



they were acquired by him and made headlines again when sold at Christie's during the fascinating six-chapter-series of sales.

Highlights of the collection included Lincoln's last speech which sold for \$3,086,000, the highest price ever achieved at auction for any American historical document; Einstein's letter to Franklin Roosevelt, which sold for \$2,096,000, a world auction record for any letter; and Lincoln's pair of brass opera-glasses which he carried at Ford's Theatre for the performance of *Our American Cousin* on 14 April 1865, the night he was shot, which achieved \$424,000 and set a world auction record for a Lincoln artifact.

### **About Christie's**

Christie's is the world's leading art business with global auction sales in 2006 that totaled £2.51 billion / \$4.67 billion. This 36% increase over 2005 marks the highest total in company and in art auction history. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service, and international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's conducted the greatest auctions of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, and today remains a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 600 sales annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewelry, photographs, collectibles, wine, cars and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$80 million. Christie's has 85 offices in 43 countries and 14 salerooms around the world including London, New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Tel Aviv, Dubai and Hong Kong. Most recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in emerging markets such as China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Dubai, Mumbai and Russia. Christie's also offers its clients worldwide access to its sales through Christie's LIVE, its unique, real-time online bidding service.

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*Images available on request*

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