

# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | SOUTH KENSINGTON  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 15 July 2014



## Out of THE ORDINARY



### CHRISTIE'S SECOND ANNUAL SALE OF RARE AND EXTRAORDINARY WORKS OF ART AND OBJECTS CELEBRATING ALL THINGS UNUSUAL

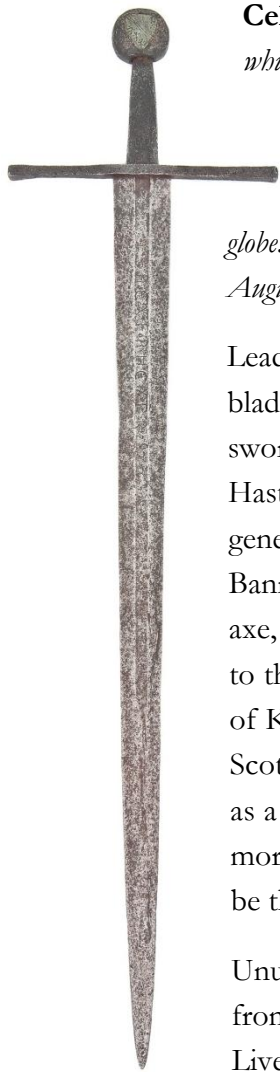
EXTENDED PUBLIC EXHIBITION FROM 4 AUGUST TO 3 SEPTEMBER 2014



SC            Okay, stand by.  
SC            Okay, Houston. Hey, we've got a problem  
here.  
CAPCOM     This is Houston, say again please.  
SC            Houston, we've had a problem. We've had  
a main B bus interval.  
CAPCOM     Roger. Main B interval. Okay, stand by  
13 we're looking at it.



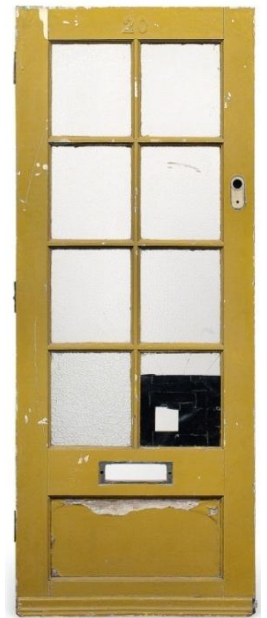
**South Kensington, London** – Following the success of the Out of the Ordinary 2013 sale Christie's is happy to announce full details of the second annual sale which will be held on 3 September 2014 and will once again feature an eclectic selection of fascinating items celebrating the joy of the unconventional. The sale will be on extended public view for five weeks from 4 August until the auction on 3 September. The exhibition displaying the intriguing items will offer inspiration to those with a broad range of interests and will appeal to new and established collectors. Out of the Ordinary will comprise over 180 lots with estimates ranging from £500 to £120,000 providing opportunities for collectors with a wide array of budgets. A portion of this sale will be offered exclusively online giving collectors of the rare and curious the chance to participate from anywhere in the world at any time. Bidding will begin on 27 August and run until 10 September 2014.



**Celia Harvey, Head of Sale commented:** *‘Following the success of the first Out of the Ordinary sale, which saw thousands of visitors to the pre-sale exhibition and attracted global media interest, we are very pleased to once again offer the opportunity to acquire something a little different from Christie’s South Kensington. The auction features a wide range of objects many of which have never been seen at auction. This year we will also be offering a selection of works in an online-only auction so that collectors can participate from around the globe. We look forward to welcoming the public to the free extended pre-sale exhibition throughout the month of August.’*

Leading the sale is an extremely rare **LATE MEDIEVAL BROADSWORD** with earlier Viking blade and bearing the arms of the De Bohun family (estimate: £80,000 – 120,000, *illustrated left*). The sword’s illustrious story begins in the 11<sup>th</sup> century where it was possibly captured at the Battle of Hastings by Humphrey De Bohun and later remounted to become a family sword. Several generations later Sir Humphrey de Bohun, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Hereford and Essex, fought in the Battle of Bannockburn where he witnessed his young nephew Henry de Bohun fall victim to King Robert’s axe, and joined the retreat after it became clear on the second day of fighting that victory belonged to the Scots. He was taken prisoner at Bothwell Castle and eventually ransomed for the safe return of King Robert’s queen, Elizabeth, his daughter Marjorie Bruce, two bishops and other prominent Scots captives. This sword, whilst not being a war sword in its present form, would have been used as a clear badge of identity with its gold and enamelled coat of arms on the pommel and eminently more practical as a side arm around camp when not mounted and armed for battle and appears to be the first of four swords mentioned in Sir Humphrey’s will of 1319.

Unusual pieces of **POP MEMORABILIA** in the sale include the front door from the childhood home of Sir Paul McCartney 20 Forthlin Road, Allerton, Liverpool (estimate: £6,000 – 8,000, *illustrated right*). The McCartney family moved to Forthlin Road in April 1956, leaving behind another terraced council house in Speke, South Liverpool. Developing a friendship over their shared passion for rock and skiffle, Paul and his school friend George Harrison began to play music together at 20 Forthlin Road - Paul on his trumpet and George on guitar. After meeting John Lennon at the Woolton Parish Church Garden Fete on 6<sup>th</sup> July 1957, Paul joined John’s band The Quarrymen, purchased his first guitar, invited George to join the group, and 20 Forthlin Road became one of the main places the band would rehearse, and where Paul and John would compose and try out new songs. Over 100 songs are believed to have been written at this house, including *Love Me Do*, *I Saw Her Standing There* and *When I’m Sixty-Four*.



The sale features a three-rotor **ENIGMA CIPHER MACHINE** (estimate: £40,000 – 60,000, *illustrated left and page 1 left*). This was the standard German electronic ciphering machine widely used in World War II. ENIGMA in several variants was used by the German Navy, the Wehrmacht, the Luftwaffe, the state railroad system, the Abwehr (intelligence) and the SS. It was designed with a complex, interchangeable series of three rotors bearing the 26-character alphabet, a ‘reflector’ and a plugboard with movable connecting cords that connected pairs of letters. As an added precaution, the base or starting settings for the rotors was

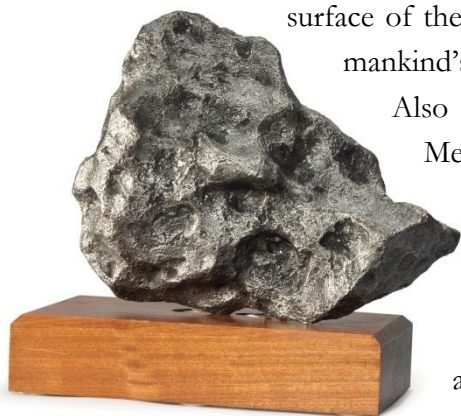


changed every 24 hours, according to pre-printed setting registers furnished in advance or supplied daily by courier. ENIGMA was widely regarded by the Germans as too complex to be broken given that it made possible a total of 15 quintillion possible readings for each character, but in the 1930s a team of Polish analysts made remarkable progress in working out the machine's basic system, identified its vulnerabilities and succeeded in deciphering much of the encrypted German radio traffic. An elite team of cryptanalysts, mathematicians and engineers including Alan Turing (1912-54) were established in a top-secret facility at Bletchley Park. For the rest of the war that legendary team's heroic and unstinting efforts gradually accomplished the seemingly insurmountable task of deciphering an enormous volume of encrypted communications. The critical intelligence deriving from their decipherment was dubbed ULTRA and was employed cautiously but to great effect during the war; some commentators credit ULTRA with shortening the war by some two years.

**SPACE** exploration is represented in the sale by a number of fascinating objects. Mission commentary from Apollo 13 is a minute-by-minute account of the ill-fated progress of the mission, beginning even before lift-off with the exposure of the crew to German measles, and continuing through the launch at 2.13 pm on 11 April to the development of the now famous "we've got a problem" at 9pm on 13 April. Further objects from outer space include a pen flown to the lunar surface on Apollo 17 (estimate: £15,000 – 25,000, *illustrated right*). The pen would have been used by the astronauts as they carried out their scientific three day mission, landing on the surface of the Moon on 11 December 1972. This was to be mankind's most recent human landing on the Moon.

Also on offer is a very large Campo del Cielo Meteorite which was first discovered by Spanish explorers in Chaco, Argentina in 1572. It has

been determined from carbon dating, taken from charred wood remains from the crater, that the fall occurred between 4,000 and 6,000 years ago. The cosmic radiation of the Meteorite mass was found to be relatively young at approximately 14 million years old (estimate: £10,000 – 15,000, *illustrated left*).

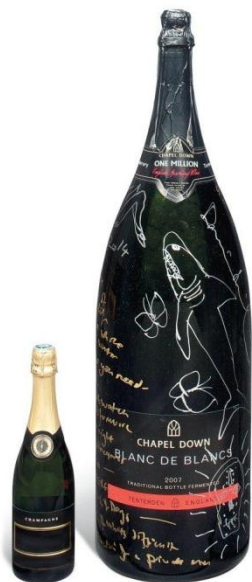


A very rare offering is the **RADFORD MINI DE VILLE** by Harold Radford Coachbuilders Ltd., 1964 (estimate: £40,000 – 50,000, *illustrated right*). Coachbuilt Radford Mini's were de rigueur motor cars of the swinging sixties London celebratory set. The Mini De Ville, introduced in 1963 with many being supplied by Brydor Cars (Brian Epstein and Terry Doran), provided bespoke coachbuilt conversions giving his clientele levels of luxury usually the preserve of motor cars from the likes of Rolls Royce, Bentley and Aston Martin. Famous owners included all members of the Beatles, Brian Epstein, Mike Nesmith of The Monkees, Peter Sellers and Britt Ekland.



A menagerie of **ANIMALS** will be offered in the sale including a pair of taxidermy 'Zebracorns' (Equus Quagga) (estimate: £3,000 – 5,000, *illustrated page 1*) and a rare French walking fantail-displaying Indian Peacock automaton dating to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, with a winding mechanism allowing it to walk, turn its head, and stop to display its plumage (estimate: £15,000 – 25,000).

## FURTHER HIGHLIGHTS



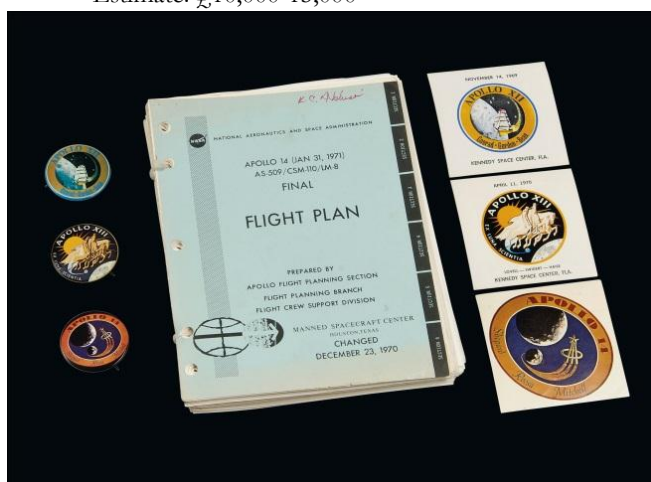
A Nebuchadnezzar of English sparkling wine, created to celebrate the one millionth visitor to Turner Contemporary Chapel Down Winery, 2007, Signed by: Damien Hirst; Antony Gormley; Tracey Emin; and Edmund de Waal  
Estimate: £10,000-15,000



A giant brass-mounted painted wood display model of a Montblanc fountain pen, second half 20<sup>th</sup> century  
117 in. (297 cm.) high  
Estimate: £8,000-12,000



Hiroshi Furuyoshi  
(Japanese, B.1959)  
*Campbell*  
oil on board  
Estimate: £7,000-10,000



Collection of Apollo 13 & 14 Press Documents, Nasa 1970-71  
Comprising of Apollo 14 flight plan, Apollo 13 flight plan, conversion tables, 9 NASA stickers and three badges  
Estimate: £1,000-1,500



Invasion of the Saucer-Men  
Albert Kallis  
1957, A.I.P., U.S. half sheet, condition A-;  
Estimate: £2,000-3,000

## OUT OF THE ORDINARY – THE ONLINE EDIT



Christie's is delighted to bring a portion of this sale exclusively online so collectors of the rare and curious can participate from anywhere in the world at any time. Bidding will begin on 27 August and run until 10 September 2014. Highlights of the Online Edit include a group of ten Fornasetti 'Tema e Variazioni' porcelain plates (estimate: £1,000 – 1,500, *detail illustrated left*), an Elephant Bird egg, Madagascar, pre-17<sup>th</sup> century (estimate: £10,000-15,000) and a David Linley for Dunhill architectural jewellery box, *circa* 1994 (estimate: £7,000-10,000).  
[www.christies.com/outoftheordinary](http://www.christies.com/outoftheordinary)

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**Public Exhibition:**

**From Monday 4 August Until Wednesday 3 September 2014:**

Monday-Friday, 9.00 am - 5.00 pm

Saturday-Sunday, 11.00 am - 5.00 pm

Late viewing until 7.30 pm on Monday 4, 11 & 18

August & 1 September

Closed on Saturday 23, Sunday 24 & Monday 25

August

**Auction:**

*Out of the Ordinary*

Wednesday, 3 September 2014

**1:00pm**

**Christie's South Kensington**

Open seven days a week, Christie's South Kensington is one of the busiest salerooms in the UK attracting over 200,000 visitors each year. With over 100 sales and offering more than 20,000 lots annually, estimates start from under £1,000. Interiors sales dedicated to home furnishings are held three times a month alongside regular Sunday sales of single-owner collections. Specialised sales for the avid collector are scheduled throughout the year according to category, and include Popular Culture Memorabilia, Vintage Couture, Islamic Art, Jewellery, 20<sup>th</sup> Century British Art and Chinese Works of Art, amongst others. In 2012 Christie's South Kensington realised the highest ever total for the third consecutive year with sales of £139.4 million / \$223.1 million having welcomed a 10% growth in registered bidders and a 20% increase (£ / \$) in total sales.

**About Christie's**

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2013 that totaled £4.5 billion/ \$7.1 billion, making it the highest annual total in Christie's history. 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 around 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 & Contemporary, Impressionist & Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales totaled £760.5 million (\$1.19 billion) in 2013, an increase of 20% on the previous year.

Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 12 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Mumbai. 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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**Saturday & Sunday: 11.00am - 5.00pm**

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