

For Immediate Release
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ROCK 'N' ROLL AT CHRISTIE'S

Pop Memorabilia
Wednesday 1 October 2003 at 2pm



The Beatles
A rare invitation to a fancy dress party for friends, cast and crew of the film Magical Mystery Tour, 1967
Estimate: £800-1,200

South Kensington – The Rock 'n' Roll years will be celebrated in style at Christie's bi-annual autumn pop extravaganza on Wednesday 1 October. Once again the Beatles lead the all star line up with over 100 lots devoted to the fab four alongside many other pop icons such as the Sex Pistols, Buddy Holly, Jimi Hendrix and the Rolling Stones.

The Beatles section is highlighted by an unusual wooden sculpture entitled Open + Shut by John Lennon (estimate: £10,000-15,000). Created in the form of a twin-door white painted cupboard, this piece originally featured in an exhibition in 1971 to raise funds for the trial of the editors of the British Underground paper Oz, following the publication of material allegedly likely to corrupt minors. As a regular reader of the magazine, Lennon took up the editors' cause, as did other acclaimed artists such as David Hockney, Gerald

Scarfe and Andy Warhol. Another leading lot is a rare page of lyrics for the song Giddy written by Paul McCartney for Roger Daltrey in 1977. Representing the only musical collaboration between the two artists, these important lyrics are expected to fetch up to £15,000. Additional lots include a “Grammy” nomination certificate for Let it Be (estimate: £2,500–4,500) and a rare early promotional concert poster for the Number One Star Show, 1962 (estimate: £5,000–7,000).

The legendary Rolling Stones, still hitting the top notes after more than 40 years in the business as their recent sell-out concert tour illustrated, are well represented in the Christie’s sale. An early contract signed by Brian Jones for five performances by the Stones in Jersey and Guernsey for a salary of £1400 is expected to realize £800–1,000 while a Fender Squier Telecaster guitar signed by all the band members may fetch up to £3,000.

For fans of the Sex Pistols, there’s a wonderful selection of animation artwork on offer from their film The Great Rock ‘N’ Roll Swindle released in 1979. Depicting Sid Vicious and the other group members in various poses, the seven individual pieces of artwork range in estimate from £250 to £900.

Memorabilia relating to another musical icon, Jimi Hendrix, who was recently named the greatest guitarist in rock history by Rolling Stone magazine, will also be offered. Highlights include a rare Track Records promotional poster for the single Burning Of The Midnight Lamp, 1967 (estimate: £1,500–2,500) and 35 previously unpublished black and white negatives featuring some close-ups of Hendrix on stage at the Roundhouse Theatre in north London in 1967 (estimate: £3,000–4,000).

A good selection of stage costume includes a pair of typically flamboyant trousers worn by Freddie Mercury during Queen’s The Works Tour in 1984, which are set to fetch £2,000–£3,000. For younger collectors, there’s an opportunity to cut a dash in a sexy two-piece turquoise leather stage ensemble worn by Britney Spears in 2000. Acquired by the vendor from Britney’s on-line auction to raise money for her charity The Britney Spears Foundation, it carries an estimate of £2,000–3,000.

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*Images available on request
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