

For Immediate Release

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Contact: **Rik Pike** **020.7752.3120** rpik@christies.com

SCOTTISH MASTERPIECE FOUND ABOVE IRISH KITCHEN SINK

*British and Victorian Pictures including The Scottish Sale
Thursday 6 March at 10.30am & 2pm*



*Francis Campbell Boileau Cadell R.S.A., R.S.W. (1883-1947), The Red Chair
Estimate: £50,000-80,000*

South Kensington – In a find unusual in its domesticity, a masterpiece by celebrated Scottish colourist Francis Campbell Boileau Cadell R.S.A., R.S.W. (1883-1937) has been discovered hanging over an Irish kitchen sink by Christie's representative in Ireland Christine Ryall. The Red Chair, a delightful still life, had been hanging in a County Wicklow cottage kitchen for over 30 years, bought by the vendor in a house clearance in the 1960s for £1. The oil painting is now being offered at Christie's South Kensington on 6 March, carrying an estimate of £50,000-80,000.

The vendor purchased the masterpiece in the 1960s, simply finding it pleasing to the eye, and had no idea of its market value. However, that all changed last year thanks to the vendor's daughter who lives abroad.

She saw a similar Cadell featured on the Christie's website in October as part of the 2002 Scottish Sale online promotion. Recognising the style of the work, she thought of the painting that had languished over the kitchen sink back in Ireland. Calling home, she suggested the picture may be worth something and it was only then that the vendor initially became aware of the possible value of her constant kitchen companion of 30 years.

Intrigued, the vendor contacted Christie's Irish representative Christine Ryall and arranged a meeting. After seeing the work, Christine Ryall immediately suggested the painting should travel to London for authentication and on arrival it was confirmed that this was indeed a work by the popular and sought-after Scottish colourist Francis Cadell.

*The Red Chair, painted in the mid-1920s, is an enigmatic Colourist still life, typical in its modern treatment of colour and light. The inclusion of a Matisse-influenced painting in the background signals Cadell's respect for this French master and refers to the time he spent at Académie Julian in Paris. The position of the Scottish Colourists as seriously collectable artists was confirmed in 2001 when Christie's set a new world auction price of £520,750 for *The Black Bottle* by Samuel John Peploe R.S.A. (1871-1935). A great friend of Cadell's, another work by this celebrated colourist, *Roses in a Chinese Vase*, features in this sale and carries an estimate of £100,000-£150,000.*

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Images available on request

More information about Christie's sale of British and Victorian Pictures including The Scottish Sale can be found on www.christies.com. All lots from the sale can be viewed online along with full catalogue descriptions on Lotfinder®, which also allows clients to leave absentee bids. www.christies.com provides information on more than 80 sale categories, buying and selling at auction, complete auction results, and Christie's international auction calendar.