

Press Release

CHRISTIE'S

For Immediate Release

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**CHRISTIE'S NEW YORK TO SELL IMPORTANT PRIVATE COLLECTION OF
FRENCH AND IVORY FIGURES IN 20th CENTURY DECORATIVE ARTS & DESIGN
SALE THIS JUNE**



New York - Christie's New York will offer an extraordinary private collection of French bronze and ivory figures at its 20th Century Decorative Arts & Design on June 13. The total sale estimate for the 18 works offered from the collection is \$1.9-2.7 million.



No sculptor has captured the spirit of the Roaring Twenties as perfectly as Demetre Chiparus with his spectacular sculptures in decorated bronze and carved ivory. Inspired by Sergei Diaghilev's Ballets Russes and Paul Poiret's orientalist fashions, Chiparus conceived striking, dramatically poised representations of dancers that provide a compelling evocation of

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the exciting revues that electrified Paris theatre and music hall around the time of the Exposition Internationale des Arts Décoratifs in 1925.

The splendid private collection of eighteen lots presented in the sale has been carefully assembled over many years and includes rare and fabulous examples of Chiparus's artistry, notably his lotus-position figure of 'Civa' (estimate: \$250,000-350,000) and the group compositions 'Les Girls' (estimate: \$90,000-120,000) and 'Ballets Russes' (estimate: \$200,000-300,000). A further highlight by Chiparus is the exceedingly rare sculpture of the 'Leopard Dancer' (estimate \$120,000-180,000). Claire J.R. Colinet is represented at his most extravagant by the exotic 'Ankara' dancer' (estimate: \$140,000-180,000) a consummate expression of this inspired sculptor's distinctive style. The sale also includes a lot by Marchel-Andre Bouraine, Master of the Beast (estimate: \$40,000-60,000)



Auction: An Important Private Collection of French Bronze and Ivory Figures, June 13

Viewing: June 7 -12

About Christie's

Christie's is the world's leading art business with global auction sales in 2007 that totaled £3.1 billion/\$6.3 billion. This 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 expertise, as well as 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, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, 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 in 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 and new markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

*Estimates do not include buyer's premium

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Images available on request

