

Press Information

Friday 26 January 2008

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SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP AT CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON

20th Century Fashion

Christie's South Kensington

Tuesday, 4 March 2008, 2pm

FREE PUBLIC VIEW: From Saturday 1 March 2008, 10am

South Kensington: The Fashionistas' heaven returns this Spring when Christie's South Kensington holds its 20th Century Fashion & Accessories sale on 4 March 2008 at Christie's South Kensington's newly refurbished salerooms.

Featuring handbags, costume jewellery, shoes, evening gowns, day dresses, suits and more, the sale contains selections from all the looks, trends and fashions that dressed the last century. The sale is a paradise for those looking for a truly unique piece to wear, or those in search of design inspiration. Estimates start at £150, and with plenty of opportunity for weekend browsing and trying on, the sale presents a fabulous opportunity to create a really unique style at an affordable price.

Leading the sale are selections from two Couture Wardrobes, representing Parisian elegance from different eras. The first comprises several 'New Look' style dresses and coats by the 1950s master of fashion, *Pierre Balmain*. With their tiny waists and full skirts, these are the epoch of feminine romance in the Golden Age of Couture. Later but no less alluring, a couture wardrobe by *Christian Dior* from the 1980s includes dramatic coats and extravagant evening gowns, all of unsurpassed quality and sublime elegance (estimates start from £150). Additionally, a wide range of vintage *Louis Vuitton* luggage and steamer trunks sets this sale apart (estimates from £400).

Highlights Include:



Pierre Balmain Couture, c1954
Rose-Pink Dress & Jacket
Estimate: £400-600



Hermes Paris, 2006
Birkin 'Potamus',
Estimate: £3,000-5,000



Vivienne Westwood & Malcolm McLaren
Seditionaries, c 1978
Estimate: £300-500



Louis Vuitton
Steamer Trunk, 1920s
Estimate: £3,000-5,000

Notes to Editors:

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 spring include fine Cashmere shawls, Persian, Central Asian, Greek and Turkish textiles as well as Ottoman and North African pieces. Chinese and Japanese costume and hangings feature strongly in distinct sale sections, with an annual specialist sale in the autumn. European sales held throughout the year in the Interiors category include decorative textiles, needlework, fans, quilts and tapestries dating from the 16th to the 20th centuries. The annual sale of Fine Costume & Textiles in the autumn offers select examples of museum-quality costume, lace, fans, embroideries, and other textiles. Collectors and fashion aficionados are catered for with two annual 20th Century Fashion sale held autumn and spring, which include vintage luggage by Louis Vuitton and *haute couture* by the most famous European designers from the 1920s onwards.

The view is free and open to the general public from Saturday 1 March at 10am:

For opening times please see below.

The view will close at 12noon on Tuesday 4 March.

CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON

85 Old Brompton Road, London, SW7 3LD

Monday 9.00am – 7.30pm

Tuesday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm

Saturday & Sunday 10.00am – 4.00pm

Public Information: www.christies.com / 020 7930 6074

Estimates do not include buyer's premium