**Portrait of a Lady (*After Louis Leopold Boilly*) by widely recognized Polish artist Ewa Juszkiewicz will be offered in one of the most prestigious art sales at Christie’s**

**On Tuesday, May 10th *Portrait of a Lady (After Louis Leopold Boilly)* by widely recognized Polish artist Ewa Juszkiewicz will be offered in one of the most prestigious art sales in the United States at Christie’s New York, sold to benefit the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews. Viewings take place at Christie’s Rockefeller Center galleries. The artwork has been brought to auction thanks to a generous gift of one of the POLIN Museum donors, American Friends of POLIN Museum, together with the support of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, and Weil Gotshal & Manges. The sale launches the beginning of a series of partnered sales of works of art at Christie’s in order to benefit POLIN Museum. POLIN is the only museum in the world dedicated to commemorating the history of Polish Jews, based in Warsaw, Poland.**

**About the auction**

The auction explores groundbreaking masterpieces by Jean-Michel Basquiat, Christopher Wool, Yoshitomo Nara and other defining artists of the 21st Century: Jeff Koons, Banksy and Helmut Newton among others. It also introduces fresh-to-market works by contemporary pioneers like Jonas Wood, Matthew Wong and Shara Hughes. Engage with this wide spectrum of influential works that reframe the current dialogue and develop new directions for the next generation of artists.

The Polish artist Ewa Juszkiewicz (b. 1984) is known for her adept appropriations of historical portrait paintings. This work – ***Portrait of a Lady (After Louis Leopold Boilly)*** – is an exquisite example of the artist’s masterful brushwork and keen questioning of gender and class representations within the realm of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century European painting.

Ana Maria Celis, Christie’s Head of the 21st Century Evening Sale, remarks, *Portrait of a Lady (After Louis Leopold Boilly) thoughtfully examines the historical erasure of women through Juszkiewicz’s singular and subversive technique. We are honored to offer it in our 21st Century Evening Sale this season to benefit POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews. The juxtaposition of the classical stylization with the evocative subject matter of a female sitter’s whose head is fully wrapped, sparks new narratives around portrayals of femininity and deconstructs the past to create new dialogues.*

**Property Sold to Benefit POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews**

The Museum is a modern institution of culture – it is a historical museum which presents1000 years of Jewish life in the Polish lands. It is also a place of meeting and dialogue among those who wish to explore the past and present Jewish culture, those eager to draw conclusions for the future from Polish-Jewish history, and finally those who are ready to face stereotypes and oppose xenophobia and nationalistic prejudices that threaten today’s societies. By promoting ideas of openness, tolerance and truth, POLIN Museum contributes to the mutual understanding and respect among Poles and Jews, and other nations at the same time. Despite the global pandemic, after months of closure and economical struggle, it continues its mission, welcomes guests from all around the world at its Core Exhibition and organizes temporary exhibitions, historical, artistic and educational events for Polish and international audience.

POLIN Museum understands its mission as a social responsibility, and is also responding to current situations. To this end, alongside the efforts of many others, the Museum has responded to the war in Ukraine: *We have just opened a new temporary exhibition, "What’s Cooking? Jewish Culinary Culture," at a time when Warsaw is receiving a steady flow of Ukrainian refugees in great need of shelter and food. Within the “Cooking for Ukraine” project, POLIN Museum’s restaurant is preparing free hot meals featuring Jewish specialities and is delivering them directly to those in greatest need. We must not remain indifferent –* Zygmunt Stępiński, Director of POLIN Museum, remarks.

Many of POLIN Museum’s activities, including “Cooking for Ukraine”, are supported by donors and friends from Poland and abroad, with a special support from American Friends of POLIN Museum. In the words of Zygmunt Stępinski stated on Christies.com, *We are grateful for the support of American Friends of POLIN Museum and Christie’s who believe in our mission and work with us to write the next chapter in the history of Polish Jews and Jewish life in Poland.*

A representative of Christie’s states: *Christie’s is proud to support philanthropic initiatives through our networks, whether by facilitating the sale of artwork to benefit important causes; offering, when we can, our salerooms as a venue for fundraising events; or providing expert charity auctioneers.*

**POLIN Museum**

Winner of the History of Polish Jews 2016 European Museum of the Year Award, POLIN Museum is the only museum in the world dedicated to recovering the memory of Polish Jews. Located on the site of the Warsaw ghetto and prewar Jewish neighborhood, POLIN Museum faces the Monument to the Ghetto Heroes. Its multimedia narrative exhibition presents the thousand-year history of Polish Jews and the civilization they created. This is a legacy for future generations and a call for dialogue in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect. It also hosts annual temporary exhibitions, concerts and runs an extensive educational program. POLIN Museum was created as a private-public partnership of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, which initiated the project, and the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the City of Warsaw. Since its opening in 2014, POLIN Museum attracted more than 4 million visitors.

**American Friends of POLIN Museum**

Since 2005, American Friends of POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews support POLIN Museum initiatives that preserve and promote the legacy of Polish Jews and foster dialogue in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.

**Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland**

The Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland initiated and co-founded POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and supports its program and activities annually. The Association, established in 1951, is a Jewish philanthropic organization in Poland dedicated to the civilization of Polish Jews and their contribution to world culture.

* About the auction & a virtual tour: [21st Century Evening Sale (christies.com)](https://www.christies.com/en/auction/21st-century-evening-sale-20975-nyr/overview)
* For more information on the auction: [Property Sold to Benefit POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews | Christie's (christies.com)](https://www.christies.com/auctions/2022/property-sold-to-benefit-polin-museum-of-the-history-of-polish-jews?fbclid=IwAR3fZnzs7mwzc8KHXuMEGgdog1v1eUj7SXZ7BG2-UuBomXJADs9dOnBKsi0)
* To view the painting: [EWA JUSZKIEWICZ (B. 1984) (christies.com)](https://www.christies.com/lot/lot-6369458?ldp_breadcrumb=back&intObjectID=6369458&from=salessummary&lid=1&fbclid=IwAR1eEtWKsMg2LRVDgFGGNLbsCG0ykV9dw7GNtGUDxEuMn666G0XIH0FaI3M)
* [Ewa Juszkiewicz – Biography | Artist | Culture.pl](https://culture.pl/en/artist/ewa-juszkiewicz)
* POLIN Museum: [polin.pl](https://www.polin.pl/en); Facebook Page [Friends of POLIN Museum | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofPOLINMuseum/)

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