George Pol Georghiou Leads the June Sale at Cypria Auctions

17 June 2026 | Gallery K, Nicosia | 7:30 p.m.

George Pol Georghiou — "Centaurine, 1959"

(Estimate: €45,000 – €70,000)

Cypria Auctions presents its **June Fine Art Sale**, bringing together an exceptional selection of approximately 160 works spanning Greek, Cypriot and European art, sculpture, and textiles. The sale highlights artists whose contributions have shaped the visual culture of Cyprus while also reflecting the broader artistic dialogues that connect the island with Europe and beyond. The auction will be held on 17 June at Gallery K in Nicosia.

The sale includes works by some of the most significant names in Cypriot and Greek art, among them Telemachos Kanthos, Andreas Karayan, Loukia Nicolaidou, Lefteris Economou, Alexandros Alexandrakis, Spyros Vassiliou, Marcos Kampanis, Dimitris Mytaras, among others, and offers collectors a broad overview of artistic developments in Cyprus and Greece from the early twentieth century to the present day. The sculpture section includes works by established artists including Theodoros Papagiannis, George Kyriacou, Dimitris Michlis and Ioannis Antoniou, further expanding the breadth of the sale through a diverse range of materials, forms and artistic approaches.

At the centre of the sale are two important works by **George Pol Georghiou (1901-1972),** one of the leading figures of twentieth-century Cypriot art. Together, the two works reveal the artist's distinctive ability to move between lived experience and ancient symbolism, creating images that remain deeply rooted in Cyprus while speaking to broader Mediterranean histories of memory, myth and identity.

In *Mother and Child* (c. 1954) (€35,000 – €55,000), Pol Georghiou transforms a familiar scene into a composition of rhythm, tenderness and quiet tension. The mother and child are set within an almost flattened landscape of blue, ochre and pale earth tones, where

figure and place appear inseparable. The work reflects the artist's ability to give everyday Cypriot life a poetic and symbolic dimension.

By contrast, *Centaurine* (c.1959) (€45,000 – €70,000) moves into the world of myth and antiquity. Set against a striking red ground, the female centaur recalls ancient Cypriot terracotta figurines and the island's archaic visual traditions. With its elongated forms, decorative markings and powerful frontal presence, the painting connects Pol Georghiou's modern pictorial language with the deeper mythic and archaeological memory of Cyprus.

A New Testament Presented to Ioannis Kapodistrias

(Estimate: €4,000 – €6,000)

Among the historical highlights of the sale is a copy of the New Testament presented to Ioannis Kapodistrias shortly before his assassination in 1831. Published in Geneva for distribution to schools in the newly established Greek state, the edition formed part of a broader effort to promote education and literacy during the formative years of modern Greece.

This particular copy was presented to Kapodistrias by H. N. Glaser, envoy of the Geneva Bible Society, and bears a gilt presentation inscription to the first Governor of Greece. Combining historical significance with exceptional provenance, the volume offers a rare connection to one of the most important figures of nineteenth-century Greek history.

Highlights of Cypriot Modernism

Among the highlights are two works by **Christoforos Savva (**1924–1968), one of the founding figures of modern Cypriot art. The works *Untitled* (€1,200 – €1,800) and

Landscape (€450 – €750) demonstrate Savva's ability to construct abstraction through the interplay of colour, form and structure. Geometric elements and irregular colour planes interact across the surface with a sense of movement and vitality, revealing the artist's enduring interest in rhythm, balance and experimentation.

The sale also features an important work by **Katy Stephanidou** (1925–2012), one of the leading figures of Cypriot modernism. In the work offered at auction (€800 – €1,400) three female heads are arranged horizontally within a restrained composition, each treated with a different chromatic and formal sensibility. Rather than functioning as narrative figures, they appear as elements within a broader formal construction, where colour, balance and rhythm carry the emotional force of the image.

Contemporary Cypriot Painting

The sale also features *Female Figure* (€4,500 – €8,500) an important work by **Andreas Charalambides**, one of the most recognised figures of contemporary Cypriot painting. Characterised by his distinctive figurative language and carefully structured compositions, the work presents a seated female figure whose timeless presence evokes the atmosphere of a contemporary muse. Balancing formal restraint with quiet psychological intensity, the composition reflects the artist's enduring exploration of memory, symbolism and the human condition.

King Otto and the Birth of Modern Greece

Attributed to Joseph Karl Stieler (1781–1858), this portrait of Otto of Greece (€9,000–€15,000) presents the young monarch with remarkable dignity and presence. Set against a deep blue landscape, the composition combines the refinement of nineteenth-

century court portraiture with a sense of restrained grandeur. The penetrating gaze, luminous complexion and ceremonial red sash lend the figure an air of authority, while the balanced composition and elegant handling of colour reflect the neoclassical ideals associated with Stieler's celebrated portraits. The work offers a compelling image of one of the most significant figures in the early history of the modern Greek state.

Exquisite Works by Yannis Tsarouchis

- *Portrait of a young lady*, 1983 (€7,000 – €12,000)
- *Portrait of a young man*, 1983 (€7,000 – €12,000)

Executed in pastel, the two portraits reveal Tsarouchis's exceptional draughtsmanship and sensitivity to colour. Delicately modelled through soft tones of ochre, yellow, white and pink, the figures possess a luminous presence that recalls the spiritual intensity of Byzantine icon painting. Balancing immediacy with refinement, the portraits demonstrate the artist's remarkable ability to transform everyday subjects into images of quiet dignity and enduring humanity.

Historical Textiles

The sale also features a small but significant group of historical textiles. Among the highlights is a small group of rare eighteenth-century embroideries from Skyros, Naxos and Siphnos, representing three distinct textile traditions of the Aegean.

Created in different island communities yet sharing a common Mediterranean heritage, the works reveal the remarkable diversity of Greek embroidery traditions and the unique visual languages that developed across the islands over centuries. Supported by published scholarship

and museum comparators, they offer a rare opportunity to encounter surviving examples of regional textile traditions that form part of the cultural heritage of the Greek islands.

Together, the works featured in the June Fine Art Sale reflect the breadth and diversity of artistic production across Cyprus, Greece and Europe, bringing together modern masters, contemporary artists and historical objects of exceptional cultural significance.

Exhibition & Auction

All works will be on view at **Gallery K, Nicosia**, until **17 June 2026**.

The auction will take place on the same day at **7:30 p.m.**

Full catalogue and bidding information:

www.cypriaauctions.com