

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Sara Fox 212.636.2680 sfox@christies.com

FROM RUDOLPH VALENTINO TO AUDREY HEPBURN, ROMANCE AND ELEGANCE AT CHRISTIE'S FILM AND ENTERTAINMENT MEMORABILIA SALE

Film and Entertainment Memorabilia 30 May 2007

New York – Christie's *Film and Entertainment Memorabilia* auction on May 30 in New York will include animation, props, costumes and autographed material. From the Estate of comedian Stan Laurel to a hot pink cocktail dress worn by Audrey Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, the auction documents over fifty years of Hollywood's history.

Leading the sale is a hot pink cocktail dress worn by Audrey Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's* during one of the most memorable dramatic scenes in the movie where her character, Holly Golightly, learns that her brother Fred has died, and she falls into a fit of despair and grief, breaking plates and throwing pillows (estimate: \$20,000-30,000). Costumes from Audrey Hepburn's iconic Academy Award nominated role rarely surface on the auction market and this gown is sure to appeal to collectors and Hepburn fans alike.

Although most of the costumes in *Breakfast at Tiffany's* were designed by Givenchy, this gown is not labeled and is believed to have been a late addition to the wardrobe. The dress is made of silk and is decorated with fan-shaped appliqués accented with small rhinestones. Christie's set a world auction record for a costume made for a movie, when the memorable black column dress designed by Givenchy for *Breakfast at Tiffany's* sold in London in 2006 for \$932,178.

Arguably the most famous comedy duo of all time, Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy influenced subsequent generations of comedians. Nearly 30 lots from the Estate of Stan Laurel will include costumes, props and personal property, letters and photographs. Laurel's iconic black bowler hat (estimate: \$10,000-15,000) along with three trademark bowties (estimate: \$800-1,200) are amongst

the highlights. A leather binder with ideas for gags is exemplary of the duo's slapstick humor, "Rather be pregnant than have tooth pulled - Make up your mind lady, so I'll know which way to tilt the chair" (estimate: \$2,000-3,000). Two of his traveling wardrobe trunks which are covered in luggage labels and stickers (estimate: \$1,500-2,500), and a motion picture ID card (estimate: \$800-1,200) are among some of the personal effects.

Memorabilia from Rudolph Valentino, the silent film star of the 1920s, are offered from the Estate of Jean Acker, his first wife. Valentino starred in the *Son of Sheik* and was arguably the first heart throb of Hollywood. Very rare early photographs of Valentino signed with romantic inscriptions to Acker are among the top lots (estimate: \$2,000-3,000).

Previously unseen photographs by the Los Angeles photographer Frank Worth are available from recently discovered archives. Many of the photographs were taken through personal acquaintances with the actors who include Marilyn Monroe, James Dean, Frank Sinatra and Elizabeth Taylor (estimates begin at \$1,000). Other vintage prints and recent limited editions of photographs of Marilyn Monroe, Steve McQueen, James Dean, Ingrid Bergman, Jean Harlow and Liz Taylor are offered (estimates begin at \$300.)

The sale features a strong costume section showcasing 30 years of Hollywood glamour. Costumes from the leading ladies include; Greta Garbo from *Camille*, 1936 (estimate: \$700-900), Elizabeth Taylor from *Raintree County*, 1957 (estimate: \$1,500-2,500), Tippi Hedren from *The Birds*, 1963 (estimate: \$800-1,200), and Barbra Streisand from *Funny Girl*, 1968 (estimate: \$2,500-3,500).

Auction: *Film and Entertainment Memorabilia*

30 May

Viewing: Christie's Rockefeller Galleries

25- 30 May (closed Memorial Day)

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More information about Christie's sale of *Film and Entertainment Memorabilia* can be found on www.christies.com. All lots from the sale can be viewed online along with full catalogue descriptions on Lotfinder®, which also allows clients to leave absentee bids. 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.