We survey artists whose markets are on the rise, offered across three sales in April and May. From Carol Rama to Rachel Whiteread, spanning a range of media, all have recently been the subject of major shows and feature in important collections.

Anja Niemi

Norwegian photographer Anja Niemi stages, shoots and performs in atmospheric solo scenes that interrogate the social construction of female identity. To date, her work has been acquired by the Nion McEvoy Collection, the Hudson Bay Company Global Art Collection, the Oslo City Council, and the Susanne von Meiss Collection. Her UK auction record was set in May 2017 at Christie’s when The Backyard 2014 sold for £5,250.

Exploring the boundary between the real and the imaginary, Niemi often adopts awkward and contorted poses and plays with different vantage points to highlight the divergence between what we choose to reveal in our daily lives and who we actually are. ‘We have a tendency to cover up our flaws and decay, hiding all the ugliness of life,’ she says. ‘I try to have a bit of humour about it.’