

A **Banksy** painting sold at auction for \$1.4 million
Then automatically **shredded** itself

Anonymous British **graffiti** artist Banksy has **pulled off** another **stunt** that seized the attention of the art world --- this time **at the expense of** his own work.

shred 切碎; 碎片

graffiti 涂鸦

pull off 赢下; 完成

stunt 噱头; 绝技

at the expense of 以...为代价

On Friday, a Banksy painting titled "Girl with Red Balloon" was being auctioned at Sotheby's in London. The **bidding** climbed to an extraordinary \$1.4 million, an amount that **tied** the artist's own auction record from 2008. Finally, a hammer pounded to signify the end of the auction.

bidding 投标; 出价

tie 打成平手, 平分秋色

Right then, the painting's canvas began moving downward, seeming to pass through its **elaborate gilded** frame --- and reappearing below in neat, vertical **strips**. Later, Sotheby's would explain that a **shredder** was hidden inside the frame.

elaborate 精心制作的

gilded 镀金的

strip 条; 带

shredder 碎纸机

"It appears we just got Banksy-ed," Sotheby's senior director Alex Branczik said in a statement that described the incident as "the first time in auction history that a work of art automatically shredded itself after coming under the hammer." He told the outlet, "We are busy figuring out what this means in an auction context. The shredding is now part of the **integral** art work."

integral 积分的; 完整的, 整体的

Banksy later posted a video to Instagram that showed *footage* of a shredding mechanism being built into the frame. “A few years ago I secretly built a shredder into a painting,” he stated in the video text, “in case it was ever *put up for auction*...” The video then jumped to clips of Friday’s auction at Sotheby’s, indicating that Banksy --- or someone who works with him --- was there when it happened.

footage 连续镜头

be put up for auction 被拍卖

“The urge to destroy is also a creative urge,” Banksy *captioned* the Instagram post.

caption 标题, 说明; 加上标题

Yet their expressions of all that torture and torment, all that insight and passioning creativity are just *collectables* for the wealthy social elite.