

For Immediate Release

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CHRISTIE'S TO SELL AN ARCHETYPAL NEW YORK MODERN COLLECTION CREATED BY ART WORLD ICON BARBARA JAKOBSON

*I see collecting as a form of autobiography, as evidence of the fact
that I lived for most of the last century and then into the new century*
Barbara Jakobson

**Post-War & Contemporary Art and Design from The Collection of Barbara Jakobson
sold partially to benefit future acquisitions of The Museum of Modern Art, New York
May 12, 2005**

New York – Christie's New York is delighted to announce the auction of *Post-War & Contemporary Art and Design from The Collection of Barbara Jakobson sold partially to benefit future acquisitions of The Museum of Modern Art, New York*, to be held at its Rockefeller saleroom on May 12, 2005. The 41-lot sale is expected to realize in excess of \$1 million.

Barbara Jakobson is a leading New York art world figure and design icon and this exceptional sale offers a revealing insight into the world of sophisticated New York modern art and design collecting. The auction features select items from her townhouse including key works from her collection of 20th century design, post-war and contemporary art - and a rare Diane Arbus photograph.

The townhouse, located on Manhattan's Upper East Side, has been one of the most well known settings for New York art world personalities to gather over the past 40 years - and the interior will be recreated in a dedicated installation at Christie's prior to the sale.

The longest serving member on the Museum of Modern Art's board, Jakobson will be donating a minimum of 10% of the sale's proceeds to the Museum's Acquisition Fund and is

selling in order to re-design her New York living space with site-specific commissions from contemporary artists.

Joshua Holdeman, International Director and Head of 20th Century Art & Design, Christie's New York, says: "There is a triumvirate of disciplines – contemporary art, photography and design – amongst collectors today. If a person collects one, they will most likely collect all three. This sale provides a perfect snapshot of that trend and illustrates the developing evolution of collecting – and where the future lies for the market."

Collection Highlights

Modern design lots include a brass and resin-flex upholstered chair by Carlo Mollino, a 1950-created form that neatly encapsulates all the eclectic influences that inspired this famous Italian design master (estimate: \$60,000-80,000); an exceptionally large wool upholstered sofa, *no 150 BC*, by Vladimar Kagan and designed circa 1952 (estimate: \$25,000-35,000); and a hand-knotted wool carpet by Edward McKnight Kauffer, one of the most spectacular designs he ever produced, circa 1929 (estimate: \$40,000-60,000).

Post-war and contemporary highlights include Frank Stella's *Felstzyn III*, 1971, a work produced as Stella began his experimentations in three-dimensional, sculptural representation within the pictorial plane (estimate: \$80,000-120,000); a classic Josef Albers, *Homage to the Square: Consonant*, 1957 (estimate: \$80,000-120,000); *Relational Painting*, 1951 by Fritz Glarner, illustrating his importance in bringing the formal influence of De Stijl to the American School in the post-war years (estimate: \$100,000-150,000); and an extremely rare and iconic Diane Arbus vintage photograph, *Xmas Tree in a Living Room, Levittown, L.I.*, 1963 (estimate: \$150,000-200,000).

Auction: Post-War & Contemporary Art and Design from The Collection of Barbara Jakobson sold partially to benefit future acquisitions of The Museum of Modern Art, New York
May 12, 2005

Viewing: Christie's Rockefeller, New York
May 7 – 11

More information about Christie's *20th Century Decorative Art & Design* sales can be found on www.christies.com. www.christies.com provides information on more than 80 sale categories, buying and selling at auction, complete auction results, and Christie's international auction calendar.

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Images available on request
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