

For Immediate Release

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**CHRISTIE'S NEGOTIATE THE PRIVATE SALE OF THE
FINEST EXAMPLE OF ENGLISH ROCOCO
PORCELAIN TO THE ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM**



Nicholas Sprimont (1716-1770) of the Chelsea Porcelain Factory
Boar's Head Tureen
Circa 1755-1758
Soft-paste porcelain

London – Christie's announce the private sale of *The Boar's Head Tureen* (circa 1754-1757) to the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. One of the most flamboyant pieces of English rococo art, it was acquired with the financial assistance of The Art Fund, The National Heritage Memorial Fund, The MLA / V&A Purchase Grant Fund, the Friends of the Ashmolean, the Oxford Ceramics Group and a number of private benefactors. The *Boar's Head Tureen* was acquired through Christie's under the tax-concessionary scheme for private sales to museums.

The Boar's Head Tureen is an exceptional example of Chelsea porcelain and has been on loan at the Ashmolean Museum from a Private Collection since 1993. The Chelsea factory was established in 1744 and became the most renowned porcelain maker in the United Kingdom. Before its closure in 1769-1770, Chelsea porcelain was the medium which best represented rococo art in England, and the boar's heads, designed by Nicholas Sprimont, were the most ambitious pieces produced. The Ashmolean has acquired one of only three existing complete examples, and the only complete model to be found in any public collection in the United Kingdom.

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- See www.christies.com and www.ashmolean.org for further details.