

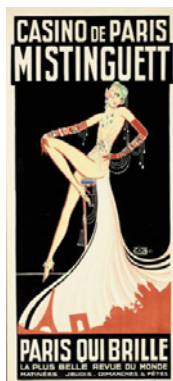
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THE LADY WITH THE MILLION DOLLAR LEGS BRINGS A TOUCH OF FRENCH GLAMOUR TO CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON



Gesmar, Charles (1900-1928)
Mistinguett, c.1928
Estimate: £3,000-5,000



Zig (Louis Gaudin)
Casino de Paris, Mistinguett, Paris Qui Brille, 1931
Estimate: £800-1,200

“A kiss can be a comma, a question mark, or an exclamation point. That's basic spelling that every woman ought to know” Mistinguett

Edwin C Glickman Collection of Mistinguett Posters
Christie's South Kensington
Thursday, 28 June 2007, 2pm

London - Christie's South Kensington will be presenting what is thought to be the most complete archive of material about French chanteuse and showgirl Mistinguett on Thursday 28 June 2007. Born Jeanne Bourgeois in France on 5 April 1875, Mistinguett assumed her stage name early on in her career, and went on to become the highest-paid female entertainer in the world at that time. During the 1920s and 1930s, Paris was the glittering epicentre of Music Hall entertainment, and Mistinguett starred at all the top venues, including the Folies-Bergere, the Moulin Rouge and the Casino de Paris. Complete shows were designed for her and she became the epitome of French glamour, even insuring her legs for an impressive \$1million!

The sale features a huge selection of posters, from her early career to her heyday in the 1920s and 1930s. Designed by the top French poster artists of the time including Zig, Gesmar and Cappiello, the striking, stylized images capture the glamour of Mistinguett by focusing on her playful, coquettish features, her incredible costumes and her highly-prized long legs.

However, sadly in common with many famous French chanteuses whose songs are so full of love, passion and tragedy, life imitated her art. She had a well-known affair with the much younger and equally successful singer Maurice Chevalier, but as she later complained to her biographer, David Bret: *"I never found a single reason to justify loving him. He used me, and as soon as he got what he wanted, he dumped me...but his absence dominated the rest of my life."*

Yet, it appears that Chevalier did hold a huge affection and admiration for her. After her death at the age of 80 in 1956, he said *"You have been the beauty, the spirit, the magic, the symbol of the city of women."*

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Images available on request

Visit Christie's at www.christies.com

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

Weekends: 10am – 4pm

Christie's South Kensington is the place to inspire. During 2007 Christie's will host a range of Interior Sales held over a week dedicated to affordable home furnishing categories, together with monthly Sunday Sales of single-owner collections, with every lot beautifully illustrated in the large scale magazine-style catalogue.

The UK's busiest auction house, open 7 days a week, 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.

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