

## **For Immediate Release**

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### **LARGEST MARITIME AUCTION FOR EIGHT YEARS SAILS INTO CHRISTIE'S NEW YORK**

**Maritime**  
**January 31, 2007**

**New York** – Christie's New York first Maritime sale of 2007 will be the biggest Maritime auction held in Manhattan since 1999. The sale, featuring over 350 lots and expected to realize in excess of \$3 million, includes a fantastic selection of works by Montague Dawson, and a 19<sup>th</sup> century ship's figurehead.

The picture section is led by the finest and largest gathering of Montague Dawsons to ever appear at auction. The most sought after of all Maritime artists, Dawson regularly painted, among other subject matter, war scenes, and a selection of 20 World War II illustrations has been consigned from the Collection of John J. McMullen. Commissioned by the Sphere and the British Navy, these black and white oil studies represent some of the most compelling and momentous actions of the war, such as *The Navy's strike against the Tirpitz in Norwegian waters* (estimate: \$30,000-40,000) and *The Last Hours at Singapore* (estimate: \$30,000-40,000).

Elsewhere in the sale, there are another 10 Dawson pictures, including *The Moonlit Way*, *The Golden Fleece*, a strikingly beautiful rendering of one of the most beloved clipper ships to ply the trade routes in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (estimate: \$200,000-300,000). Other notable paintings in the sale include a picture of one of the first American clippers, the *Architect*, by James Edward Buttersworth (estimate: \$100,000-150,000); and a reverse Anglo-American war painting by Petrus Cornelius Weyts in excellent condition depicting the famed engagement between *H.M.S. Shannon* and *U.S.S. Chesapeake* on June 1 1813. It is the only known example of a reverse painting on glass of an American naval engagement (estimate: \$60,000-80,000).

The models and ephemera section is led by a 19<sup>th</sup> century carved wooden ship's figurehead from the ship *Edinburgh*. Carved in oak and in the round, and most probably depicting Lady Edinburgh, this attractive figurehead was created by John Rogerson in 1883 while working in New Brunswick, Canada. The three-masted barque *Edinburgh* was built that year in Quebec, and worked the route between Glasgow and Canada. When she was broken up in 1909, the figure head was purchased by William Allen, the U.S. Consul to Bermuda (estimate: \$150,000-200,000).

Elsewhere in the section, there is an excellent selection of sailor folk art and scrimshaw from a number of private collections, including an important scrimshaw tooth once owned by the leading expert and collector of scrimshaw, E. Norman Flaydermann (estimate: \$8,000-12,000). Interestingly, the auction will offer the log book from the whaling bark *Kathleen* of New Bedford, detailing her second last voyage before she was stove in by a large whale on October 22 1901 (estimate: \$4,000-6,000).

<b>Auction:</b>	Maritime	January 31 at 10 a.m.
<b>Viewing:</b>	Christie's Galleries at Rockefeller Center	January 26 – 30

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