contemporary art of his time, an interest that is reflected in the *Tintin* albums and which even earned Hergé the honour of having his image immortalised by Andy Warhol in the 1970s.

Since several decades, *Tintin* has become a cultural icon hailed by contemporary artists as diverse as Roy Liechtenstein, Keith Haring, Dran and Invader. The Belgian reporter is celebrated by Street Art, theater and cinema.

The 20<sup>th</sup> century has allowed Comic Art to gain its place among the Fine Arts. From a minor art form, Comic Strips quickly developed into the so-called "9<sup>th</sup> Art". Hergé's creations, which once belonged to the specialised comic strips market, are now sold on the global art market.

The recent world records obtained by Artcurial for Hergé's drawings approach now the prices of the world's greatest contemporary artists.

## USEFUL INFORMATIONS

AUCTION :  
Friday 10 February 2023 - 7pm

PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS:

PARIS  
From Friday 2 to Monday 5 December 2022  
From Tuesday 7 to Friday 10 February 2023

Artcurial  
7 Rond-Point  
des Champs-Élysées  
75008 Paris

MONACO  
From Friday 16 december to Monday 2 January 2023

Monte-Carlo Palace  
3/9 boulevard des Moulins  
MC - 98000 Monaco

BRUSSELS  
From Tuesday 10 to Saturday 14 January 2023

5 avenue Franklin Roosevelt,  
BE - 1050 Bruxelles

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## PRESS MATERIAL

High resolution images available  
on request

### *About Artcurial*

Founded in 2002, multidisciplinary Paris based auction house Artcurial confirmed its leading position on the international art market scene in 2021. With three sale venues in Paris, Monaco and Marrakech, the auction house achieved an overall sales total of 169 million euros in 2021. Artcurial covers all the major specialist fields including Fine Arts, Decorative Arts, Collectors' Cars, Jewellery, Watches, Fine Wines and Spirits... With a strong international bias, Artcurial maintains its presence abroad with offices in Brussels, Milan, Monte-Carlo, Munich, Vienna and Spain. In October 2015, Artcurial held its first sale in Hong Kong and Morocco.

[artcurial.com](http://artcurial.com)

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