

**For Immediate Release**

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**CHRISTIE'S SALE OF INDIAN AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN ART  
HIGHLIGHTS SUPERB PRIVATE COLLECTIONS****Indian and Southeast Asian Art, including Property from the Collections of Ariane Dandois  
and Robert H. Ellsworth  
September 21, 2007**

**New York** – *Indian and Southeast Asian Art*, the sale that will form the closing chapter of Christie's Asia Week on September 21, boasts an impressive number of private collections that have come to market following spectacular results obtained across the board and in particular for the Indian and Southeast Asian Art collecting category. The sale features Property from the Collection of Ariane Dandois (separate release available); Property from the Collection of Robert H. Ellsworth and the Pan-Asian Collection; Property from a Private Roman Collection; Property from a Private New York Collection featuring Khmer bronzes and two private collections of Indian miniatures. *Gandharan Buddhist Sculpture from the Collection of a Prince* is a separate sale with its own catalogue and will take place on September 20 (separate release available).

**Property from the Collection of Robert H. Ellsworth and the Pan-Asian Collection**

This splendid group contains 49 sculptures, all from the former Pan-Asian Collection, which is arguably one of the finest collections ever to have been assembled in the field. Highlights feature a bronze figure of Jina Rishabhathana, Northeastern India, Bihar, 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> century (estimate: \$80,000-120,000). Pratapaditya Pal described this piece in his exhibition catalogue *The Peaceful Liberators, Jain Art from India*, 1994, as 'one of the most impressive to have survived from Bihar.' Rishabhathana is the first of the 24 Jinas of the

Digambara sect, and is characterized by his hair which he tore out by the roots when he renounced the world, and which grew back in graceful locks during meditation. Also offered is an important

bronze figure of Shiva as the Supreme Teacher, *Dakshinamurti* (estimate: \$40,000-60,000), South India, Tamilnadu, Chola Period, 13<sup>th</sup> century. Shiva is portrayed as the omniscient young master conveying supreme knowledge to four elderly sages seated around him. A Tibetan gilt bronze figure of a standing Buddha, 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> century (estimate: \$80,000-100,000) is shown standing on a lotus throne over a raised platform, the face with elongated eyes and arched brows.

### Property from a Private Roman Collection

This private collection includes a very comprehensive group of works from the monastic complex of Densatil, southeast of Lhasa. Founded in the late 12th century, Densatil enjoyed generous patronage and was lavishly decorated during a period of expansion from circa 1360 through the early 15th century. Heavily cast gilt bronze friezes, which were installed along the bases of large stupas, are characteristic of Densatil art and this collection offers many beautiful examples, including a 15<sup>th</sup> century gilt bronze frieze of Sri Devi, Tibeto-Chinese, (estimate: \$120,000-180,000) which depicts the sumptuously adorned goddess, sword in hand, sitting on a garlanded mount with other deities attending. Another frieze shows Nagaraja, dressed in a short dhoti with floral pattern (estimate: \$100,000-150,000). The collection also features a bronze figure of Vairocana, Tibet, 13<sup>th</sup> century (estimate: \$100,000-150,000).



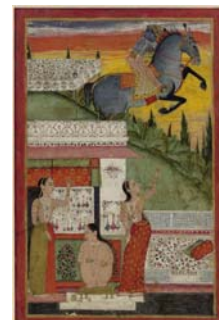
### Property from a Private New York Collection



This private collection presents a fine group of Khmer sculpture led by a sandstone lintel of Navagraha, Angkor period, Koh Ker style, 10<sup>th</sup> century (estimate: \$200,000-300,000), depicting the deities of the planets on one side and the Hindu Pantheon on the other. A second work from this collection is a bronze figure of Buddha with Torana, Angkor period, 13<sup>th</sup> century (estimate: \$200,000-300,000). The Buddha is standing on a lotus base over a stepped lion throne and is adorned with multiple bracelets, earrings and a necklace. His face is characterized by full lips and wide-set eyes, and the hair is drawn up into a chignon. An impressive flaming Torana topped with an arch of branches from the bodhi tree forms a dramatic backdrop.

### Two Collections of Indian Miniatures

Property from a Private San Francisco Collection offers *A Love Vision*, India, Bundi, early 18<sup>th</sup> century (estimate: \$25,000-35,000). From Property from a Private Collection, New Orleans, is *A Painting of a Darbar with Jahangir*, India,



Lucknow, circa 1750 (estimate: \$15,000-20,000) in which Jahangir is portrayed barefoot and seated on a golden throne dressed in regional Lucknowi dress.

**Auction:** Indian and Southeast Asian Art

September 21 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

**Viewing:** Christie's Galleries at Rockefeller Center

September 14 – 20

### **About Christie's**

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*Images available on request*

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More information about this Christie's sale can be found on [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com). All lots from the sale can be viewed online along with full catalogue descriptions on Lotfinder®, which also allows clients to leave absentee bids. [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com) provides information on more than 80 sale categories, buying and selling at auction, complete auction results, and Christie's international auction calendar.