

CLASSIC DRIVER

[Hold the lobster phone! Important Dalí works to be offered in London](#)

Lead

Relax, you're not hallucinating – this really is a telephone modelled on a lobster. It is one of the legendary surrealist artist Salvador Dalí's most important works, and is poised to go under the hammer in December...

A means to an end



The telephone is one of a host of whimsical objects designed by Dalí for his good friend Edward James who, in the mid-1930s, employed the artist to rid him of his financial worries. Now Christie's in London will offer a number of those objects, in a sale comprising over 200 works from the Edward James Foundation. Dalí was fascinated with both lobsters and telephones, both of which served as inspiration for many of his works. He even once said, "I do not understand why, when I ask for a grilled lobster in a restaurant, I am never served a cooked telephone." One of several examples built – though the first to be publicly offered in a long time – it's expected to realise up to £250,000 when it goes under the hammer on December 12. Also included in the sale is a Mae West-style lips sofa, which was allegedly designed *not* to be sat on. It's estimated to fetch up to £400,000.

Photos: Christie's

Gallery

Source URL: <https://www.classicdriver.com/en/article/design-furniture/hold-lobster-phone-important-dali-works-be-offered-london>
© Classic Driver. All rights reserved.