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CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL WINE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES A SERIES OF INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN APPOINTMENTS

- *DAVID ELSWOOD APPOINTED INTERNATIONAL HEAD OF THE WINE DEPARTMENT*
- *TWO FURTHER APPOINTMENTS CONSOLIDATE EUROPEAN NETWORK*

London, New York – Christie's announces the appointment of David Elswood as International Head of the Wine Department. David has been Head of Christie's European Wine Sales since 2001, and under his leadership the European sales network has strengthened and expanded. New sales have been launched in Paris, and South Kensington and Geneva have held record sales, all contributing to strong annual European sale turnovers that have helped firmly establish Christie's as the leading international wine auctioneers.

In his new role, David will expand his remit to oversee and direct all Christie's wine auctions across the globe in the salerooms in London, New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Geneva and Amsterdam. With these seven sale centres, Christie's remains the only international wine auctioneers to sell on both coasts of North America, London and Continental Europe, and offers an unrivalled sales network to buyers and vendors alike.

David began his wine career in Christie's in 1985, and with the exception of two years as Managing Director of winebid.com's European business (2000/2001), has remained at the forefront of Christie's European wine operations for over 18 years. The opportunity to further develop his highly successful career and nurture Christie's worldwide wine operation is a welcome challenge.

"Christie's International Wine Department maintains its traditional position as the leading global wine auctioneers. We achieve the highest sales value, offer the widest range of saleroom locations across the globe and have the most experienced auction staff working at the most competitive commission rates for buyers and sellers alike. I intend to maintain and strengthen our leading position in 2004 and beyond, with an exciting programme of auctions, further ground-breaking sales and above all, continued devotion to excellent client service," says David Elswood.

Christie's is also delighted to announce two further appointments that will consolidate the European network as David begins his new global role.

Chris Munro has been appointed Associate Director and will now oversee London sales. Chris first joined the Wine Department in 1997, rejoining at the start of this year after fours years working at Fine and Rare Wines and winebid.com.

Oliver Wiseman, who joined the Wine Department in 2001, will now be responsible for Paris sales, running them alongside the Geneva sales he has successfully overseen for the past two years.

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