

For Immediate Release

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**A FEAST OF AUTUMN COLLECTIONS AT CHRISTIE'S
SOUTH KENSINGTON**

London, South Kensington – A wonderful and diverse selection of single owner collection sales leads the Christie's South Kensington Autumn auction calendar including the September sales of *The Angus McBean Collection*, *The Nigel Bartlett Collection* and the October sales of *Property from Runfold Manor, Surrey, 73 Artesian Road and O.F. Wilson Ltd, London*. From an architectural marble fireplace to a superb pair of Chinese 18th century six-fold screens, the sales promise a vast selection of objects and furniture which are the perfect addition to any modern interior, with estimates ranging from £200 up to £35,000.

The Angus McBean Collection, Tuesday 13 September 2005

Over 150 lots of fascinating furniture, objects and pictures from the private collection of Angus McBean, surrealist and portrait photographer to the stars, will be offered in the *European Furniture, Works of Art, Tapestries and Carpets* sale at Christie's South Kensington on 13 September 2005.

Born in Wales in 1904, Angus McBean worked initially at Liberty's selling antiques by day and taking photographs of friends in the evenings. His passion for photography turned into a career when leading portrait photographer and master of the soft-focus lense, Hugh Cecil spotted his potential and offered McBean the chance to work for him.

His 'startlingly different' style of portraits drew many admirers including Cecil Beaton who always maintained that McBean was the better photographer whilst McBean, in return, was quick to say that Beaton was the better artist. McBean went on to photograph many famous Hollywood stars and theatre thespians from the golden years of the British theatre including Greta Garbo, Audrey Hepburn, Laurence Olivier and Elizabeth Taylor through to Spike Milligan and Shirley Bassey. Vivien Leigh's 30 year affair with the McBean camera began when he took the key image of her which was sent to Hollywood and contributed to her winning the part of Scarlett O'Hara.

A number of the elaborate props used in McBean's stylised shots will be offered in the sale together with furniture and objects from his private collection from Fleming's Hall, Suffolk which he filled with a trove of antique woodwork and objects. Amongst the highlights includes a pair of Empire candelabra, in the manner of Pierre Francois Fuchere, with kneeling Egyptian figures (estimate: £10,000-15,000); a selection of 11 photographs of various stars of stage, screen and the literary world including Vivien Leigh, Laurence Olivier, John Gielgud, TS Eliot and JB Priestly (estimate: £500-1,000) and a Charles X bronze and

ormolu clock depicted as Minerva (estimate: £5,000-8,000). The sale is estimated to fetch in excess of £200,000.

The Nigel Bartlett Collection, Wednesday 14 September 2005

Over 300 lots of chimneypieces, firegrates, architectural elements, sculpture, furniture and objects from *The Nigel Bartlett Collection* will be offered on 14 September 2005. Held in situ at 25 St Barnabas Street in Pimlico, London, this unique sale presents a wonderful opportunity to acquire a focal piece for any living space, with estimates ranging from £300 up to £35,000.

The sale is expected to realise between £800,000-£1.2 million and includes a range of objects such as a George II Portland stone chimneypiece, *circa* 1720 (estimate: £18,000-22,000); a George III fire grate, formerly at the Red Lodge, Bristol (estimate: £6,000-10,000) and an extraordinary collection of chimneypiece tablets from the 18th and 19th centuries, beautifully carved with a variety of scenes of classical mythology, with examples by Cheere, Rysback and the Coade manufactory (estimates range from £400 to £4,000).

Collecting and dealing for almost 40 years, Nigel has established himself as a market leader in his field and is highly respected and well regarded in the business. Nigel is now scaling down his business towards retirement.

Property from Runfold Manor, Surrey, 73 Artesian Road and O.F. Wilson Ltd, London, 25 October 2005

This colourful sale of three single owner collections at Christie's South Kensington on 25 October 2005 offers a wonderful and varied selection of over 550 lots of wonderfully decorative furnishing items. This sale is expected to fetch a combined total of over £500,000.

The first half of the day will offer over 300 lots from the private country house, Runfold Manor, Surrey. Included within the sale is a wide range of predominantly Continental furniture, objects, porcelain, silver, miniatures and treen. The family interest in Asian works of art is reflected in their collection of Asian textiles, porcelain and objects, the highlight of which is a pair of Chinese 18th century six-fold screens (estimate: £8,000-12,000). Old Master portraits, English landscapes and watercolours complete the collection, with estimates ranging from £500 to £15,000.

Over 150 lots from a private London collection in Notting Hill will be offered in the afternoon. The character of the collection is highlighted by works of art ranging from marble busts and oval plaque reliefs, to Old Master still life paintings and English 18th century silver table ware. Continental furniture and bronze animalier sculptures will also be offered, estimates range from £500 to £10,000.

Completing the day of sales, Christie's will offer approximately 70 lots from the well-known decorator and dealer, O.F. Wilson Ltd from the Fulham Road. On offer are charmingly decorative items of furniture, mirrors and objects, which clients will recognise as being characteristic of the much appreciated style of O.F. Wilson; estimates range from £500-10,000.

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

Notes for Editors:

Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road

Opening hours:

Monday - 9am to 7.30pm

Tuesday to Friday - 9am to 5pm

Open for Weekend Shopping on Saturday and Sunday - 10am to 4pm

The weekend openings will be throughout the year except for bank holidays.

The UK's busiest auction house, Christie's South Kensington offers more sales more often than any other auction house.

Viewing:

- European Furniture, Works of Art, Tapestries and Carpets including The Angus McBean Collection: Saturday, 10th– Monday, 12 September 2005
- The Nigel Bartlett Collection: Saturday, 10th – Wednesday, 14th September 2005
- Property from Runfold Manor, Surrey, 73 Artesian Road and O.F. Wilson Ltd, London: Saturday, 22 - Monday, 24 October 2005

Sales:

- European Furniture, Works of Art, Tapestries and Carpets including The Angus McBean Collection: Tuesday, 13 September 2005 at 10.30am
- The Nigel Bartlett Collection: Wednesday, 14 September 2005 at 2pm
- Property from Runfold Manor, Surrey, 73 Artesian Road and O.F. Wilson Ltd, London: Tuesday, 25 October 2005 at 10.30am & 2pm