

For Immediate Release

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**COLLECTING OPPORTUNITIES: CHRISTIE'S IMPRESSIONIST
AND MODERN ART DAY & WORKS ON PAPER SALES**



Fernand Léger (1881-1955)
Les deux couteaux, 1949
(estimate: £300,000-500,000)



Pablo Picasso (1881-1973)
Trois personages (recto) (above) and Cinq personages (verso) 1972 (estimate: £300,000-500,000)

Impressionist and Modern Art Day Sale ~ 5 February 2008 at 10am & 2pm
Impressionist and Modern Works on Paper ~ 5 February 2008 at 3.30pm

London – Christie's **Impressionist and Modern Art Day Sale** and **Impressionist and Modern Works on Paper** on 5 February 2008 offer collectors of all budgets, exceptional opportunities to acquire works from a wide range of movements, styles and artists with estimates ranging from £1,000 to £500,000.

The **Impressionist and Modern Art Day Sale** on **5 February 2008** at 10am and 2pm will offer over 230 lots with estimates ranging from £2,000 to £500,000. Leading highlights include two stunning oils by **Le Corbusier** (1887-1965), both of which are offered with estimates of £300,000 to £500,000. A rare and important work by **Paul Ranson** (1864-1909), *Femme au chien qui porte un collier*, which was commissioned by Siegfried Bing for the *Maison de l'Art Nouveau* in Paris in 1895 (estimate: £200,000-300,000), and *Les deux couteaux*, a stunning still-life by **Fernand Léger** (1881-1955) painted in the 1949 will also be offered (estimate: £300,000-500,000).

From Russian artist **Natalia Goncharova** (1881-1962) is a very rare, early abstract painting *Untitled*, circa 1913-1914 (estimate: £250,000-350,000) whose work *Picking Apples*

established a world record price for any female artist when it sold for £4,948,000 at Christie's, London in June 2007.

Further highlights of the auction include an impressive group of 6 bronzes by **Ernst Barlach** (1870-1938), which are offered from a private European collection and carry individual estimates ranging from £25,000 to £100,000; *Les amoureux de profil* by **Marc Chagall** (1887-1985) which dates to 1950 and depicts a wedding couple (estimate: £300,000-500,000); a rare incised perspex work by **Laszlo Moholy-Nagy** from 1939 which is expected to realise £120,000 to £180,000; and a diverse selection of works by **Pierre-Auguste Renoir** (1841-1919), including two stunning still-lives, portraits and landscapes from various periods in the artist's career (individual estimates from £60,000 to £400,000).

The auction of **Impressionist and Modern Works on Paper** on **5 February 2008** at 3.30pm will offer 137 lots with individual estimates ranging from £1,000 to £500,000. An important early highlight is *Le vieux musicien, etude pour l'ensemble du tableau* by **Edouard Manet** (1832-1883), which is closely related to the artist's *Le vieux musicien*, now hanging in the National Gallery of Art in Washington (estimate: £120,000-180,000). The highlight of the auction is *Trois personages (recto)* and *Cinq personnages (verso)*, 1972 an unusually large double-sided work by **Pablo Picasso** (1881-1973) (estimate: £300,000-500,000) which is an exceptional display of the great artist's draughtsmanship, virtuosity and imagination. The auction will also offer two impressive drawings by Picasso dating to the artist's Classical period; *Deux danseurs*, executed in Monte Carlo in 1925 (estimate: £140,000-180,000) and *Femme à la cruche*, circa 1919 which has been in the ownership of the present family for over 70 years (estimate: £80,000-120,000).

The auction will offer a strong selection of works on paper by **Marc Chagall** (1887-1985) from his early years in Russia through to later in his life, including *Nu au coq*, which was executed circa 1947-1948 (estimate: £300,000-500,000); *Deux clowns à cheval (Cirque Volland)*, circa 1927 (estimate: £250,000-350,000); *La danseuse au bouc, ou La fiancée au bouquet vert*, a vibrant work which was painted circa 1945, shortly after the death of the artist's wife (estimate: £200,000-300,000); and *Les musiciens du mariage*, circa 1928, inspired by the artist's childhood memories of musician's dancing in the streets of his native Vitebsk, Russia (estimate: £250,000-350,000).

Elsewhere in the sale a selection of watercolours by **Emil Nolde** (1867-1956), one of the masters of the medium in the 20th century, will be offered with individual estimates from £30,000 to £180,000, and *Autoportrait au pinceau*, a rare and intimately composed self portrait by **Alberto Giacometti** (1901-1966) which was executed when the artist was 17 years old (estimate: £70,000-100,000).

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A selection of images is available on request*

Notes to Editors

Christie's London Auctions in February 2008 of Impressionist & Modern Art and Post War & Contemporary Art:

- Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale including Art of the Surreal: 4 February 2008
- Impressionist and Modern Art Day Sale: 5 February 2008
- Impressionist and Modern Works on Paper: 5 February 2008
- Post War and Contemporary Art Evening Sale: 6 February 2008
- Post War & Contemporary Art Day Sale: 7 February 2008
- The Collection of R.B. Kitaj: 7 February 2008

About Christie's

Christie's is the world's leading art business with global auction sales in 2006 that totalled £2.51 billion / \$4.67 billion. Worldwide sales for the first half of 2007 totalled £1.63 billion / \$3.25 billion, an increase of 32% by £ and 45% by \$ from the same period last year and highest half year sales ever in art market history. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service, and international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's conducted the greatest auctions of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, and today remains a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 600 sales annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$600 to over \$80 million*. Christie's has 85 offices in 43 countries and 14 salerooms around the world including London, New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Tel Aviv, Dubai and Hong Kong. Most recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in emerging markets such as China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Dubai, Mumbai and Russia. Christie's also offers its clients worldwide access to its sales through Christie's LIVE™, its unique, real-time online bidding service. *Estimates do not include buyer's premium.