

**CHRISTIE'S**  
PRESS RELEASE | GENEVA | 19 OCTOBER 2012  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# BACCHUS & TOBACCOS

FINE AND RARE WINES

AND

AN INCREDIBLE PRIVATE COLLECTION OF VINTAGE COGNAC, WHISKY AND CIGARS  
AT AUCTION AT CHRISTIE'S GENEVA ON 13&14 NOVEMBER

## A REVOLUTIONARY COGNAC



### A 1789 BOTTLE OF GRANDE FINE CHAMPAGNE COGNAC

**Geneva** – This November, Christie's Fine and Rare Wines auction will not only feature a fabulous range of great wines, but will also boast a separate catalogue dedicated to an incredible private collection of vintage Cognac, Whisky and Cigars. Highlighted by a sensational bottle of Grande Fine Champagne made by Saulnier Frères in 1789 – the year of the French Revolution (*illustrated above*), this special sale of 249 lots will take place on the morning of the 13 November at Christie's Geneva. On the following day some 870 lots of fine and rare wines, including a superb collection from the Private Cellar of Henri Mayer will also be offered at auction. The two day sales are expected to realise a combined total in excess of SFr.3 million.

**Michael Ganne, Head of the Sale:** "What a great vintage to start a Cognac collection with, the historical and extremely rare 1789 – the year of the French Revolution. Cognac will play an important role at Christie's November sales in Geneva alongside rare spirits, fine wines and, offered at auction in Switzerland for the first time in many years, cigars. Furthermore we are delighted to present a superb wine collection from the private Cellar of Henri Mayer. It is an immense honour to bring to auction one of his more iconic wines – The Richebourg 1978. This is a unique chance to buy this wine with such perfect provenance and condition".

The **Cognac collection** was compiled by a much celebrated collector over the past thirty years and includes a very comprehensive selection of some the greatest 19<sup>th</sup> century spirits to have ever been produced. Among the many highlights, we are delighted to offer an extremely rare bottle which dates back to the French revolution, a Grande Fine Champagne 1789 made by Saulnier Frères (estimate: SFr.15,000-25,000; *illustrated on page 1*), as well as magnums of Grande Fine Champagne 1811 from Chabanneau and an extensive range of other 19<sup>th</sup> century rarities including Armagnacs.



**Vintage Cuban Cigars** will also feature for the first time in many years, highlights include Montecristo Robustos (1 jar of 25 cigars per lot estimated at SFr.500-700; *illustrated on page 3*), Millenium, Hoyo de Monterey, Churchills and Cohiba, Selection Reserva.

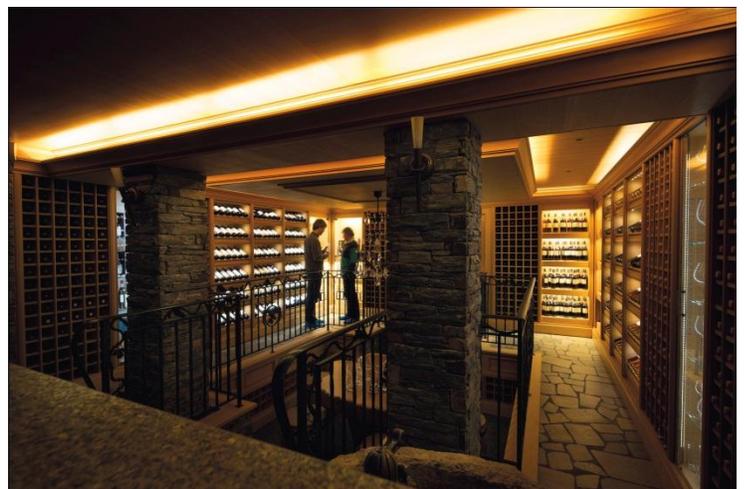


From the Highlands of Scotland, a **superb private collection of Macallan Whisky** from the Finest and Rarest range will be offered featuring vintages dating back to 1937 through to 1972. A unique lot of miniatures including all of the vintages will also be a highlight and a very rare Macallan 50 Year Old in a special Lalique decanter (estimate: SFr.10,000-15,000; *illustrated left*).

The 14 November auction will feature 870 lots of the best Bordeaux, Burgundy, Rhône, Champagne and Cognac. The sale begins with a great private collection recently removed from a beautiful Swiss cellar (*the cellars illustrated below*). From Bordeaux, there are many classic wines including Mouton-Rothschild 1929 and 1959, Pétrus 1959, Haut-Brion 1961, Lafite-Rothschild, Margaux and Léoville Las Cases 1982 as well as a wide selection of First-Growths from more recent vintages.

This collection also features an incredible array of Château d'Yquem with vintages going as far back as 1861 and a wonderful vertical collection in perfect condition of vintages from 1900 through to 2000 (estimate: SFr 150,000-200,000). This collection also boasts more than 500 bottles of great wines from Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, from La Tâche 1990 to Romanée-Saint-Vivant 1999 and 2002 in dozen-bottle and two-dozen bottle lots.

The afternoon session begins with some extremely rare lots sourced directly from **the legendary cellar of Henri Jay** and will include Richebourg 1978 (estimate: SFr.75,000-95,000; *illustrated top right*), Cros Parantoux 1985 and 1992 and Echézeaux 1990.



Monsieur Jay was known for his meticulous work both in the vineyards and in the cellar, making extraordinary, complex wines using traditional methods.

The final portion of the sale will present further stunning lots from Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, such as an assortment case from the 1999 vintage.

Other highlights include, a superb double-magnum of Cheval Blanc 1921 (estimate: SFr.25,000-35,000; *illustrated left*), a full dozen Haut Brion 1961 and many superb vintages of Pétrus from 2008 through to 1952.

# CHRISTIE'S

## **Auctions:**

Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues  
33 quai des Bergues, Geneva, Geneva

### **Venerable Spirits and Fine Cigars from A Famous Private Collection**

Tuesday 13 November 2012  
10am (lots 1-249) // Overall: 249 lots

### **Fine and Rare Wines Including A Superb Collection and Wines from the Private Cellar of Henri Jayer**

Wednesday 14 November 2012  
10am (lots 1-274) / 2pm (lots 275-870) // Overall: 870 lots



## **Viewings:**

By appointment only – please contact Michael Ganne [mganne@christies.com](mailto:mganne@christies.com)

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### **PRESS CONTACTS:**

Cristiano De Lorenzo (London / Geneva) | +44 207 389 2283 | [cdelorenzo@christies.com](mailto:cdelorenzo@christies.com)

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## **About Christie's**

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2012 that totaled £2.2 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 has since conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 450 auctions 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 also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War and Contemporary, Impressionist and Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales totaled £413.4 million/\$661.5 million in the first half of 2012, an increase of 53% on the previous year. Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, and Hong Kong. More recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in growth 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*

Complete catalogue available online at [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com) or via the Christie's iPhone app

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