

For Immediate Release

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**DELIGHTFUL COLLECTION FROM H. W. KEIL TO BE OFFERED AT
CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON THIS MARCH**

A Cotswold Collection; The Property of HW Keil

Christie's South Kensington

Tuesday, 13 March 2007 at 10.30am



South Kensington – A wide range of traditional English furniture from the 17th to 19th century together with European examples will be offered as part of *A Cotswold Collection; The Property of H.W. Keil* at Christie's South Kensington on Tuesday, 13 March 2007. The sale features a wonderful selection of over 500 lots including furniture, carpets, textiles, lighting, stained glass, paintings, treen and fireplace furniture. Around 95% of the sale has been estimated at £5,000 and below, and will be offered without reserve. The sale is estimated to realise over £500,000.

H.W. Keil was established by Henry William (Bill) Keil and his wife Violet in the early 1930s, in the picturesque honey-coloured limestone village of Broadway in the Cotswolds, often referred to as the 'Jewel of the Cotswolds'. The Cotswolds has the distinction of having the largest concentration of art and antiques shops in the country outside London, with Keil being one of the first to start selling antiques there. Initially, Keil specialised in English oak furniture from the 16th and 17th century, appropriately located within a period Tudor building, however over time the range of antiques offered expanded as did the size of the premises. Today, the business is synonymous with the highest quality furniture and works of art, with an internationally renowned reputation. In turn, Bill and Violet's two sons, Peter and John, both set up their own antique businesses; John on the Brompton Road in London, and Peter in Cheltenham. Sadly a few years ago, Peter died in untimely and tragic circumstances, and since that time John Keil has had the task of rationalising the businesses. This sale represents the final restructuring of the firm which will continue to flourish in Broadway.

English oak furniture features prominently in the sale, principally from the late 17th and early 18th century. An array of chairs (both sets and individual), refectory tables, coffers, cupboards, stools (both joined and upholstered) and mirrors are offered. Highlights include a handsome wood-grained oak side or altar table, early 17th century (estimate: £2,000-3,000), an oak tester bed, 17th

century and later (estimate: £5,000-8,000) and a striking, large oak housekeeper's cupboard, early 19th century (estimate: £2,500-4,000).

A William and Mary oyster and marquetry escritoire (estimate: £12,000-18,000) is one of a group of mahogany, walnut and marquetry furniture examples represented in the sale. A set of eight George I Irish mahogany dining chairs (estimate: £30,000-50,000) and a delightful set of six Mendlesham chairs, early 19th century (estimate: £5,000-8,000), fashioned from fruitwood, also feature along with a selection of European examples.

The sale also includes around 200 decorative objects from the late 17th century to the early 20th century including carvings, fireplace furniture, treen and lighting alongside copper and brassware, such as the set of composite copper batterie de cuisine, 19th century (estimate: £1,000-2,000). Leading the group of carpets and rugs is a 17th century Mortlake historical tapestry depicting Diogenes beside his barrel (estimate: £4,000-6,000).

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

CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON

85 Old Brompton Road, London, SW7 3LD

Nearest Underground: South Kensington

Public Enquiries: 020 7930 6074

Public Viewing:

Saturday 10 March: 10am – 4pm

Sunday 11 March: 10am – 4pm

Monday 12 March: 9am – 7.30pm

Sale: Tuesday 13 March 2007, 10.30am

About Christie's South Kensington

Christie's South Kensington is open seven days a week with monthly sales for the home on Sundays. Throughout 2007, Christie's South Kensington will hold 22 weeks of Interior Sales which bundle together all the regular home furnishing auctions over one week in the single easy, magazine-style catalogue.

The UK's busiest auction house, Christie's South Kensington offers more sales in more categories than any other auction house. Prices range from £200 to over £20,000, with the average price at just under £1,000. For those contemplating selling, Christie's expertise is also available 7 days a week, free of charge, at the Valuation Counter to advise you on the current market value for your works of art.

Established in 1975 on the Old Brompton Road, Christie's South Kensington offers over 50,000 objects a year including works of art, furniture, paintings, prints and drawings, glass, ceramics, lighting, modern design, fashion, jewellery and silver. There is something for everyone and all you need to decorate your home or start a collection.