

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Robert Parsons 0412 566 300 or Julie King 0412 666 300

CHRISTIE'S TO AUCTION THE DAPHNE BAKER COLLECTION IN SYDNEY

Sydney, Australia,
6.00pm Tuesday 21 June 2005

Sydney, Australia – Christie's are to auction the personal collection of renowned collector and respected antique dealer Daphne Baker on 21 June at Christie's Edgecliff saleroom. Comprising an eclectic selection of European and Asian Furniture and Decorative Art, in 291 lots, it is expected to realise in excess of \$400,000.

Daphne Baker's interest in antique English furniture and Chinese and Japanese Works of Art was initiated by her eighteen year association with the Woollahra Antique Centre and her friendship with the late Ernest Elphinstone, a remarkable character, specialist dealer and connoisseur of Asian art.

Over the past 38 years Daphne Baker has resided in a California bungalow home in the seaside Sydney suburb of Tamarama. There she sought to successfully emulate the atmosphere and ambience of an English country home, albeit on a modest scale. Georgian and Chinese furniture was collected with the purpose of mixing them with a burgeoning collection of Chinese and Japanese porcelains and other objects to suit her eclectic taste.

The result of these years of dedicated collecting culminated in an eye-catching array of items which are destined to appeal to a wide variety of collectors. On parting with her personal collection Daphne Baker reflects that *"I have had great fun and satisfaction in searching out these particular items which have become like old friends over the years we have lived together, and I hope that whoever purchases them, cares and provides a welcoming home to accommodate them for future decades."*

Highlights of **The Daphne Baker Collection** include a Regency rosewood sofa table (*estimate \$10,000-15,000*); a Scottish Regency brass inlaid mahogany library bookcase (*estimate \$28,000-32,000*); a selection of Japanese and Chinese vases (*with estimates ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000*); a French Empire ormolu mantel clock (*estimate \$8,000-10,000*), a George IV mahogany extending dining table (*estimate \$12,000-15,000*) and a George IV mahogany library bookcase (*estimate \$10,000-15,000*).

The Daphne Baker Collection will be on view at Christie's Sydney Saleroom, 287 New South Head Road, Edgecliff on Saturday 18 until Monday 20 June from 12 noon to 5pm daily, together with highlights from the Decorative Arts sale to be held at Christie's in Melbourne on 5 & 6 July.