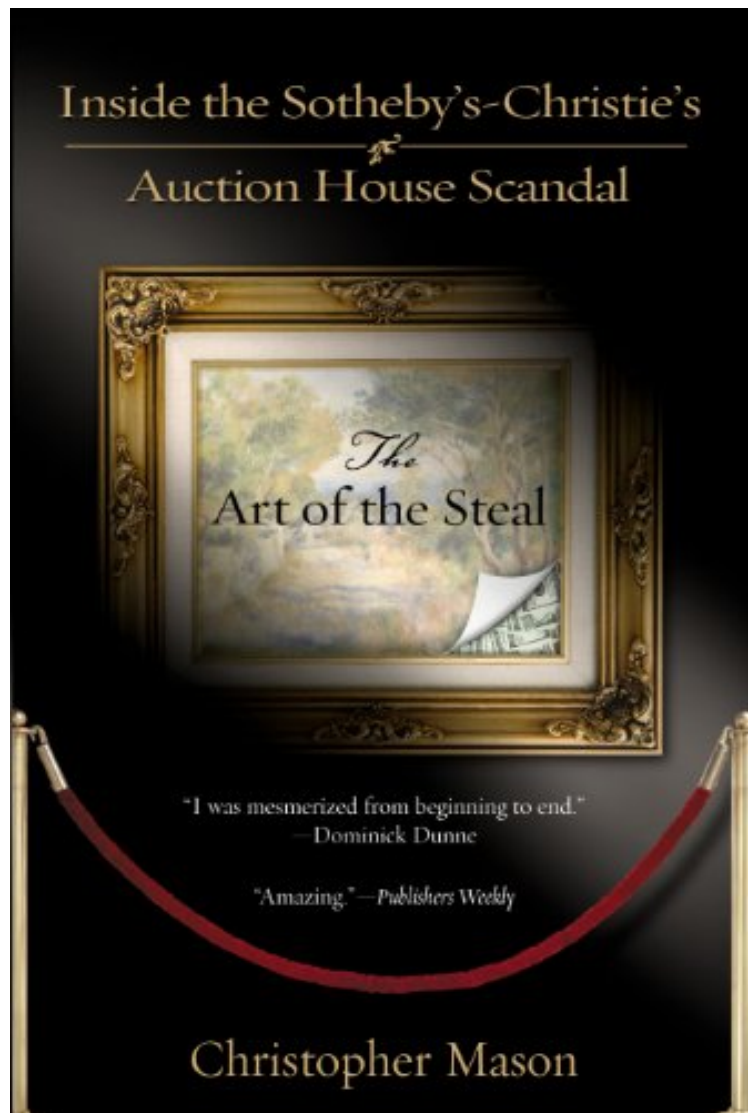


[Download pdf] The Art of the Steal: Inside the Sotheby's-Christies Auction House Scandal

The Art of the Steal: Inside the Sotheby's-Christies Auction House Scandal

Von Christopher Mason

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Von Christopher Mason : The Art of the Steal: Inside the Sotheby's-Christies Auction House Scandal before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art of the Steal: Inside the Sotheby's-Christies Auction House Scandal:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. spannender Einblick ins Auktionsgeschehen Von Guessina Sehr spannendes Buch, gute Recherche ber Fakten und Informationen, gibt authentisches Insiderwissen ber Auktionsabläufe generell und den Skandal von 1999!

Weiterzuempfehlen!!!

KurzbeschreibungThe Art of the Steal tells the story of several larger-than-life figures - the billionaire tycoon Alfred Taubman; the most powerful woman in the art world, Dede Brooks; and the wily British executive Christopher Davidge - who conspired to cheat their clients out of millions of dollars. It offers an unprecedented look inside this secretive, glamorous, gold-plated industry, describing just how Sotheby's and Christie's grew from clubby, aristocratic businesses into slick international corporations. And it shows how the groundwork for the most recent illegal activities was laid decades before the perpetrators were caught by federal prosecutors.

From Publishers WeeklyVeteran art writer Mason does a good job separating the bad guys from the slightly less bad guys in his lively, anecdote-packed saga about how the world's two leading auction houses, Sotheby's and Christie's, conspired to fix prices on everything from famous paintings to antique furniture. Alfred Taubman, the shopping-mall king who bought Sotheby's in 1983 to keep it from falling into the hands of a couple of carpet salesmen, became the only principal in the case to actually do jail time-apparently due to what some courtroom observers labeled "the worst defense money can buy." It didn't help that Diana "DeDe" Brooks, who started her career as an unpaid intern and whose workaholic habits persuaded Taubman to make her Sotheby's CEO, became one of the government's chief witnesses against Taubman. On the Christie's side, the lineup features a number of snobbish Brits, including Christie's CEO, Christopher Davidge, who seems to have sold everyone else down the river. It would have made for smoother reading if Mason (or his editor) had done some pruning: how many times do we need to be told that Brooks is six feet tall or that Taubman's wife, Judy, is a glamorous former beauty queen? But in the end, it's the story that carries the day-an amazing and depressing chronicle of greed in the name of culture that should (but probably won't) keep art buyers from ever walking into an auction house again. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

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