



Auction Gets Banksy-ed!

Who is Banksy?

- Banksy is a graffiti artist, famous for spray-painting artworks on to buildings.
- Banksy's real name is unknown.

Photo: A Banksy artwork on a wall.

£1 Million Painting Self-Destructs

When an art lover paid over £1 million for a famous painting on Friday night, they probably weren't expecting it to self-destruct!

A framed copy of 'Girl with Balloon', a well-known artwork by the graffiti artist Banksy, was sold in London on Friday. The design was first spray-painted on to a bridge in London in 2002. In 2017, it was chosen as the UK's favourite work of art in a vote.

The demand for the painting at the auction was enormous and the winning bidder paid over a million pounds. However, they could not have expected what happened next!

As soon as the painting was sold, a shredder that Banksy had hidden inside the frame was activated, destroying the artwork. Banksy himself posted a video of the painting shredding itself online with the caption 'Going, going, gone'.

Although some might consider the artwork to be ruined, experts think the shredded painting might now be worth even more money.

Despite his famous stunts, Banksy remains **anonymous** as nobody knows his real name. He remains a **controversial** artist as he often paints on buildings without asking the owners' permission, which some people think is **vandalism**.

One thing's for sure, though: if you buy a Banksy, you should expect the unexpected!

Glossary

graffiti Paintings or drawings made in a public place.

anonymous Someone whose name or identity are unknown.

controversial Something that makes people disagree.

vandalism Damaging somebody else's property.