

For Immediate Release
Friday, 6 June 2008

Press Release

CHRISTIE'S



Contact: Hannah Schmidt +44 (0)20 7389 2964 hschmidt@christies.com

CHRISTIE'S *BRITISH ART WEEK* REALISES £20.2 MILLION

London – Christie's *British Art Week* concluded today having realised £20,270,538 (\$39,628,901/€25,378,714) from four auctions dedicated entirely to British art and British collections of furniture. This figure demonstrates the success and continuing strength of demand for British Art sales at Christie's.

Jonathan Horwich, Deputy Chairman and Head of the British and Irish Art Department and Robert Copley, Deputy Chairman and Head of the Furniture Department said: “*This year, we again dedicated every one of the King Street viewing rooms to British paintings, sculptures and British Collections of furniture for 'British Art Week'. The response was fantastic with a huge number of people viewing the pre-sale exhibition. This week's auctions have celebrated the best of five centuries of British craftsmanship and connoisseurship from the handsome Irish George II mahogany side table, mid-18th century and Albert Joseph Moore's 'Jasmine' which set a world auction record for the artist to the 31 works of art sold for over £100,000, illustrating the depth and quality of the sales. We are pleased to have seen increased international and largely private interest in the broad selection of works on offer, resulting in the strong prices realised this week.*”

The sales totals were as follows:

- British Art on Paper including a Collection of Drawings by Augustus John, O.M., R.A	£1,203,000
- Four British Collections Including Important Furniture	£2,943,575
- Victorian and Traditionalist Pictures	£4,531,800
- 20 th century British Art including the Peter Meyer Collection:	£11,592,163
TOTAL:	£20,270,538

Further highlights of the week included:

- *Jasmine*, by Albert Joseph Moore, A.R.W.S. (1841-1893) an exquisite work which realised £1,777,250 and set a new **world auction record for the artist** at the *Victorian and Traditionalist Pictures sale*.

- *Bowl, Eggs and Lemons*, by William Scott, R.A. (1913-1989), a remarkably fresh work which was part of the extraordinary Peter Meyer Collection, this painting tripled its pre-sale estimate setting a new **world auction record for the artist** and realising £1,071,650 at the sale of *20th Century British Pictures*.

- *The Sleeping Beauty*, by The Hon. John Collier (1850-1934) a beautiful painting which realised £433,250 and set a new **world auction record for the artist** at the *Victorian and Traditionalist Pictures sale*.

- *Study of clouds and sea*, a stunningly dynamic watercolour by Joseph Mallord William Turner, R.A. (1775-1851) which sold for £217,250 at the sale of *British Art on Paper including a Collection of Drawings by Augustus John, O.M., R.A.*

- A handsome *Irish George II mahogany side table, mid-18th century* which sold for £133,250 at the sale of *Four British Collections Including Important Furniture*
- *Still Life of white cup, saucer and jug on a table, circa 1917 – 18* by Harold Gilman which realised £199,250, the **2nd highest price for a work by the artist at auction**, at the sale of *20th Century British Pictures including the Peter Meyer Collection*.

- *Nude Stretching: La Coiffure*, by Walter Richard Sickert, A.R.A. realised £145,250 and set **world auction record for a work on paper by the artist** at the sale of *20th Century British Pictures including the Peter Meyer Collection*.

- *Standing Figure*, 1955, by Kenneth Armitage, R.A. which realised £94,850, the **2nd highest price for a work by the artist at auction**, at the sale of *20th Century British Pictures including the Peter Meyer Collection*.

- *Screen (Opus 312a)*, 1969 by Robert Adams realised £26,250 and set a new **world auction record for the artist** at the sale of *20th Century British Pictures including the Peter Meyer Collection*.

- *Red and green figuration*, 1961 by Robert Medley realised £20,000 and set a new **world auction record for the artist** at the sale of *20th Century British Pictures including the Peter Meyer Collection*.

#

Images available on request

Visit Christie's on the web at www.christies.com

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.