

For Immediate Release

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THREE EXCEPTIONAL SINGLE-OWNER COLLECTIONS TO BE OFFERED AT CHRISTIE'S LONDON IN NOVEMBER

London – Christie's Private Collection and Country House Sales department announce three exciting single-owner collections to be offered in November, each representing a unique theme and taste.

- *A Rococo Fantasy: Treasures from a Bavarian Collection* will feature a luxurious mix of 18th century French, German and Italian furniture, pictures, porcelain and works of art and will take place on 6 November.
- *A Town House in Mayfair* will offer the contents of a grand London town house decorated by leading interior designer John Stefanidis including fine sporting pictures, furniture, works of art, carpets, silver and books and will be offered on 20 November.
- *Imperial Design: From Stockholm to St. Petersburg* offers a fascinating group of Russian and Swedish works of art of the highest quality and design. The sale will take place on 25 November.

Orlando Rock, Director and Head of Christie's Private Collections and Country House sale department: *"This November at Christie's in London, we will offer an unprecedented calendar of private collection sales. The three collections each present a unique and distinctive taste and were assembled through a uniform passion for acquiring beautiful and exceptional works of art."*

A Rococo Fantasy: Treasures from a Bavarian Collection will take place on 6 November, and will be exhibited alongside the annual auction of *Early European Furniture, Sculpture and Works of Art*. The collection of over 350 lots was passionately assembled by a private collector over the last 50 years and was sourced through leading European art dealers, and from landmark auctions which took place over the period. Offering a particularly strong selection of rococo works, the collection is highlighted by a fine selection of Louis XV chairs, including a monumental Wurzburg throne chair acquired



from Albrecht Neuhaus (estimate: £8,000 to £12,000); a highly important pair of German parcel-gilt silver table ornaments with the mark of Abraham II Drentwett of Augsburg, 1699-1703 (estimate: £70,000 to £100,000); a pair of Louis XV ormolu-mounted Chinese-porcelain vases (estimate: £15,000 to £25,000); and a beautiful and diverse selection of Meissen porcelain, including many fine Bottger, Hausmalerei, Goldchinesen and Kakiemon examples (estimates range from £250 to £18,000). The collection is expected to realise in excess of £1 million.

A Town House in Mayfair will take place on 20 November and will be exhibited alongside the sale of *Dealing in Excellence: A Celebration of Hotspur & Jeremy* which will offer the stock of two of the greatest names in the furniture business, both of whom will continue as consultants. The monumental Victorian house in Mayfair was acquired by an international family who employed the leading designer John Stefanidis to redesign and decorate the interior. Later described as ‘*splendid unobtrusiveness*’, the redesigned interior presented a modern and classical British theme with an international twist. The oak panelled dining room and library decorated by fine sporting pictures were complimented by English furniture and luxurious velvet and silk decorations. Leading highlights from the collection include *A Hunter and three dogs, the property of William Brewitt, Esq., in a landscape with a steam train and a church beyond* by John Ferneley, Sen. (Leicestershire 1782-1860 Melton Mowbray) (estimate: £60,000-£80,000); a Regency ormolu-mounted, brass-inlaid ebony and Italian specimen marble centre table *circa* 1815, attributed to George Bullock (estimate: £60,000 to £100,000); a large Chinese cloisonné enamel moonflask from the Qianlong dynasty (1736-95) (estimate: £25,000 to £35,000); and a large Kirman carpet from South East Persia, *circa* 1890 (estimate: £25,000 to £40,000). The 200 lot collection is expected to realise in excess of £1.5 million.



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Imperial Design: From Stockholm to St. Petersburg will take place on 25 November and will be exhibited alongside the biannual sales of Christie’s *Russian Art Week*. The visually striking collection of Russian and Swedish glass and ormolu works of art and furniture was assembled by a Swedish connoisseur and represents a diverse and fascinating history of design in the Russian and Swedish decorative arts from the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The arts prospered in St. Petersburg under the patronage of Catherine the Great who was a passionate builder of palaces, all of which were



decorated in a lavish style. Catherine the Great and her descendents appreciated European design, but with a distinct Russian influence, and the works to be offered include a rare Russian ormolu, mahogany and glass gueridon, the design attributed to Andrei Voronikhin. *circa* 1805 (estimate: £40,000 to £60,000); a Russian ormolu, cut-glass and blue-glass six-light chandelier stamped and dated 'Johann Fischer, St. Petersburg, 1800' (estimate: £40,000 to £60,000); a pair of Russian parcel-gilt, green-painted and mahogany bergeres *circa* 1815 (Estimate: £20,000 to £30,000); and a Russian ormolu and patinated bronze oil lamp *circa* 1820 (estimate: £5,000 to £8,000). The collection of 130 lots is expected to realise in the region of £1 million.

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About Christie's

Christie's is the world's leading art business with global art sales in 2007 that totaled £3.1 billion/\$6.3 billion. This marks the highest total in company and in art auction history. For the first half of 2008, art sales totaled £1.8 billion / \$3.5 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's conducted the greatest auctions of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, and today remains a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 600 sales annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$80 million. Christie's has 85 offices in 43 countries and 14 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Tel Aviv, Dubai, Hong Kong and Zurich. Most recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in emerging and new markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

Christie's Private Collection and County House Sales Department

Since its foundation in 1766, Christie's has traditionally held the most significant and successful sales in this category. These sales have embraced all fields, tastes and artistic endeavours from the jewels of Madame du Barry in 1793 and the 40-day Stowe sale in 1848, to more recent auctions of property of Cecil Beaton, Marilyn Monroe, Rudolph Nureyev, the Viennese Rothschilds, Hubert de Givenchy, Simon Sainsbury, and five Royal auctions including property from the collection of H.R.H. The Princess Margaret.

The magic of the objects, the styles of their owners and the romance of times past are intertwined in the sale of a single-owner collection. Sometimes conducted at the collection's location, such auctions evoke the ambiance of the property's original setting and suggest to buyers how pieces can be displayed in their own homes.