

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Arts and entertainment sector's Top 10 headlines of 2018

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Portrait created by GAN. Image credit: Obvious

By STAFF REPORTS

From artificially intelligent artists to viral pranks, the art market got a dose of disruption thanks to digital channels.

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The art market is leaning into the potential of technologies such as bitcoin, using the innovation to enhance security and data collection. Elsewhere in entertainment, luxury labels found themselves in the spotlight, with releases of branded music and the premiere of a docudrama.

Here are Luxury Daily's top 2018 headlines from the luxury arts and entertainment sector:



Banksy's "Girl with Balloon" self-destructed after selling for \$1.4 million. Image credit: Sotheby's

Banksy pranks Sotheby's with self-destructing art

After auction house Sotheby's sold a work by street artist Banksy for \$1.4 million, the contemporary art sale turned into a spectacle as a hidden trick was revealed.

After the gavel hit to end the sale of the work, a shredder positioned within the frame sliced the painting. Despite seemingly destroying his own art as a statement, Banksy's move may have made the painting worth more ([see](#)

story).



Exterior of Christie's New York auction house. Image credit: Christie's

Christie's embraces blockchain for auction records

Auction house Christie's is leveraging blockchain technology to provide buyers at an upcoming sale with secure certification of their art investments.

For the "An American Place: The Barney A. Ebsworth Collection" sale this November, Christie's teamed up with Artory to catalog each of the works up for auction. Christie's claims to be the first major auction house to use blockchain in this manner, as the technology's adoption grows in other luxury sectors ([see story](#)).



The global art market has seen significant growth thanks to record-breaking auctions. Image credit: Art Basel

Global art market up 12pc after several years of decline

While the United States retains its position as the largest art market in the world, China has just narrowly overtaken the United Kingdom for second place.

The Art Basel and UBS Global Art Market Report takes a look at global spending on fine art and analyzes which markets are currently showing the most potential. The report reaffirms what much of the luxury business has already known: China is here to stay ([see story](#)).



Jackson Wang has launched the anthem "Fendiman." Image credit: Fendi

Luxury labels embrace branded music's marketing potential

Italian fashion house Fendi is the latest luxury brand to get prime placement in popular music, as the star of a hit track.

Hong Kong-born artist Jackson Wang's single "Fendiman" reached the top of two iTunes charts following its debut at the brand's FF Reloaded event in Shanghai on May 26. Lately, luxury brands have been creating more active partnerships with recording artists by leveraging mentions or becoming producers ([see story](#)).



John Varvatos is getting into film and television production. Image credit: John Varvatos

John Varvatos puts focus on storytelling in film, TV partnership

U.S. fashion label John Varvatos is taking its focus on culture to the screen as it joins forces with a production company for film and television content.

Through a joint venture with Network Entertainment Group, John Varvatos will collaborate on original content about fashion, music and pop culture. After launching a record label and producing concerts, this marks a further move into arts and entertainment for the brand ([see story](#)).

Christie's auctions off artificial intelligence in the form of art

Auction house Christie's has brought a modern technology into a veteran industry, as it became the first to sell a piece of art created by a digital rather than human artist.

Christie's was the first auction house to offer artwork created by an artificial intelligence solution, says the company. The move will bring AI into yet another sector in a seemingly surprising creator role, possibly shifting the AI and art industries, but some experts believe its only use is to show what the data solution can do ([see story](#)).



Promotional image for "The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story." Image credit: FX

What impact will the Versace-centric docudrama have on the brand?

A miniseries turned the mystery surrounding the murder of designer Gianni Versace into television drama.

Aired on FX from Jan. 17, "The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story" is inspired by true events surrounding the 1997 death of Italian fashion label Versace's founder. The Versace family has already distanced itself from the project, but what effect will this true crime-style drama have on the brand ([see story](#))?



Many actresses are expected to wear black to the Golden Globes. Image credit: Dior

Hollywood's red-carpet blackout gives labels opportunity to show solidarity

In support of a Hollywood-led movement to combat sexual harassment, a number of celebrities leveraged the Golden Globes red carpet as a platform for protest.

More than 300 women who work in film, television and theater launched Time's Up at the start of the New Year, joining together to help women in their own industry and those who are less privileged fight abuses of power in the workplace. To promote their stand, Time's Up asked attendees to wear black to the Golden Globe Awards on Jan. 7, connecting the brands worn to the cause ([see story](#)).



Lafayette Anticipations opens to the public. Image credit: Galeries Lafayette.

Galeries Lafayette heightens anticipation for physical space for the arts

French department store Galeries Lafayette finally saw the culmination of its bricks-and-mortar investment for the arts as it opened to the public.

Lafayette Anticipations, located on 9 rue du Plâtre in Paris, opened its doors on March 10. The building will act as a hub for its Fondation d'entreprise Galeries Lafayette, holding exhibits and workshops dedicated to the arts ([see story](#)).



The debut Phillips X exhibit will be held at the auctioneer's London galleries. Image credit: Phillips

Phillips showcases art, design through exhibition platform

Auction house Phillips is creating an immersive art buying experience with the debut of a new exhibition platform

for contemporary art.

Dubbed Phillips X, the platform kicked off with a showcase of artist Carlos Cruz-Diez's work, which fuses light, optical illusion and color. For Phillips, this format enables the auction house to showcase pieces from some key talents of the current and last century ([see story](#)).

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