

CHRISTIE'S

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FINE AND RARE WATCHES AT CHRISTIE'S NEW YORK ON DECEMBER 17



ROLEX, REFERENCE 6239

A fine stainless steel chronograph wristwatch with bracelet and original guarantee
Estimate: \$60,000 – 80,000



PATEK PHILIPPE, REFERENCE 2499

A very rare 18K gold perpetual calendar chronograph wristwatch with moon phases and tachometer scale
Estimate: \$550,000 – 750,000

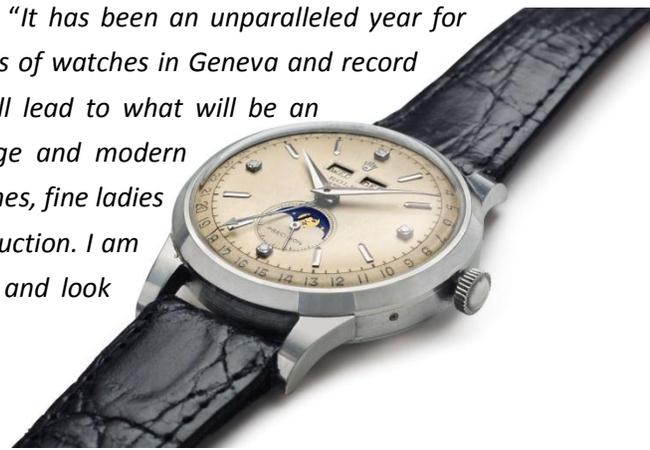


PATEK PHILIPPE, REFERENCE 2481

An exceptional 18K gold wristwatch with center seconds and cloisonné enamel dial
Estimate: \$200,000 – 400,000

New York – Following a sensational Fall auction season of watches that has seen unprecedented totals achieved across Geneva and Hong salerooms, **Christie's New York** is delighted to present a selection of over 370 fine and rare timepieces for auction on Tuesday, December 17. The auction of *Important Watches* is highlighted by the legendary Patek Philippe Reference 2499, a Rolex Reference 8171 "Padellone", and a Patek Philippe "Forêt Vierge" Reference 2481 – this present example never before offered at auction. Prices begin at \$800 and range upwards to \$750,000 for the most important signed timepiece. The two-session sale to be held at Christie's flagship Rockefeller Center saleroom is expected to achieve in excess of \$10 million.

John Reardon, Head of Watches for Christie's New York, commented: "It has been an unparalleled year for watches globally at Christie's. The highest total ever achieved for a series of watches in Geneva and record prices realized for Rolex from the Day-Date Collection in Hong Kong all lead to what will be an incredible finale to the fall Watches season here in New York. Vintage and modern wristwatches from all of the major manufacturers, as well as pocket watches, fine ladies watches, and rare signed clocks will all be represented in our upcoming auction. I am thrilled to have joined the global Watches team at Christie's this year and look forward to a fruitful first auction on December 17."



UNUSUAL GEMS FROM PATEK PHILIPPE



Reflecting the continued demand for top-quality wristwatches by Patek Philippe, the **Reference 2499 third series** (pictured page one, center), is widely acknowledged as one of the world's greatest complicated watch models ever created. Manufactured in 1960, with a pre-sale estimate of \$550,000 – 750,000, this example features round chronograph buttons, applied baton numerals, and outer second divisions and tachometer scale. Never before offered at auction, the present example **Reference 2481** (pictured page one, right), was recently discovered by the original family in a suitcase once belonging to their deceased father safely tucked within its original Patek Philippe box from the 1950s. This watch is **one of eight** known “*Forêt Vierge*” cloisonné dial 2481's to exist, two examples of which are currently on display at the Patek Philippe Museum in Geneva. The dial, designed by celebrated Stern Freres artist Marguerite Koch, is part of the celebrated Tahitian dial series by Patek Philippe. Offered as Lot 228 in the afternoon session of *Important Watches* is a watch that was a part of

the one of the most significant days in American history: the **Patek Philippe Reference 1463 Dr. Kemp Clark**. A rare 18K gold chronograph wristwatch with pulse meter and original certificate that belonged to Dr. Kemp Clark, the attending Neurosurgeon who was responsible for calling the time of death of President John F. Kennedy at 1:00pm on November 22, 1963. Engraved *Kemp Clark* on back and manufactured in 1948, the watch has a pre-sale estimate of \$100,000 – 150,000.

ROLEX



Following the prestigious single-themed evening auction *Rolex Daytona "Lesson One"* on November 10 at Christie's Geneva, which established 50 new world auction records out of 50 lots offered for sale and quadrupled the pre-sale estimate to achieve a total of \$13.2 million – Christie's New York will continue with exceptional Rolex offerings on December 17. Highlighted by the **Reference 8171 "Padellone"** (pictured left; estimate: \$250,000 – 350,000) this extremely rare stainless steel and diamond-set automatic triple calendar wristwatch with moon phases marks a real treat for Rolex collectors and watch aficionado's alike. The **Reference 6239** (pictured page one, left; estimate: \$60,000 – 80,000), the very first model of the celebrated **Daytona** series, features the famed Paul Newman dial, a crisp bezel, desirable red outer fifth-seconds ring with original bracelet and guarantee.

A. LANGE & SÖHNE

Christie's New York is delighted to present fourteen top-quality offerings from the renowned maker A. Lange & Söhne as part of its *Important Watches* auction. This selection is highlighted by a **Reference 722.050** (pictured right) very rare 18K honey-colored gold limited edition tourbillon wristwatch with power reserve, date, and hack feature. Set with a pre-sale estimate of \$100,000 – 150,000, this watch carries a special provenance as this Lange 1 Tourbillon “*Homage to F.A Lange,*” was produced in 2010 in a limited series of 150 pieces to commemorate the 165th anniversary of the brand. Additional highlights include an 18K pink gold hunter case minute repeating keyless lever pocket watch, circa 1901 (estimate: \$15,000 – 20,000) and a rare platinum perpetual calendar chronograph wristwatch, circa 2008 (estimate: \$40,000 – 60,000).



ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE



Patek Philippe, Reference 5970. (Lot 179)
An 18k gold perpetual calendar chronograph wristwatch with moon phases, gold-colored dial, and original certificate. *Circa 2011.*
Estimate: \$300,000 – 400,000



Patek Philippe, Reference 5020. (Lot 286)
An 18k gold cushion-shaped perpetual calendar chronograph wristwatch with moon phases. *Manufactured in 2001.*
Estimate: \$140,000 – 160,000



Vacheron Constantin, Reference 17701/710G. (Lot 358)
A lady's 18k white gold and diamond bracelet wristwatch. *Manufactured in 1998.*
Estimate: \$100,000 – 150,000



Chanel, J12. (Lot 133)
An 18k white gold and ceramic limited edition automatic wristwatch set with diamonds and rubies. *Circa 2008.*
Estimate: \$80,000 – 120,000



Thomas Engel, No. 28. (Lot 265)
An 18k gold openface chronometer watch with tourbillon, annual calendar, sidereal and mean solar times, with wooden presentation box. *Manufactured in 1980.*
Estimate: \$80,000 – 120,000



Vacheron Constantin, Reference 30066-67. (Lot 357)
A rare platinum skeletonized tourbillon wristwatch with date and power reserve. *Manufactured in 2005.*
Estimate: \$80,000 – 120,000



Vacheron Constantin. (Lot 294)
An 18k gold minute repeating perpetual calendar openface keyless lever split-seconds chronograph watch with moon phases. *Manufactured in 1914.*
Estimate: \$40,000 – 60,000



Patek Philippe. (Lot 302)
An 18k gold, enamel and diamond-set openface keyless lever art nouveau pendant watch with matching brooch. *Manufactured in 1901.*
Estimate: \$10,000 – 15,000

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, reached a total of £2.4 billion/\$3.68 billion in global auction and private sales in the first six months of 2013. In 2012, global auction and private sales totaled £3.92 billion/\$6.27 billion, marking the highest annual revenue ever reached by Christie's. 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, jewelry, photography, 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 an emphasis on Post-War and Contemporary, Impressionist and Modern, Old Masters and Jewelry. Global private sales totaled £465 million/\$711 million in the first half year of 2013, an increase of 13% from the same period last year, breaking the sales record of half year private sales for Christie's and the art market for three consecutive years.

Christie's has a global presence of 53 offices in 32 countries and 11 salerooms around the world including London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, and Shanghai. Christie's has recently led in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and The United Arab Emirates, with successful sales, exhibitions and initiatives held 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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