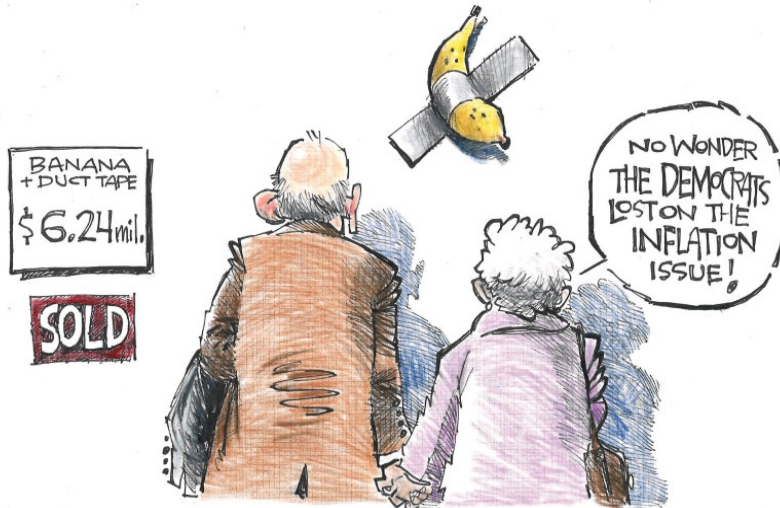


## Have art buyers just gone bananas?

Darkow  
COLUMBIA  
MISSOURIAN  
CAGLE  
CARTOONS  
11/22

### MAURIZIO CATTELAN COMEDIAN



John Darkow, Columbia Daily Tribune / Courtesy of Cagle.com

1. What do these cartoons say about a banana duct-taped to wall that sold for \$6.2 million?
2. The banana is rotting away. So, the buyer gets a certificate of ownership of the conceptual artwork, display instructions, and a roll of silver duct tape. He'll have to buy his own bananas. Did he get a good deal at last week's Sotheby's auction in New York City?
3. Maurizio Cattelan's "Comedian" isn't the first to present a common object as "art." More than a century ago a French artist said a signed urinal was art. What other unusual artworks have sold for big prices?
4. Can you clearly define what is or isn't art? Why or why not?

### Between the lines

"This is not just an artwork; it represents a cultural phenomenon that bridges the worlds of art, memes, and the cryptocurrency community. I believe this piece will ... become a part of history." - Justin Sun, the crypto entrepreneur in Hong Kong who bought the banana.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/21/arts/design/banana-auction-explainer-cattelan.html>

### Additional resources

- [More by John Darkow](https://cagle.com/darkow)
- [More by Randall Enos](https://cagle.com/enos)
- [Editorial Cartoonists](http://editorialcartoonists.com/)



Randall Enos / Courtesy of Cagle.com