



Sotheby's Auction Fetches \$6.2M for Unique Duct-Taped Banana Art

Description

A piece of art called "Comedian" was recently sold for a high price. It was made by an artist named Maurizio Cattelan. The artwork is a single banana taped to a wall. It was sold for about \$6.2 million at an auction in New York.

The auction company, Sotheby's, had first thought the art would sell for between \$1 million and \$1.5 million. But a Chinese businessman called Justin Sun bought it for much more. Mr. Sun works with cryptocurrency, a type of digital money.

Mr. Sun didn't just buy the artwork because he liked it. He also said it represents a cultural trend that is happening right now. This trend is about art, funny images on the internet called memes, and cryptocurrency.

The "Comedian" artwork first became popular in 2019. It was shown at an art festival in Miami, and three copies were sold for a lot of money. Some people even ate the banana off the wall as a joke. However, the banana was quickly replaced each time.

Now, the man who bought the "Comedian" artwork is planning to eat the banana. This story shows how sometimes art can be very unusual and still be very valuable.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Artwork** /'ɑ:rt.wɜ:k/ (noun): A visual work of art such as painting sculpture or installation.
2. **Auction** /'ɔ:k.jən/ (noun): A public sale in which goods or property are sold to the highest bidder.
3. **Trend** /trɛnd/ (noun): A general direction in which something is developing or changing.
4. **Represents** /,rɛp.rɪ'zɛnts/ (verb): To serve as a symbol or embodiment of something.
5. **Cultural** /'kʌl.tʃər.əl/ (adjective): Relating to the ideas customs and social behavior of a society.
6. **Unusual** /ʌn'ju:..ʒu.əl/ (adjective): Remarkably different from the norm; not common or typical.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice



1. Who is the artist of the artwork

- Option: Banksy
- Option: Maurizio Cattelan
- Option: Jeff Koons
- Option: Yayoi Kusama

2. Where was the

- Option: Paris
- Option: London
- Option: New York
- Option: Los Angeles

3. How much was the

- Option: \$1 million
- Option: \$3.5 million
- Option: \$6.2 million
- Option: \$10 million

4. What type of digital money is associated with the Chinese businessman who bought the artwork?

- Option: Euros
- Option: Yen
- Option: Cryptocurrency
- Option: Dollars

5. In which year did the

- Option: 2017
- Option: 2018
- Option: 2019
- Option: 2020

6. Where was the

- Option: New York
- Option: Miami
- Option: London
- Option: Paris

True-False



7. The auction company Sotheby's initially estimated the price of the

8. Some people consumed the banana from the

9. The buyer of the

10. The

11. The

12. The buyer of the

Gap-Fill

14. The Chinese businessman Justin Sun is associated with the industry of _____.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Maurizio Cattelan 2. New York 3. \$6.2 million 4. Cryptocurrency 5. 2019 6. Miami

True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. True 11. True 12. False

Gap-Fill: 14. cryptocurrency

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. Which type of movie adaptation involves real actors portraying the characters?

Option: A) Animation

Option: B) Live-action

Option: C) Cartoon

Option: D) Documentary

2. What do cinemas eagerly anticipate to boost earnings for a new movie release?

Option: A) Conclusion

Option: B) Sequel

Option: C) Premier

Option: D) Opening



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3. Which term refers to a female actor?
- Option: A) Director
 - Option: B) Producer
 - Option: C) Actress
 - Option: D) Stuntman
4. What type of impact does a movie have when it is popular worldwide?
- Option: A) Local
 - Option: B) Regional
 - Option: C) National
 - Option: D) Global
5. What is the first appearance of a character or artist in a movie called?
- Option: A) Encore
 - Option: B) Premiere
 - Option: C) Debut
 - Option: D) Epilogue
6. What type of movie adaptation usually reflects the traditions and customs of a society?
- Option: A) Commercial
 - Option: B) Cultural
 - Option: C) Modern
 - Option: D) Religious
7. What embodies the enthusiasm and energy of a celebrated movie event?
- Option: A) Mood
 - Option: B) Ambiance
 - Option: C) Spirit
 - Option: D) Atmosphere
8. What describes a movie that is different or uncommon in its approach?
- Option: A) Typical
 - Option: B) Common
 - Option: C) Standard
 - Option: D) Unusual
9. What is a famous person especially in the entertainment industry called?
- Option: A) Nobility
 - Option: B) Starlet
 - Option: C) Celeb
 - Option: D) Celebrity



10. What word means to stand for or symbolize something in a movie context?

- Option: A) Portrays
- Option: B) Exhibits
- Option: C) Represents
- Option: D) Demonstrates

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. Film studios heavily depend on box office _____ to gauge a movie's success.
12. The movie trailer _____ a thrilling adventure but the actual film fell short of expectations.
13. Audiences felt _____ by the movie's misleading marketing campaign.
14. The success of a film can heavily _____ on the talents of the director.
15. The movie managed to _____ the expectations of even the harshest critics.
16. The protagonist in the film felt incredibly _____ despite being surrounded by people.
17. The movie franchise expanded to become an _____ of interconnected storylines and characters.
18. The director's unique style left a lasting _____ on the movie industry.
19. The actor received a prestigious _____ for their contribution to cinema.
20. The movie followed a popular _____ of blending genres to attract a wider audience.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The action-packed blockbuster featured massive explosions and widespread chaos.
22. The movie poster was beautifully designed with striking visuals and vibrant colors.
23. Bidders competed fiercely to own a piece of cinematic history at the movie memorabilia auction.



24. The comedy film became so well-liked that it topped the charts for weeks.
25. The filmmaker's unique vision left an indelible mark on the movie industry.
26. The main character in the movie symbolized the struggles of an entire generation.
27. The historical drama delved into the traditions and beliefs of a specific time period.
28. The epic film chronicled the rise and fall of powerful rulers from ancient civilizations.
29. The launch event for the movie drew in crowds of excited fans and media coverage.
30. The award ceremony was a time to honor excellence in the movie industry and rejoice in achievements.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. B) Live-action 2. D) Opening 3. C) Actress 4. D) Global 5. C) Debut 6. B) Cultural 7. C) Spirit 8. D) Unusual 9. D) Celebrity 10. C) Represents

Gap-Fill: 11. earnings 12. promises 13. fooled 14. depend 15. fulfill 16. lonely 17. empire 18. stamp 19. honor 20. trend

Matching sentence: 1. destruction 2. artwork 3. auction 4. popular 5. stamp 6. represent 7. cultural 8. emperors 9. opening 10. celebrate

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL2

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