

For Immediate Release
3 July 2003

Contact: Rik Pike 020.7752.3120 rpik@christies.com

ALL ABOARD TO THE WEST

British and Irish Travel Posters
Wednesday 10 September 2003



Harry Riley, Newquay on the Cornish Coast. c.1952
Estimate £800-1,200

South Kensington, London – From the beginning of the last century to the early 1960s, the rail networks commissioned many of the finest artists of the time to design travel posters to entice the public into using the train across and around the regions. Christie's annual sale devoted exclusively to such railway art takes place on Wednesday 10 September and offers over 250 lots of the finest vintage advertising art from England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales.

With estimates ranging from £250 to £5,000, the sale, one of the most popular in the South Kensington calendar, once again celebrates the beauty and splendour of the British and Irish countryside and their historic towns and cities. From the experienced collector to the first-time buyer, everyone can find a poster that depicts their local area or region, or even bring back childhood memories of holidays spent by the sea.

This year's auction features a fine selection of posters from the 'English Riviera' including the coasts of Devon and Cornwall. Highlights include This is Torquay, GWR, c.1935 by Smithson Broadhead, depicting a lady sunning herself in a palm tree garden (estimate: £700-900); Newquay on the Cornish Coast by Harry Riley, c.1952, showing a surfer frolicking in the waves (estimate: £800-1,200); Brixham, 1930s with a fleet of fishing vessels with Torbay in the background (estimate: £600-800); and Plymouth, Devon, GWR, SR, 1938 by Claude Buckle, R.I., 1938 (estimate: £800-1,200) a delightful view of Plymouth Bay with a lighthouse in the foreground.

North West England is also well represented in the sale. A region full of world-famous seaside resorts and fine beaches, this section takes a nostalgic look at the traditional British holiday. Highlights include Blackpool by Fortunino Matania, R.I., c.1925 featuring a packed promenade with elegantly dressed holiday makers sunning themselves on the beach (estimate: £2,500-3,500); Morecombe Bay by Whatley, 1930s, depicting the bay's fine beach and encouraging visitors to visit for health and sunshine (estimate: £700-£900); and Lytham St. Annes, LMS by Samuel John Larmona Birch, c.1924 with a windmill in the foreground looking over the seaside town (estimate: £1,500-2,000).

###

*Images available on request
General information: 020.7930.6074
Visit Christie's Website at www.christies.com*