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22 January 2007

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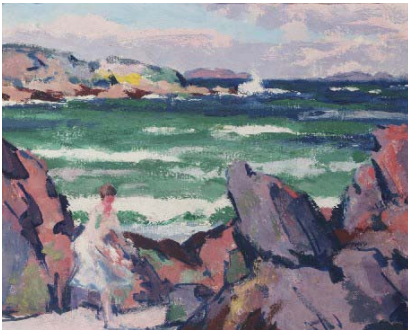
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**CHRISTIE'S TO OFFER FINEST PRIVATE COLLECTION OF SCOTTISH COLOURISTS SEEN ON THE MARKET SINCE 1979**

**Scottish Art including the Hunter Blair Colourist Collection  
Friday 25 May 2007, King Street**

**London** - Christie's will offer the finest private collection of Scottish colourists to come to the market in over twenty five years at a sale of *Scottish Art* on 25 May 2007 in London. This will be the first ever auction dedicated to Scottish Art to be held in London and builds on the success of *The Scottish Sale* held in Edinburgh in October 2006 which realised £3.7 million, the highest ever total for the category at Christie's, and whose Colourist section realised £1.9 million, the highest total for a group of colourists anywhere since Christie's Scottish sale in 1989. The annual sale of *The Scottish Sale at the Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh* will take place on 25 October 2007.



The Colourists were a group of four Scottish artists who traveled frequently to France during the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century where they were heavily influenced by French Post-Impressionist movements. Samuel John Peploe, R.S.A. (1871-1935), Francis Campbell Boileau Cadell (1883-1937), George Leslie Hunter (1879-1931) and John Duncan Fergusson (1874-1961) are recognized as having introduced 'modern' painting to Scotland, and played a substantial role in the development of the British art scene in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The present collection was assembled by the late Sir James Hunter Blair, Bt. (1889-1983) during the 1960s and early 1970s when Colourist pictures could be bought for as little as £100. Consisting of 20 paintings and 5 works on paper, the collection includes a broad selection of works from each of the artists and is expected to realise in the region of £1 million, with individual estimates from £3,000 to £200,000.



**Francis Campbell Boileau Cadell (1883-1937)** was born in Edinburgh and spent much of his adolescence living in Paris and Munich. In 1910 he visited Venice where he was particularly influenced by the effects of light on colour, and his paintings began to develop a distinct style. Throughout his career, the artist spent most of his time working from his studio in Edinburgh where he painted portraits, figure studies and still lifes. However, after his first visit to the island of Iona *circa* 1913, the West coast of Scotland became the most important influence to the artist and he painted a number of recognisable landscapes of the area. The Hunter Blair collection includes 11 paintings by Cadell and offers a representative selection of the artist's different styles including *North Wind*, *Iona (The Bather)* (estimate: £50,000-80,000) *illustrated page 1*, *The Rose*, a still life which illustrates the artist's use of cubist form (estimate: £100,000-150,000), *Ships, Venice* (estimate: £40,000-

60,000) *Jean Cadell at Dalsersf, seated in a white dress* (estimate: £60,000-80,000) and the sublime *Nude reflected in a mirror* (estimate: £150,000-200,000) illustrated above left.

**Samuel John Peploe, R.S.A. (1871-1935)** traveled to Paris and in the 1890s where he was particularly influenced by Manet and the Impressionists. Having returned to Edinburgh, he met J.D. Fergusson and their shared appreciation of modern French painting saw them both return to France in 1910 and further absorb the influences of the post-impressionist movement. Peploe spent most of his life in Edinburgh, traveling regularly to the South of France and to the west coast of Scotland, and the Hunter Blair Collection will offer 3 paintings by the artist; *Cassis* (estimate: £60,000-80,000) illustrated right, *The Harbour, Cassis* (estimate: £40,000-60,000) and *North Berwick* (estimate: £8,000-12,000)



**John Duncan Fergusson (1874-1961)** lived a less settled life and moved more frequently than his fellow colourists during his lifetime. He made regular visits to France between 1895 and 1906, eventually moving to Paris where he became a member of the artist café society in Monparnasse in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century alongside Léger, Modigliani and Picasso. He developed a style distinct from that of the other colourists and later moved to the south of France, Edinburgh, London, and finally to Glasgow. The Hunter Blair

Collection includes 2 of his paintings; *The Band Stand and Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh* (estimate: £50,000-80,000) and *After Dinner, 1902* a rare example of an early work by the artist (estimate: £70,000-100,000) illustrated left.

**George Leslie Hunter (1879-1931)** moved to California with his parents in 1892 and spent many of his younger years in Los Angeles and San Francisco. A friend of American authors Will Irwin, Bret Harte and Jack London, for whom he illustrated a book, Hunter was to hold his first one-man show at the Mark Hopkins Institute in San Francisco in 1906 but on the eve of the opening, the great earthquake destroyed both the gallery and all his work. In 1916 he exhibited with the Glasgow art dealer Alexander Reid with great success, and he went on to exhibit with the other three Colourists in London and Paris during the 1920s. The Hunter Blair collection offers 4 paintings by Hunter; *Roses* (estimate: £60,000-80,000) illustrated right, *St. Monance, Fife* (estimate: £20,000-30,000), *Interior with figure, recto*; *Still Life with melon and grapes* (estimate: £25,000-35,000) and *Ceres, Fife* (estimate: £20,000-30,000).



Elsewhere, the sale will offer a strong selection of works from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries reflecting the artistic heritage of Scotland and including paintings by Allan Ramsay, Jacob More, Sir Henry Raeburn, Sir John Lavery, Joseph Henderson, Sam Bough, Joseph Farquharson, Sir David Wilkie, Anne Redpath, Elizabeth Blackadder, Alberto Morrocco, Jack Vettriano, and William McTaggart. The auction will also feature a section devoted to works by contemporary Scottish artists including Stephen Conroy, Simon Laurie and Archibald Dunbar McIntosh, among others.

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*Images available on request*  
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- Selected highlights from *The Scottish Sale including the Hunter Blair Colourist Collection* will be on view at the following locations:

Christie's, New York	7 to 12 April
The Glasgow Art Club	2 and 3 May, in support of <i>Play Scotland</i>
Christie's King Street, London	20 to 24 May

- The annual sale of *The Scottish Sale at the Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh* will take place on 25 October 2007.

- Since 1766, Christie's has established a rich history of selling British and Irish art and James Christie himself was the subject of a portrait painted by his good friend Thomas Gainsborough. In 2006, the *International British and Irish Art* department realised £93.1 million (\$173.2 million / €136 million), a 50% increase on the sales total for 2005, strengthening our market share for the category and setting records for the highest ever sale total for an auction of 20<sup>th</sup> century British art (£12.4 million in June and £12.5 in November), as well as the highest ever price for a British work on paper (J.M.W. Turner's *The Blue Rigi*, which sold for £5.8 million in June). The five sales of paintings during *British Art Week* at King Street in November realised a total of £29.1 realizing the highest ever total for a week of British art sales at Christie's and breaking the previous record of £28.3 million realised at *British Art Week* in June.

Christie's international team of specialists are based in London, New York and Edinburgh and regularly offer pictures, drawings and sculpture with estimates ranging from £150 to £5 million, and including the work of Constable, Turner, Lowry, Auerbach, Rossetti, Hepworth and Caulfield, among others. *British Art Week* is held in London every June and November and offers a series of sales dedicated to British art including *British Works on Paper*, *Victorian and Traditionalist Art* and *20<sup>th</sup> Century British Art*. A number of specialised theme sales are also held throughout the year in New York, London and Edinburgh including *Scottish Art*, *Irish Art*, *Sporting Art* and *Maritime Art*. See [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com) for further details.