

For Immediate Release

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FROM FORTUNY TO WESTWOOD: VINTAGE FASHION AT CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON IN 2006



A gold Fortuny Delphos gown
(estimate: £4,000-6,000)



From a collection of punk t-shirts by Vivienne Westwood (estimate £300-400)

**20th Century Fashion and Accessories
Wednesday, 8 March 2006 at 2pm**

South Kensington – Following the success of the 20th Century Fashion auction in September 2005, Christie's is pleased to announce two sales dedicated to 20th Century Fashion and Accessories to be held in 2006 on 8 March and 28 September. Collectors and fashion aficionados searching for vintage clothes and accessories in excellent condition will be able to choose from vintage Kelly bags by Hermes through to *haute couture* by the most famous European designers from the 1920s to the early 1990s; estimates start from as little as £100.

The sale of 20th Century Fashion and Accessories on 8 March 2006 features over 200 lots including a strong selection of early *haute couture* from designers such as Fortuny, Courreges, and Yves Saint Laurent among others. Leading the sale is a stunning gold Fortuny Delphos gown (estimate: £4,000-

6,000). Inspired largely by Greek sculpture, the design for the finely pleated silk dress was created in 1907 by Fortuny and was made famous by such theatrical legends as Isadora Duncan and Sarah Bernhardt.

For more modern tastes, the sale also features classic Vivienne Westwood's early work from her shop SEX in the Kings Road, London. Amongst the selection includes iconic punk T shirts such as the Cambridge Rapist, Snow White and the Seven Dwarves and many others (estimates range from £150 to £300) together with bondage trousers and two 'String' jumpers in red and black mohair and cotton (estimates: £150-£300).

By way of contrast, the sale also includes several unusual wedding dresses for the alternative bride. Certain to make an unforgettable impression is a fairy tale wedding dress by Zandra Rhodes, with a Russian style quilted bodice and voluminous tulle skirts (estimate: £400-600) and a Christian Dior London oyster satin bias cut robe with close fitting bodice and flared satin skirts (estimate: £1,000-1,200).

Top names from the 1970s feature prominently with several outfits by Ossie Clark including a dress of the same model as worn by Celia Birtwell in the famous David Hockney portrait of Mr & Mrs Clark (estimate: £300-500) and a seductive black and white printed chiffon halterneck dress which was exhibited in the V&A's recent retrospective (estimate: £300-500). Also on offer is a superb Ossie Clark maxi dress in a classic Celia Birtwell print (estimate: £400-600).

Accessories

The sale also presents the opportunity to by-pass the waiting list and acquire a fabulous, highly desirable cherry red crocodile Kelly bag by Hermes, the ultimate fashion accessory which was named after Princess Grace of Monaco (estimate: £3,000-5,000). Luggage includes Louis Vuitton trunks, including an Encyclopaedia Britannica trunk and a cabin trunk, several Louis Vuitton suitcases, a red leather Cartier brief case, crocodile leather luggage and jewellery cases (estimates from £100 to £3,000); handbags by Gucci, Cartier, Feragamo, Dior, Lacroix, Hermes, BIBA (estimates from £100 to £5,000).

Amongst the selection of shoes includes Thierry de Havilland stilettos designed for the Silver Jubilee in red, silver and blue leather and a pair of suede and gilt leather cowboy boots; Chelsea Cobbler platform shoes in bottle green leather with yellow trim and many other platform glittery shoes and boots (estimates from £200-400). There is also a further selection of shoes from Swedish model Ulla Carenby who was YSL's favourite model from the 1960s and 1970s including high boots and evening shoes (estimates start from £150).

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Images available on request

Visit Christie's website at www.christies.com

Public Viewing:

Saturday 4 March – Tuesday 7 March 2006

Sale:

20th Century Fashion and Accessories

Wednesday, 8 March 2006 at 2pm

85 Old Brompton Road, London, SW7 3LD

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Christie's Textiles Department features items from all over the world, including European, Islamic, Indian and Asian Costume, textiles and accessories. Islamic and Indian sales in the autumn and spring include fine Cashmere shawls, Persian, Central Asian, Greek and Turkish textiles. Chinese and Japanese costume and hangings feature strongly in specialist sales. Three European sales held throughout the year include lace, costume, textiles, fans, needlework, quilts and samplers dating from the 16th to the 20th centuries. Collectors and fashion aficionados are also catered for with the 20th Century Fashion sales held in March and September which include vintage luggage by Louis Vuitton and *haute couture* by the most famous European designers from 1900 onwards.