

For Immediate Release

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SPEND YOUR MONEY AT CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON!

Fine Printed Books Including a Collection of Books on Economics

Wednesday 21 March 2007, 2pm

Christie's South Kensington

South Kensington - A collection of books about everyone's favourite subject; money, will be offered in Christie's sale of **Fine Printed Books Including a Collection of Books on Economics** on Wednesday 21 March 2007. The collection is drawn from the library of an European collector, and includes many key works by important Economists such as Marx and Hayek. The earliest book dates from 1740 with more recent offerings from the 1950s, giving a fascinating insight into the development and ideologies of economics.

The top lot is the first edition of *Essai sur la nature du commerce en general*, London, 1755 by the Franco-Irish economist and speculator, Richard Cantillon. He died in 1734 in mysterious circumstances following his involvement in a financial scandal. This small volume, in contemporary marbled calf, is estimated at £10,000-12,000, however other lots are estimated as low as £200-300.

Other highlights in the collection include the first English edition of Marx's *Capital*, London, 1887 (estimate: £600-800), John Stuart Mill's *Principles of Political Economy*, London, 1848 (estimate: £1,200-1,800) and John Maynard Keynes' first book, *Indian Currency and Finance*, London, 1913 (estimate: £500-800). There is the first Spanish edition of the most famous of all economics books, Adam Smith's *The Wealth of Nations* (*Investigacion de la naturaleza y causas de la riquezas de las naciones*), Valladolid, 1794 (estimate: £6,000-8,000), as well a first edition of the principal work by Smith's most notable disciple, David Ricardo; *On the Principles of Political Economy*, London, 1817 (estimate: £6,000-8,000).

Thomas Malthus's controversial *Essay on the Principle of Population* is represented by the substantially revised second edition, London, 1803, bound with the author's 1806 *Reply to the Chief Objections which have been Urged Against the Essay* (estimate: £2,500-3,500).

The sale also includes brilliant examples of other rare books such as a first edition of Jane Austen's *Emma*, 1816 (estimate: £3,000-5,000), a first English edition of Mark Twain's

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, London, 1884 (estimate: £1,000-1,500), an extremely rare first edition of the first arithmetic book to be printed in England; Cuthbert Tunstall's *De arte supputandi*, London, 1522 (estimate: £3,000-5,000).

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Images available on request
Visit Christie's at www.christies.com

CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON

85 Old Brompton Road

London SW7 3LD

Nearest Underground: South Kensington

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

Opening Hours:

Monday: 9am – 7.30pm, Tuesday – Friday: 9am – 5pm

Weekends: 10am – 4pm

Christie's South Kensington is the first international auction house in London to offer regular weekend auctions.

Notes for Editors:

Christie's South Kensington holds eight sales of Books and Manuscripts throughout the year. There are four general book sales, two Travel and Natural History, one Modern Firsts/Children's/Private Press and one single owner sale. The sales often deal in manuscripts of historical interest. To date, the department's top selling lot is *Hours of Guyot Il Le Peley*, an illuminated manuscript on vellum, which realised £299,200 in June 2005. Book and Manuscript sales also include first edition copies of books. A letter from Winston Churchill, dated 1899 sold for £77,675 in 2003, setting a new world auction record for any Churchill letter. The market is also open to magazine collections and book-related memorabilia such as Ian Fleming's typewriter on which he wrote *Casino Royale* (which sold for £56,250 in 1995).