

Press Release

CHRISTIE'S

For Immediate Release

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THE RICHARD GERE GUITAR COLLECTION TO BE OFFERED AT CHRISTIE'S NEW YORK ON OCTOBER 11

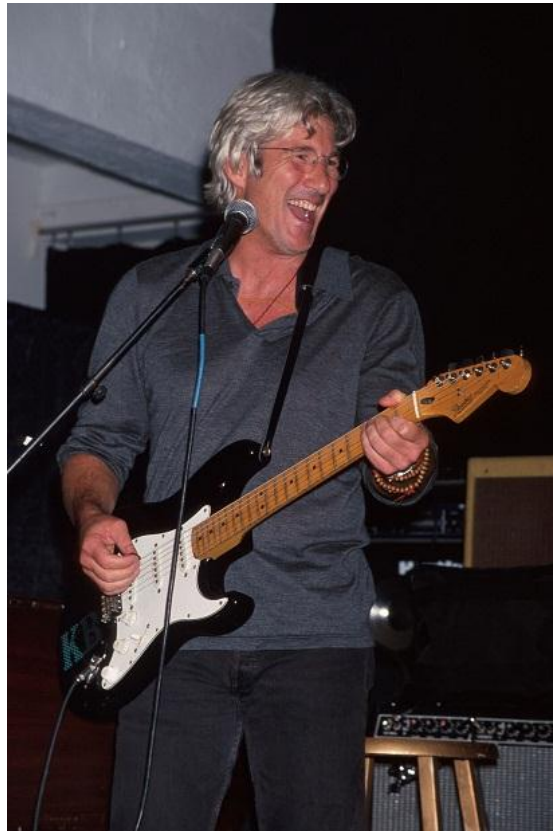


Photo by Dave Allocca/DMI/Time Life Pictures/Getty Images

New York – On October 11, Christie's will present ***The Richard Gere Guitar Collection***. The sale will offer approximately 110 lots, which will include a broad representation of vintage American guitars from the marquee names of C.F. Martin, Gibson, Fender, Gretsch and Epiphone, and a selection of amplifiers, as well as iconic guitars that belonged to Albert King, Peter Tosh and James D'Aquisto. The sale is expected to realize in the region of \$1,000,000.

As a leading Hollywood figure, Richard Gere is known for his dynamic roles and iconic characters, but he is also an accomplished musician and played in such films as *Cotton Club* and *Pretty Woman* among others. Mr. Gere studied trumpet, and he is a self-taught pianist and guitarist who has played since his youth. With a passion for American vintage guitars, Mr. Gere amassed a personal collection built upon their playability and craftsmanship. Kept and played in his home and office, Mr. Gere's collection has been under wraps until now.

Richard Gere said: "I've had a love affair with guitars since I was a kid. They have been my true friends through the best and worst of times. I never planned to put together a collection, I just bought ones that I liked, the ones that sounded good and played well. Some are very special. Although it's more than a little painful to let them go, each one has been played, loved and appreciated- and will be again."

Kerry Keane, Head of Musical Instruments Department, said: "Each guitar in this sale began as an instrument that Richard Gere purchased for himself, because he saw something brilliant, whether it was for its tonal quality, playability or sheer beauty. What transpired over a lifetime is an almost encyclopedic representation of American guitar making. This is an exciting opportunity for collectors and fans alike to take advantage of Mr. Gere's unrecognized talent for creating a cohesive collection."

Highlights include:



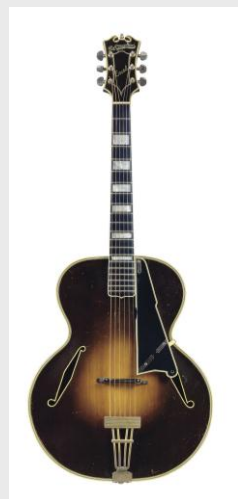
C.F.MARTIN AND COMPANY
A GUITAR, STYLE D-28,
NAZARETH, PA., 1931
Estimate: \$50,000-70,000

The first Style D-28 designated by
the C.F. Martin Company



GIBSON INCORPORATED
EX-ALBERT KING
A SOLID-BODY ELECTRIC
GUITAR, FLYING V
KALAMAZOO, MI, 1958
Estimate: \$60,000-90,000

Documented as a pre-production
prototype by Gibson
Incorporated, the guitar was
formally the property of Albert
King.



JOHN D'ANGELICO
AN ARCHTOP GUITAR, STYLE
EXEL, NEW YORK, 1935
Estimate: \$10,000-15,000

Formerly the property of
James D' Aquisto



**FENDER ELECTRIC
INSTRUMENT COMPANY**
A SOLID-BODY ELECTRIC
GUITAR, TELECASTER
FULLERTON, CA., 1953
Estimate: \$15,000-25,000



GIBSON INCORPORATED
AN ELECTRIC GUITAR,
STYLE ES-335 TD
KALAMZOO, MI., 1960
Estimate: \$20,000-30,000



**FENDER ELECTRIC
INSTRUMENT COMPANY**
A SOLID-BODY ELECTRIC
GUITAR, STRATOCASTER
FULLERTON, CA., 1954
Estimate: \$30,000-40,000

Further details of the sale and catalogues will be available by mid-September 2011.

Auction: *The Richard Gere Guitar Collection*

October 11, 2011

Viewing: Christie's Rockefeller Galleries

October 8-11

About Richard Gere

Richard Gere (b. 1949) is internationally known as both a leading film actor and philanthropist. Since his film career began in 1975, Mr. Gere has starred in over 40 movies. His best-known films include *An Officer and a Gentleman*, *Days of Heaven*, *American Gigolo*, *Looking for Mr. Goodbar*, *Pretty Woman*, *Primal Fear*, *Unfaithful*, and *Chicago*, for which he won a Golden Globe Award for Best Actor. Mr. Gere attended the University of Massachusetts where he was a philosophy and theater major.

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2011 that totaled £2.0 billion/\$3.2 billion. In 2010 it achieved global auction and private sales of £3.3 billion/\$5.0 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 450 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 \$100 million. Christie's has 53 offices in 32 countries and 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Zurich, Dubai and Hong Kong. More 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.

*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and do not reflect costs, financing fees or application of buyer's or seller's credits.

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Images available on request

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