

For Immediate Release

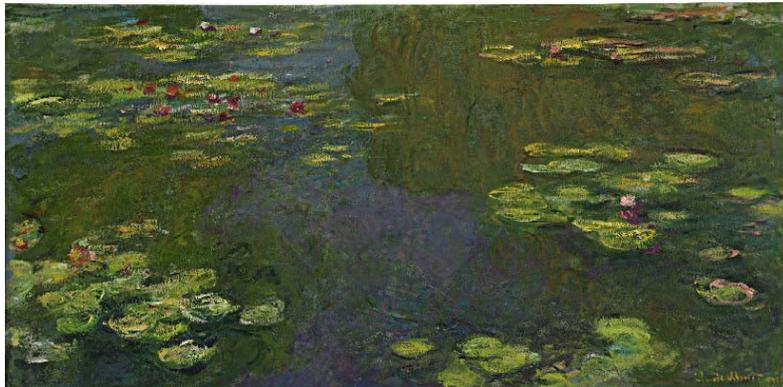
9 June 2008

Contact: Matthew Paton

020.7389.2965

mpaton@christies.com

CHRISTIE'S TO OFFER AN OUTSTANDING SELECTION OF IMPRESSIONIST AND MODERN ART IN LONDON IN JUNE



Claude Monet (1840-1926), *Le bassin aux nymphéas*
Estimate: £18,000,000-£24,000,000

Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale

Exhibition: 20 to 24 June 2008 at Christie's, 8 King Street, London

Auction: 24 June 2008 at 7pm, Christie's, 8 King Street, London

London – Christie's *Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale* will take place on 24 June 2008 at 7pm and will offer an outstanding selection of paintings and sculptures, led by Claude Monet's *Le bassin aux nymphéas*, the most significant work from the artist's water-lily series to be offered at auction in Europe (estimate: £18 million to £24 million). The sale will be on public view from 20 to 24 June at Christie's King Street salerooms, and is expected to realise in excess of £90 million.

Olivier Camu, Director and Head of Impressionist and Modern Art, Christie's London:

"This auction will present one of the finest selections of Impressionist and Modern paintings ever seen on the European art market, led by the greatest of Claude Monet's water-lily pictures to be offered at auction in Europe and an extremely rare and beautiful early pastel by Edgar Degas, formerly in the Havemeyer Collection. We are honoured to have been entrusted with Property from the Estate of J. Irwin and Xenia S. Miller and works from the Sainsbury Collection and the Hob Collection. The auction follows on from the success of our evening sale in New York in May which realised \$277.3 million, and established world record auction prices for many leading artists of the category including Claude Monet, Alberto Giacometti, Auguste Rodin and Joan Miró. In recent years, the European art market has welcomed significant numbers of new international collectors at every level, and we are excited to be presenting an auction of such outstanding quality in London in June."

Seventeen Works from the Collection of J. Irwin and Xenia S. Miller

The auction is led by seventeen works from the Estate of J. Irwin and Xenia S. Miller, which represent the most important and valuable collection of Impressionist and Modern art ever

offered by Christie's in Europe. J. Irwin Miller, an industrialist from Columbus, Indiana, and his wife Xenia Simons Miller, were major philanthropists and patrons of the arts who were instrumental in turning the American city of Columbus, Indiana, into a showcase for modern architecture. Their passion for civic renewal was matched with a belief that art is an essential element of a meaningful life. The seventeen Impressionist and Modern works together are expected to realize in excess of £40 million / \$80 million.

Their collection, assembled some forty years ago, is led by **Claude Monet's** *Le bassin aux nymphéas*, the most significant work from the artist's water-lily series to be offered at auction in Europe. An expansive and important painting, one of an extremely rare series of four large-scale pictures signed and dated by the artist in 1919, the work is expected to realise £18 million to £24 million. Unlike most of the later works which remained unfinished in the studio at the artist's death, these four paintings were released by the artist during his lifetime. One of the series is in the Collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, another was divided and the third is in a private collection, having been sold at Christie's New York in November 1992.



Further highlights from the collection include *La Carafe*, a 1911-12 cubist painting by **Pablo Picasso** (estimate: £2,000,000-£3,000,000) and *Fleurs et nature morte*, 1910-11, a still life by **Marc Chagall** (estimate: £1,500,000-2,500,000). *La Pudeur (L'Italienne)*, an important Fauve portrait by **Henri Matisse**, is expected to realise £3,000,000-4,000,000. Painted in 1906 when Matisse had begun to explore painting predominantly through a Fauve palette with bright, bold use of colour, the present work boasts an impressive exhibition history and was shown at the retrospective of the artist at The Museum of Modern Art in New York from September 1992 to January 1993.

Eight Works from the Collection of the late Simon Sainsbury

One of Britain's most generous philanthropists and discerning collectors, Simon Sainsbury assembled throughout his lifetime one of the finest private British collections of the 20th century which will be offered at a landmark single-owner auction at Christie's on Wednesday 18 June 2008. A selection of 8 works from the collection of Simon Sainsbury will be offered at the *Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale* on 24 June, including *Collioure. Les Balançelles*, 1887, an early Pointillist picture by **Paul Signac** (1836-1935) which dates from the height of the artist's interaction with his friend and fellow artist, Georges Seurat (1859-1891) and whose importance is reflected in the extensive range of publications that discussed it soon after it was widely exhibited in 1888 (estimate: £1,800,000-£2,500,000).



Fifteen Works from a Distinguished European Collection



A selection of 15 works from a Distinguished European collection assembled nearly half a century ago is led by *Les Sapins, Varengeville*, a luminous coastal landscape by **Claude Monet** (1840-1926) which was painted in the Summer of 1882, when the artist was staying at Pourville on the Norman coast in France (estimate: £1,500,000-£2,000,000). Further highlights include *Le village des pêcheurs à L'Estaque* by **Paul Cézanne** (1839-1906), an early landscape painting by the artist *circa* 1870 (estimate: £1,200,000-£1,800,000), and *Au bal masqué de l'Elysée Montmartre* by **Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec** (1864-1901), an atmospheric study in oil on board that is expected to realise £1,200,000-£1,800,000.

The Hoh Collection

The auction will offer 7 works from the impressive collection of 20th century avant-garde works assembled by Alfred and Elisabeth Hoh, which toured various German institutions between 1998 and 2000 as the 'Languages of Art' exhibition. Leading the selection is *Les Fleurs, circa* 1912 (estimate: £3,500,000-£4,500,000), a rare and powerful work by **Natalia Goncharova** (1881-1962) whose *Picking Apples* sold at Christie's London in June 2007 for £4.9 million, establishing a record price for any work of art by a female artist sold at auction. Further highlights include *The Rhythm (Adam and Eve)*, 1910, by **Vladimir Baranoff-Rossiné** (estimate: £1,400,000-£1,800,000) and *Der Garten*, 1906, by **Karl Schmidt-Rottluff** (1884-1976) (estimate: £900,000-£1,200,000).



Elsewhere in the auction, a leading highlight is *Danseuses à la barre* by **Edgar Degas** (1834-1917), an extremely rare early masterpiece in pastel which is expected to realise £4,000,000-£6,000,000. Executed *circa* 1880, the work was originally in the collection of one of the artist's greatest early collectors, Louisine Elder, the wife of H.O. Havemeyer, the famous American sugar magnate. The Havemeyers were the first collectors to introduce the work of Degas to America. Their collection of his work was one of the most formidable ever assembled and the Havemeyer Bequest forms the cornerstone of the Metropolitan Museum's collection of Degas' work. The present work remained in the family and passed from mother to daughter through three

generations, before being sold at Christie's New York in 1982 for the then record price of \$1,045,000.

The auction will also present a masterpiece portrait by **Alberto Giacometti** (1906-1966) painted in 1958. *The Portrait of Yanaihara* is a depiction of Isaku Yanaihara, a Professor in Philosophy from Japan who first translated Albert Camus' *L'étranger* into Japanese, and who travelled to France in 1954 in order to meet and converse with the major exponents of French Existentialism. While in France, the sitter was introduced to the artist by Jean-Paul Sartre at the Café des Deux Magots, and Yanaihara became Giacometti's most recurrent model outside of his family. Painted in 1958 when the artist was in the midst of the most famous and scrutinised period of his career, other works from this series of portraits are held in institutions around the world, including Musée National d'Art Moderne in Paris, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, The Art Institute of Chicago, Kunsthaus Zurich and The Museum of Contemporary Art in Tehran. The present example is expected to realise £3,500,000 to £5,000,000.



Portrait de Lise (Lise tenant un bouquet de fleurs des champs), 1867, a portrait by **Pierre-Auguste Renoir** (1841-1919) is offered from a Private European Collection and is expected to realise £2,000,000-£2,500,000 and *Les deux Parisiennes (Le sentier de la vertu)*, circa 1907, a bold Fauve work by **Kees van Dongen** (1877-1968) is offered from a Private American Collection and carries an estimate of £1,000,000-£1,500,000.

The Impressionist and Modern Art Day Sale and Impressionist and Modern Works on Paper will take place on 25 June at Christie's, 8 King Street, London.

###

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

Post-War and Contemporary Art Evening Sale

Exhibition: 21 to 30 June 2008 at Christie's South Kensington

Auction: 30 June 2008 at 7pm, Christie's, 8 King Street, London

The *Post-War and Contemporary Art Evening Sale* will take place on 30 June 2008 and is led by three exceptional highlights; *Naked Potrait with Reflection* by Lucian Freud (b.1922), one of the most important works by the artist to be offered at auction (estimate: £10 million to £15 million); *Balloon Flower (Magenta), 1995-2000* by Jeff Koons (b.1955), the most important work by the artist to be offered at auction in Europe (estimate: in the region of £12 million) and *Three Studies for a Self Portrait* by Francis Bacon (1909-1992), which has never before been seen in public (estimate: in excess of £10 million). The auction will be on public view at Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London from 21 June to 30 June 2008. *Balloon Flower (Magenta), 1995-2000* by Jeff Koons will be on public view in St. James's Square, London, from 21 June to 30 June 2008.

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.