

**For Immediate Release**

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**A CUTTING EDGE COLLECTION AT CHRISTIE'S IN OCTOBER**

**Michael Clark Company Benefit Sale of Contemporary Art to be sold at Christie's London in October**



Tracey Emin, *I Kiss You*, 2004  
Estimate: £12,000-14,000

**Michael Clark Company Benefit Sale  
Christie's King Street  
Sunday, 15 October 2006 at 3pm**

London – Christie's is pleased to announce the **Michael Clark Company Benefit Sale**, to be sold in **The Contemporary Sale** in London on Sunday, 15 October 2006 at 3pm. This 20 lot auction will comprise of works donated by friends and collaborators of Michael Clark, one of this country's most significant and influential dancers and choreographers.

The majority of pieces have come directly from the artists' studios or have been specially commissioned for this sale – most have never before been seen by the public and offer an outstanding opportunity for collectors. The works, including pieces by Damien Hirst, Jim Lambie, Sarah Lucas and Elizabeth Peyton are being auctioned to help raise funds needed to engage a high calibre group of dancers in the longer term, enabling Michael Clark to continue working with them over a sustained period, to explore new ideas and projects, and to realise a mature body of work.

**The Contemporary Sale** will take place on Sunday 15 October 2006 at 3pm during a week when the world's focus will be on London's international contemporary art market, including Frieze and a host of contemporary art exhibitions and events.

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Images available on request

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## Notes to Editors

Christie's leads the Contemporary Art Market sales. The February 2005 London evening sale of Post-War and Contemporary Art achieved £24,461,600 (\$45,792,115), the highest total ever realized in this category, while the June 2005 London evening sale totalled £24,459,600 (\$44,516,472). In New York, the May 2005 evening sale fetched \$133,707,200, the highest total for a sale in this category worldwide.

## London Viewing:

At Christie's 8 King Street, St James's SW1Y 6QT, London

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Wednesday 11 October | 9.00am – 4.30pm   |
| Thursday 12 October  | 9.00am – 4.30pm   |
| Friday 13 October    | 9.00am – 4.30pm   |
| Saturday 14 October  | 10.00am – 6.00pm  |
| Sunday 15 October    | 10.00am – 12.30pm |

## Sale:

Sunday 15 October from 3.00pm to 6.00pm

At Christie's 8 King Street, St James's SW1Y 6QT, London

## Michael Clark Biography

Widely recognized as one of the most significant and influential figures in dance, Michael Clark has been making ground-breaking and distinctive work for nearly 25 years, often created through defining collaborations with leading visual artists, composers, designers, musicians and dancers. Born in Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1962, he began traditional Scottish dancing at the age of four and in 1975 he left home to study at The Royal Ballet School in London. The first public performance of his own choreography was in 1982, at London's Riverside Studios, when he was 20. Michael Clark and Company was launched in 1984.

Through collaborations with fashion designers Bodymap, Leigh Bowery and the artist Trojan, Clark brought a rich visual element to his work. His use of contemporary music and his incorporation of bands such as The Fall, Laibach and Wire has broadened both his work and his audience. Clark has also produced considerable work for film and video. In 1989, Clark was commissioned by the Anthony D'Offay gallery to create *Heterospective*, one of his most intimate and personal works to date.

After three years of commissions and solo work he created *Mmm...* set to Stravinsky's 'The Rite of Spring', which toured Japan and the UK in 1992. Michael further developed his Modern Masterpiece in 1994 with a new work, *O*, focusing on Stravinsky's 'Apollo'. *Before and After: The Fall*, was Clark's first European co-production, premiering at the Hebbel Theater, Berlin in 2001, before touring the UK and Europe. In 2003 Clark created the first *Satie Stud* for William Trevitt of George Piper Dances, he produced an evening entitled *Would, Should, Can, Did*, as part of the Barbican's Only Connect series and choreographed a solo for Mikhail Baryshnikov, *Rattle Your Jewellery*. *OH MY GODDESS* opened Dance Umbrella's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary season at Sadler's Wells, London in October 2003, before touring nationally and internationally. In autumn 2004 Rambert Dance Company revived *Swamp*, a piece Clark created for them in 1986, and which received the Olivier Award for Best New Dance Production in 2005.

In 2005 Michael Clark became an Artistic Associate of the Barbican London. *O*, Stravinsky Project Part 1 premiered on 1st November 2005 and marked the first of three projects co-produced by the Barbican, centred around the music of Stravinsky. Over a three-year period the Barbican is co-producing a new production each year, which will form part of the company's touring repertoire. *Mmm...* Stravinsky Project Part 2, in which Michael reworks his extraordinary 1992 version of 'The Rite of Spring' opens on 27 October 2006 and runs until 4 November 2006 at the Barbican Theatre, London (press night 30 October 2006). For the Stravinsky Project Part 3, both 'Apollo' and 'The Rite of Spring' will be performed alongside a major new creation to 'Les Noces', presented with live music at the Barbican in autumn 2007.