

CHRISTIE'S

Italian Ceramic Art 1400-1900

London – Tuesday, 22 April 2008

Sale no: 7658 – Top Ten

[All sold prices include buyer's premium]

Sold:	£556,875	\$1,099,828	€692,753
Lots Sold: 66	Lots Offered: 126	Sold by Lot: 52%	Sold by £: 77%
Exchange Rate £:= \$1.975 / €1.244			

Lot	Description	Estimate (£)	Purchase Price	Buyer
15	An Urbino Istoriatto two-handled circular cistern or Rinfrescatoio, <i>circa</i> 1550-60, Workshop of Orazio Fontana, inventory x20635	30,000-50,000	£46,100 \$91,048 £57,348	European Private
30	A Montelupo Istoriatto circular dish Second half of the 16th century, blue S mark	10,000-15,000	£42,500 \$83,938 €52,870	European Private
35	An Urbino Charger (piatto da pompa) <i>circa</i> 1570-80	20,000-30,000	£38,900 \$76,828 €48,392	European Private

Comment: Rodney Woolley, Director, Head of Department, and Dominic Simpson, Director, Head of Sale:

Continuing the success of the 31st March sale, today's inaugural sale entirely devoted to Italian Ceramics achieved strong prices throughout. Bidding was fierce for pieces from the Renaissance in particular, but strong prices were achieved throughout from lot 1, the early 15th century Tuscan jug which achieved over twice its estimate, to lot 126 at the end of the sale, the Cantagalli vase of *circa* 1890, which sold for ten times its estimate. The market for Pavia was more selective, but overall there was competitive bidding from both established private and trade buyers and buyers new to the field. The strength of the market for Italian maiolica appears to have grown in recent years, and it was interesting to see the top three lots go to private European collectors. We were particularly delighted to see the Montelupo istoriato dish depicting a biblical scene, lot 30, fetch £42,500.

We look forward to our next sale of truly magnificent English and Dutch Delft which forms part of the Simon Sainsbury Collection, which will be offered on 18th June.

Press Contact: Leonie Ashfield 020 7389 2398 lashfield@christies.com
Next Sale Date: The next ceramics sales in 2008 will be held on 18th June and 18th November.