

Press Release

CHRISTIE'S

For Immediate Release

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**CHRISTIE'S OFFERS SPORTING ART FROM THE L.A. TURF CLUB IN
THREE APRIL SALES**



Interiors: April 2, 2008

19th Century Paintings: April 8, 2008

Old Master Paintings: April 15, 2008

New York – Christie's is honored to offer Sporting Art from the Los Angeles Turf Club, Inc. in various auctions this spring in New York. Due to the depth and range, twenty paintings will be sold in three different auctions: Interiors on April 2, 19th Century Paintings on April 8, and Old Master Paintings on April 15.

Highlights

Highlights are many and multiple but among the most spectacular items is an elegant portrait titled *Portrait of a Gentleman, with his Bay Hunter in a Landscape, a Hunt beyond* by John E. Ferneley, Sen. (British, 1782-1860) estimated at \$250,000-350,000. Depicting a gentleman in hunting attire with his horse in an extensive landscape, this work dates from 1831 when Ferneley was at the height of his career and living at Melton Mowbray in Leicestershire. A remarkable double portrait, it shows Ferneley's exquisite draughtsmanship and his ability to capture the bright intelligent character of the horse as well as the confidence and ease of its owner. Another highlight is Benjamin Marshall's (British, 1767-1835) *Pastime* (estimate: \$150,000-200,000). Depicting the racehorse *Pastime* led by his owner towards a stall, his jockey and a groom in attendance, the work shows Marshall's ability to instill his horses with power, strength and magnificence and exemplifies why he was considered one of the finest sporting painters of all time. The collection also features an exquisite Italian painting of *The Dearby Reale* by Giuseppe Gabani's (estimate: \$80,000-120,000) and a pair of hunting scenes in finely carved 18th century gilt frames by Samuel Alken, Jun. (British, 1784-1825) entitled *Leaving the Kennel and Full Cry* (estimate: \$30,000-50,000).

Santa Anita Park

Widely acclaimed as one of the most beautiful settings for racing found anywhere, Santa Anita Park is one of the leading Thoroughbred horse racing venues in North America. Led by Dr. Charles H. Strub, the Los Angeles Turf Club was formed and Santa Anita opened for winter thoroughbred racing on Christmas Day in 1934. In February of 1935, the first Santa Anita Handicap was run. Since 1969 Oak Tree Racing Association has also conducted a fall meet. The track is home of numerous prestigious races including both the Santa Anita Derby and the Santa Anita Handicap. The Los Angeles Turf Club pioneered large purses and offered the first \$100,000 handicap in the nation, the first \$100,000 Derby, the first \$100,000 race exclusively for four-year-olds and the first \$100,000 grass course classic.

Santa Anita is situated approximately 14 miles northeast of Los Angeles and occupies approximately 320 acres and its landmark art-deco style 1,100-foot-long Grandstand has a spectacular view across the racecourse to the San Gabriel Mountains. It also features a one-mile oval dirt track and a 7/8-mile turf course. In addition there are 61 barns, capable of housing more than 2,000 horses and a complete equine hospital. The Breeders' Cup World Championships were held here in 1986, 1993

and 2003 and will again return here this year. Amongst the many legends of the Santa Anita track is *Seabiscuit* who won the Santa Anita Derby in 1940 against *Kayak II*.

Highlights will be on view at Christie's, Los Angeles March 4-6.

Auction: Christie's New York

April 2, 2008

April 8, 2008

April 15, 2008

Viewing: Christie's Los Angeles

March 4-6

Christie's New York

March 29-14

About Christie's

Christie's is the world's leading art business with global auction sales in 2007 that totaled £3.1 billion/\$6.3 billion. This marks the highest total in company and in art auction history. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as 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 \$200 to over \$80 million. Christie's has 85 offices in 43 countries and 14 salerooms around the world including in 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 and new markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

*Estimates do not include buyer's premium

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