5



Damien Hirst Toddington Spins for Contemporary Art Society Auction

Acrylic paint on paper, 2008 200.7cm (h) 233.8cm (w) 7.6cm (d) Estimate: £20,000—£40,000 A new work created for *Gothic* and generously donated by the Artist.

Arguably the most influential artist of his generation, Damien Hirst (UK, b. 1965) needs little introduction. Graduating from Goldsmiths College, London in 1989 he has dominated the British art scene since the 1990s and is a major figure in the international art world. The most famous and infamous of the Young British Artists (YBAs), he is best known for his Natural History series — dead animals, such as a shark, a sheep or a cow, preserved in formaldehyde—along with his 'spot paintings' and his 'spin paintings', the latter of which this newly created work for Gothic is a signature piece. Based on the forbidding silhouette of Toddington Manor, Gloucestershire—the 300 room Grade I listed neo-Gothic mansion that Hirst purchased in 2005 to house his collection and accommodate his studio—Hirst has created a unique work in response to the idea of the Gothic in support of the Contemporary Art Society's Centenary.

Damien Hirst was awarded the Turner Prize in 1995.

