# CHRISTIE'S

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# David Eley's NEW ILLUSTRATED MAP OF **THE DOURO**

To be offered at Christie's in June



**London** – Christie's is honoured to announce that the *The New Illustrated Map of The Douro* by David Eley will be offered together with a fine collection of twelve bottles of *Quinta do Noval Ports (inc Nacional)*, from 1937 to 2003 in the *Finest & Rarest Wines and Spirits* sale on the 6 June 2013 (estimate: £5,400-6,200, *map illustrated above*). A further selection from Noval, Taylor's, Graham's and Fonseca complete the accompanying six Port lots. This monumental work by English artist and writer Eley measures  $3.2m \times 1.1m$  (elegantly framed for wall mounting) and comprises 130 illustrations depicting the principal wine making quintas, flora and fauna of Northern Portugal. The bottles that feature in the sale have recently been released from their respective port houses and delivered directly to Christie's London, offering international wine collectors and enthusiasts around the world a unique opportunity to purchase Port of superb provenance. Overall, the sale comprises 703 lots and is expected to realise in the region of £1million.

**Noah May, Specialist, Christie's** commented: "Christie's are delighted to unveil David Eley's majestic New Illustrated Map of The Douro' as part of our Finest and Rarest Wines sale in June. This is a unique artistic work, which celebrates the great heritage of The Douro Valley. In addition to the map we are pleased to include six lots of rare port with superb provenance which make a fitting backdrop to this wonderful work of art."

Inspired by **Joseph James Forrester**'s (1809-1861) acclaimed and highly regarded 19<sup>th</sup> century Douro maps, **David Eley**'s fully illustrated work defines the modern Douro of the 21<sup>st</sup> century; providing a lively and vibrant depiction of the leading Port wine Quintas and major single Quinta table wine estates. Highlighting Port wine's great heritage along the Douro River and the valley's Port wine quintas, from the Atlantic coast to the border of Spain, this map marks an exciting new era in Portuguese winemaking.

**David Eley, Map author** commented: "The Douro is the oldest formally demarcated wine region in the world and its wines the equal of Bordeaux and Burgundy Grand Cru, in creating this map I wish to define a 21<sup>st</sup> century Douro and lend a pictorial narrative to Port's majestic origins."

David Eley, a professional artist for more than 28 years is best known for his paintings depicting wine and food subjects. David has concentrated on fine wine since 1995, painting classic vineyards and gastronomic subjects mostly for private clients, interspersed with occasional maps. He is passionate about good wines particularly Port and The Douro. Since his original introduction to the upper echelons of French wine-making, through his friendship with a famous wine merchant, he has gained privileged access to the winemaker's world.

Note to Editors: The New Illustrated Map of the Douro is conservation mounted and presented in a handsome 'Forrester Frame' constructed of solid oak, designed by David Eley and made by one of London's leading bespoke picture framers

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### AUCTION:

Finest & Rarest Wines and Spirits Thursday, 6 June 2013 10:30am

#### About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2012 that totaled £3.92 billion/\$6.27 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 £631.3 million/\$1 billion in 2012, an increase of 26% on the same period last year.

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\*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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