

Picasso Painting Gets Damaged Before Getting Sold

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Category : Human Interest

Unlocking Word Meanings

Read the following words/expressions found in today’s article.

- 1. **entrust** / **ɪnˈtrʌst** / (v) – to give someone the responsibility to take care of something
Example: I **entrusted** my pet dog to my brother while I was away.
- 2. **pull out** / **pʊl aʊt** / (phrasal) – to withdraw something from a place or event
Example: The artist decided to **pull out** her artworks from the exhibit after some misunderstandings with the organizers.
- 3. **fetch** / **fetʃ** / (v) – to be sellable at a certain price
Example: Some luxury cars can **fetch** as much as \$400,000 in the market.
- 4. **infuriate** / **ɪnˈfjʊər-i.əɪt** / (v) – to make someone very angry
Example: My friends’ bad prank **infuriated** me.
- 5. **beyond repair** / **biːˈænd rɪˈpeər** / (idiom) – to be so damaged or destroyed that it cannot be fixed
Example: My bike is **beyond repair** after the accident.

Article

Read the text below.

今年のオークションの前にうっかり、ダメージを負わされた(accidentally : うっかり、故意ではない prior to : への事前に)

A Pablo Picasso painting called “Le Marin” (“The Sailor”) was accidentally damaged prior to its auction this year.

～は、オークションハウスに委託していた(entrust : 委託する)

売れるはずであった所

The “Le Marin” is owned by billionaire businessman and art collector Steve Wynn. Wynn **entrusted** the painting to the auction house Christie’s, where it was supposed to be sold last May. However, the painting was damaged while under the auction house’s care.

匿名の情報源によると(anonymouse : 匿名の)

絵の上に落ちる(fall on : ～の上に落下する)

その事故は作品の右下に穴を残した(artwork : 作品)

結果的に、その絵は予定されていたオークションから除外された(pull out : 取り除かれる scheduled : 予定されていた～)

According to an anonymous source, the damage was caused by a paint roller that fell on the painting. The accident left a hole in the artwork’s lower right side. Consequently, the painting was **pulled out** from its scheduled auction.

ピカソの肖像画の1つ(portrait : 肖像画)

大抵～の値が付く(fetch : 値がつく)

少なくとも7,000万で売られるはずであった

The 1943 painting is one of Picasso’s self-portraits. Like the artist’s other works that usually **fetch** millions of dollars in the market, “Le Marin” was supposed to be sold for at least \$70 million at the auction.

起きた事は、ビジネスマンを激怒させた(infuriate : 激怒させる)

その出来事は、深刻なダメージをその作品に残した(severely : 深刻な)

復旧困難(beyond repair : 復旧困難)

According to Wynn’s consultant, what happened had **infuriated** the businessman. Wynn also reportedly believed that the incident left the artwork so severely damaged that it was **beyond repair**.

～は自信を与えるような発言を残した(assure : 心強い、保証する)

全ての必要な対策を講じている(take step : 対策を講じる)

絵を復旧させる(restore : 復旧、元の状態に戻す)

In response, Christie’s made a statement assuring that it is already taking all the necessary steps to restore the painting.

破片は既に修復の専門家に手渡されている(hand over : 手渡す piece : 破片)

反対に～は恐れている(fear : 恐れ)

まだ復旧可能な状態

その絵が後にどう売れるかは、幾つかの要因に頼っている(later on : 後に)

The piece has already been handed over to art restoration experts who are not part of the auction house. Contrary to what Wynn feared, “Le Marin” is said to still be repairable. However, some experts say that how the painting would sell later on would depend on several factors, such as the location of the damage, the extent of its damage, and the quality of the painting’s restoration.

ダメージの大きさ(extent : 大きさ)

絵の復旧の品質

Viewpoint Discussion

Enjoy a discussion with your tutor.

Discussion A

- Given the damage it incurred, do you think the painting will still fetch the same price? Why or why not?

- If something valuable (e.g. artwork, vintage object, electronics) has already been damaged, would you still buy it? Discuss.

Discussion B

- Do you think important artworks should be sold to private individuals, or should they be accessible to the public? Explain.

- In your opinion, what makes an artwork valuable? Discuss.

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