## Artist of the month Damian Elwes





For several years Damian Elwes has painted the studios of his favourite artists in Paris. Until 17 December, the Serena Morton gallery is exhibiting his new paintings of studios belonging to Matisse, Cézanne and Kahlo, revealing the working methods of these geniuses. "These people were so visual that even the negative space has been thought about," comments Elwes. His study of Matisse in the South of France unearthed the picturesque house in Collioure where the artist discovered Fauvism in 1905. To delve into the souls of Cézanne and Kahlo, Elwes recreated the original arrangement of furniture and atmosphere in their studios. To research how the buildings that were occupied by these artistic luminaries looked in their day, Elwes scrutinised photographs and books, as well as their own paintings.

Until 17 December, 343 Ladbroke Grove, W10, info@serenamorton.com





## First in Line

Throughout its distinguished 250-year history, Christie's can lay claim to a number of firsts. The founder, James Christie, held the first picture sale in 1767; Christie's was the first to auction a meteorite that crashed to earth in 1803 and the golden typewriter on which lan Fleming wrote James Bond. This December the auction house can mark up another first – Christie's first online auction dedicated to Modern British Art. Alice Murray, associate specialist and head of sale in this department, comments: "This exciting sale will present works by some of the greatest 20th century British artists, from Stanley Spencer and Henry Moore to L.S. Lowry, John Hoyland and Elisabeth Frink." It's bound to appeal to a new generation of collectors with starting bids from just £1,000. Modern British Art Online, 2-13 December, Christie's, 85 Old Brompton Road, SW3, christies.com. The artworks will also be on view at the Christie's Lates event on 6 December



Until 2 December, Jonathan Clark Fine Art is showing an exhibition of late sculpture by Kenneth Armitage, marking a centenary since his birth in 1916. Ruggedly handsome, enigmatic and prickly, Armitage worked from his Chelsea studio, becoming a well-known local figure. Jonathan Clark commented: "Armitage's distinctive focus on the human figure, his use of wit and movement, and his taste for prehistoric forms were ingredients in an approach to sculpture that won him a far-reaching public audience, as well as numerous awards." Armitage first attracted an international reputation at the Venice Biennale in 1952, where he was shown alongside his contemporaries Eduardo Paolozzi, William Turnbull and Lynn Chadwick. Kenneth Armitage (1916-2002) How many miles to Babylon? Until 2 December, 18 Park Walk, SW10, jcfa.co.uk