

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Capucine Milliot 33 1 40 76 84 08 cmilliot@christies.com

THE COLLECTION OF JACQUES AND HENRIETTE SCHUMANN

*French furniture, Old Master Drawings, Islamic art, scientific and musical instruments,
European ceramics and Decorative Arts from the 20th century*

Christie's Paris

September 30, 2003

Paris – Christie's is pleased to announce the sale of the collection of Mrs. Jacques Schumann on September 30 in Paris. Typically French, the collections have been put together in one of the most beautiful Parisian buildings by the architect Michel Roux-Spitz on avenue Henri-Martin in the 16th arrondissement. The entire collection is expected to fetch between 4 to 6 million Euros.

Henriette Schumann received from her parents, Alice and Fernand Halphen, a core collection of old master and impressionist paintings as well as remarkable classical furniture while her husband inherited drawings and works of art from his maternal grandfather, Albert Lehmann.

After the war, Henriette and Jacques Schumann continued this collecting tradition inspired by both beauty and knowledge. They displayed their works of art everywhere: on sideboards covered with green velvet, classical and scientific objects were placed side by side with bright American Indian feather ornaments in bronze and Renaissance medals.

About twenty drawings from the 18th and 19th century are offered: *Le départ des conscrits* by Louis-Léopold Boilly (1761-1845) is an important study for the painting now at the Carnavalet Museum (Paris). Its provenance reflects the family's attachment to art: it was offered in June 1925 as lot 140 in the sale of Albert Lehmann (1840-1922), maternal grandfather of Jacques Schumann. It was then acquired by his father Robert Schumann (1870-1951) on April 11, 1951 and has stayed in the family until today. The effects of shadow and light expressed by a perfectly mastered technique make this drawing an outstanding piece of art Exhibited only one time in Paris in 1900 (retrospective exhibition of the city of Paris, 1900, n°20), its reappearance is an event (estimate: € 250.000-350.000).

Further highlights include Jean-Honoré Fragonard's (1732-1806) *Le songe de Plutarque*, last publicly viewed at the Fragonard exhibition in the National Galleries of the Grand Palais (1987-1988) under n° 253 (€200.000-300.000) and the powerful drawing *Le Plaideur Mécontent* by Honoré Daumier (1808-1879) that demonstrates his satirical style (estimate: € 200.000-300.000). A further work by Jean-Honoré Fragonard's (1732-1806), *Jupiter et Calisto* is the only old master painting in the sale. This work of art, drawn around 1755, is a study for a painting preserved in the Museum of Fine Arts in Angers which was acquired by the museum with its pendant *Céphalus et Pocris* (estimate: €100.00-150.000).

A spectacular Louis XVI *fautueil à la reine* in golden ornamented wood, delivered around 1787 for Carlton House, the residence of George, Prince of Wales, by Georges Jacob (estimate: € 200.000-300.000) leads the furniture. A Louis XVI Japanese lacquer table by Martin Carlin (estimate: € 250.000-350.000) and a Louis XV *bureau de pente* with birds and flowers, stamped by Jean-Pierre Latz and Delorme (estimate: €40.000-60.000) are further highlights. A portrait of Louis XV in terracotta attributed to Jean-Baptiste II Lemoyne (1704-1778) represents the French king aged 34 in armour, carrying the cross and the cord of the Saint Esprit order (estimate: € 10.000-12.000).

Some very fine Egyptian, Phoenician, Roman and Greek antiquities were displayed in the family home alongside Byzantine and Merovingian objects as well as magnificent American Indian feather paintings. Among them feature a *Couvercle d'Osiris* from the Nouvel Empire (19th dynasty) in dark wood (estimate: € 75.000-90.000), a rare wooden statue of the Ancient Empire (6th dynasty) (estimate: €28.000-32.000) and a granodiorite royal torso from the Middle Empire (estimate: € 28.000-38.000). Among the Islamic works of art is a very important Iranian stucco panel from the Seldjoukide period, 12th-13th century (estimate: € 10.000-15.000) and a Damas called ceramic covering panel from Turkey, end of the 17th century (estimate: € 10.000-15.000).

Scientific instruments also form part of the collection including a 17th century horizontal copper sundial from the cabinet of the Prince Archbishop of Salzburg (estimate: €25.000-30.000) and

a celestial golden copper mechanic globe from the end of the 16th century, carried by a Moor in silver (estimate: €40.000-60.000).

From the modern works of art in the collection, highlights include ceramics by André Methey, and furniture by Pierre Bachara created in 1934. A Profil de Jacqueline, 1956, a ceramic plaque by Pablo Picasso and two drawings by Berthe Morisot (1841-1895), including La jeune fille rousse, 1888 (estimate: € 25.000-30.000) also enrich this collection.

Auction: September 30, 2003

Viewing: September 25-29, 2003

Christie's – 9 avenue Matignon – 75008 Paris

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Images available on request

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