Lyon & Turnbull's Philip Smith Appointed Trustee of the Crafts Study Centre

Lyon & Turnbull is pleased to announce the appointment of Philip Smith, Director and Head of Modern & Post-War Art & Design, as a trustee of the Crafts Study Centre, one of Britain's leading institutions dedicated to the preservation, study and promotion of modern and contemporary craft.

Based at the University for the Creative Arts in Farnham, Surrey, the Crafts Study Centre is home to an internationally significant collection of British craft, encompassing ceramics, textiles, calligraphy, furniture and associated archives. Its holdings include works and records relating to some of the most influential figures in twentieth-century British craft, including Bernard Leach, Lucie Rie, Hans Coper, Ethel Mairet, Phyllis Barron and Dorothy Larcher.

The appointment recognises Philip's longstanding contribution to the promotion and appreciation of modern and contemporary craft, particularly studio ceramics, contemporary design and the work of living makers.

Edward Wates, Chair of trustees, says:

> “On behalf of the trustees of the Crafts Study Centre (CSC) I am delighted to welcome Philip to our Board, which builds on the connection the CSC has already established with Lyon and Turnbull. Philip brings his unparalleled knowledge of Modern and Post-War Art and Design to help achieve the CSC’s vision to nurture the study and practice of craft in all its diverse forms and assert the relevance of research into the crafts today.”

Philip Smith commented:

> "I'm delighted to have been appointed a trustee of the Crafts Study Centre. The Centre plays a vital role in preserving Britain's craft heritage, advancing research and sharing the knowledge and creativity of exceptional makers. Its collections and archives connect past achievements with contemporary practice, offering inspiration for future generations. I look forward to supporting this important work and contributing to the Centre's future."

A graduate of the Courtauld Institute of Art, Philip has spent more than 15 years working across modern and contemporary art, design and craft, establishing an international reputation as an auctioneer and specialist.

Since joining Lyon & Turnbull in 2018, he has played a central role in developing the auction house's international presence in these fields, notably through the launch of *MODERN MADE*, its flagship London auction series dedicated to modern, post-war and contemporary

art, design, studio ceramics and craft. Under his direction, the series has achieved world-record auction prices for artists and attracted collectors from across the globe.

Beyond his work at Lyon & Turnbull, Philip has been a committed advocate for contemporary makers and the wider craft community. He previously served as a trustee of Court Barn Museum, the Guild of Handicraft Museum, and has co-curated exhibitions, contributed to publications including *Ceramic Review* and delivered specialist lectures, including at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford.

The Crafts Study Centre was established as a charity in 1970, opening to the public in 1977 at the Holburne Museum in Bath. Its collections and archives document the development of British craft from the early twentieth century onwards, providing an important resource for researchers, students, makers and the wider public.

Philip's appointment brings his experience of the international art market, specialist collections and contemporary craft to the Centre's Board of Trustees, supporting its ongoing work to preserve Britain's craft heritage and encourage engagement with future generations of makers and audiences.

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Notes to Editors

About the Crafts Study Centre

The Crafts Study Centre is a specialist museum and research centre based at the University for the Creative Arts in Farnham, Surrey. Its collections and archives celebrate the achievements of leading British craftspeople, supporting research, education, exhibitions and public engagement with modern and contemporary craft.

Website: www.csc.uca.ac.uk

About Lyon & Turnbull

Founded in Edinburgh in 1826, Lyon & Turnbull is one of the UK's leading auction houses, specialising in fine art, design, jewellery, silver and collectables. With offices in London, Edinburgh and Glasgow, the company serves an international community of collectors and offers specialist expertise across a wide range of collecting disciplines.

Website: www.lyonandturnbull.com

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