

For Immediate Release

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**LA CHEMINÉE BY JAMES JACQUES JOSEPH TISSOT SELLS FOR £1.5
MILLION AT CHRISTIE'S TONIGHT
*Christie's British Art Week totals £12.8 Million***

***Important British and Irish Art
Evening Sale - 11 June 2003***

London – Christie's sale of Important British and Irish Art realized a total of £5,464,755 in London this evening. The highlight was *La Cheminée, circa 1869, by James Jacques Joseph Tissot* which sold for £1,573,250.

“The sold percentage's this evening were consistent with the sales held this fortnight, with international interest remaining a strong factor at this level of the market. The sale also confirms that clients will actively bid for works that are sensibly estimated”, commented Jonathan Horwich, International Head of British and Irish Art.

The elegant *La Cheminee* is part of Tissot's series of pictures which featured elegant ladies in 18th century costume of the French Directoire period. Highly regarded for his technical brilliance, precise draughtsmanship and high finish, this painting is a tour-de-force, showing Tissot at the peak of his career.

Capturing the innocence of childhood, *Sleeping* painted in 1865-66 by Sir John Everett Millais, sold tonight for £1,237,250. This exquisite oil on canvas is an intensely personal portrait of Millais' youngest daughter, Alice Sophia Caroline, always known in the family as Carrie. Painted in exquisite detail, the picture depicts Carrie fast asleep with the Millais family maid, Berthe, sewing beside the bed, waiting for her to wake up.

The exquisitely executed, The Golden Valley by Samuel Palmer sold for £587,650. Representing an idyllic and timeless vision of the English countryside, the painting is one of the finest examples of the visionary landscapes Palmer painted towards the end of the Shoreham period of his early career. It is possibly the earliest and most accomplished of three related watercolours painted by Palmer in the early 1830s; the other two are already in the Yale Center for British Art in Connecticut, America.

A record price was established tonight for a work by Walter Greaves, James Abbott McNeill Whistler on the Widow's Walk at his House in Lindsey Row, Chelsea, 1871 which sold for £59,750.

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Images available on request

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

Notes To Editors:

TOTAL FOR BRITISH ART WEEK AT CHRISTIE'S £12,868,119

<i>Christie's King Street</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>% by Lot</i>	<i>% by £</i>
<i>British Works on Paper</i>	<i>5 June</i>	<i>£1,284,988</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>85</i>
<i>20th Century British & Irish</i>	<i>6 June</i>	<i>£3,942,724</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>95</i>
<i>British Pictures 1500-1850</i>	<i>10 June</i>	<i>£1,266,512</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>85</i>
<i>Victorian Pictures</i>	<i>10 June</i>	<i>£909,140</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>69</i>
<i>Important British & Irish Art</i>	<i>11 June</i>	<i>£5,464,755</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>85</i>