



Press Release

CHRISTIE'S

For Immediate Release

September 9, 2008

Contact: Sung-Hee Park 212.636.2680 spark@christies.com
Paki Newell 323.965.1990 pnewell@lippingroup.com

MARTIN GUITARS CELEBRATES 175TH ANNIVERSARY WITH EXCEPTIONAL AUCTION AT CHRISTIE'S NEW YORK



**Fine Musical Instruments
October 10, 2008**

New York – Christie's and C.F. Martin Co. are thrilled to announce an auction featuring a remarkable collection of Martin guitars for the *Fine Musical Instruments* sale on October 10. In honor of the legendary guitar makers' 175th anniversary, the sale will include 49 guitars and majority of them limited edition prototype guitars culled from the vault of Martin Guitar, and have never been offered to the public. Embraced by artists all over the world, these guitars have helped define every music genre, from country and blues to rock and roll. The sale will pay tribute to this great musical tradition with all proceeds from the 49 lots benefiting The Martin Guitar Charitable Foundation.

“The artistry and craftsmanship of the Martin brand are without equal,” said Kerry Keane, Head of Musical Instruments at Christie’s. *“Christie’s is excited to offer a remarkable collection and to support the ongoing work of the Martin Guitar Charitable Foundation.”*

“All of us at Martin are honored to be partnered with Christie’s for this very special showcase,” added Chairman and CEO Chris Martin IV. *“This is a rare opportunity for musicians and collectors to acquire some of the finest instruments in our collection on the occasion of our company’s 175th anniversary.”*

Highlights of the sale will include an exciting assortment of limited edition proto-types, unique experimental editions, inactive models and signature series. Featured guitars include the D-50 Deluxe (estimate: \$24,000-35,000) a D-28 Authentic (estimate: \$15,000-25,000), a 00-45ST Stauffer commemorating the 200th birthday of C.F. Martin Sr. (estimate: \$4,000-6,000) and a D-50 Koa (estimate: \$20,000-30,000). Additional artist signature models Christie’s will be offering include the D-28 Hank Williams (estimate: \$10,000-15,000), 000-28 Eric Clapton (estimate: \$1,500-2,500), SWC Classic Sting (estimate: \$1,500-2,500), 000-40Q2 Graham Nash (estimate: \$1,600-2,800), M3M Sir George Martin (estimate: \$2,400-3,500), and 000-18WG Woody Guthrie (estimate: \$1,200-2,000).

Auction: *Fine Musical Instruments*

October 10 at 10am

Viewing: Christie’s New York

October 4 - 9

About Martin Guitar

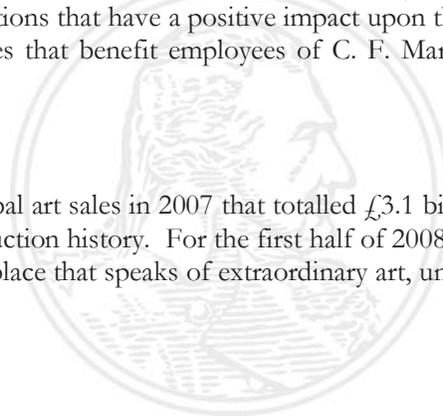
Founded in 1833, C.F. Martin & Co. is celebrating its 175th Anniversary as the oldest surviving maker of guitars in the world. Currently the largest producer of acoustic guitars in the United States, the company is highly regarded for creating some of the finest instruments and introducing innovations that have become industry standards in the music products industry. The Martin Guitar Company has been continuously family owned and operated for six generations, currently headed by Chairman and CEO Christian Frederick Martin IV. Martin guitars are hand-made by skilled craftsmen and women, many still using the design and techniques introduced by the company founder in the 1830s. The privately held manufacturer is acknowledged as the creator of some of the world’s finest musical instruments. Martin innovations include the now-standard x-bracing, the 14-fret guitar and the “Dreadnought” size.

About The Martin Guitar Charitable Foundation

The Martin Guitar Charitable Foundation is a private foundation established in 1996 by C. F. Martin IV to encourage and support 501(c) (3) charitable organizations that have a positive impact upon the acoustic music community, or which provide programs and services that benefit employees of C. F. Martin & Co. or the greater the Lehigh Valley.

About Christie’s

Christie’s is the world's leading art business with global art sales in 2007 that totalled £3.1 billion/\$6.3 billion. This marks the highest total in company and in art auction history. For the first half of 2008, art sales totalled £1.8 million / \$3.5 billion. Christie’s is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service



and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's conducted the greatest auctions of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, and today remains a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 600 sales annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$80 million. Christie's has 85 offices in 43 countries and 14 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Tel Aviv, Dubai, Hong Kong and Zurich. Most recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in emerging and new markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

*Estimates do not include buyer's premium

#

Images available on request

Visit Christie's Web site at www.christies.com

