

For Immediate Release

Monday 26 September 2005

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**IMPORTANT RECORD OF SOCIAL HISTORY AT
CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON IN OCTOBER**



Part II Tom Pilgrim's Progress Along the Consequences of Christianity' – One Attitude and Six Postures
Estimate: £700-£1,000 (part of a lot of 3)

20th Century British Art
Thursday 20 October, 10.30am
Christie's South Kensington

Works from the Studio of Mario Dubsky (1939-85)

South Kensington – A series of 6 important works by prominent gay artist Mario Dubsky will be offered as part of Dubsky's studio in Christie's 20th Century British Art sale on Thursday 20 October at 10.30am. The 'One Attitude and Six Postures' pieces (lots 263 & 264) are drawings from Part II of Dubsky's seminal work "*Tom Pilgrim's Progress Along the Consequences of Christianity*", produced by the artist in an angry response to the to the prosecution of the newspaper *Gay News* for blasphemy. In July 1977, the fortnightly newspaper *Gay News* and its editor, Denis Lemon, were put on trial and convicted of blasphemous libel. It was the last ever successful prosecution for blasphemy in Britain and a turning point in the history of homosexual awareness in the UK.

These 6 works, from the '*One Attitude and Six Postures*' series (executed between 1977 and 1978) depict Tom Dawson who subsequently became Tom Pilgrim. He was one of

Dubsky's favourite muses, largely because he seemed to enjoy difficult or painful poses, making most of them up himself.

Born in London in 1939 to Viennese Jewish parentage, Dubsky was at the centre of the London art scene in the sixties and seventies. He was the youngest ever artist to be accepted into the Slade School of Fine Art in 1956, where he made a huge impression on his contemporaries. His circle included David Hockney, Cecil Beaton and Frank Auerbach.

Dubsky was also one of the first artists in London to force the issue of his homosexuality. Patrick Proctor described him as the "young spitfire of the Slade", hugely confident and devoted to his work and heavily serious about philosophy and politics. He blossomed in the 1960s and exhibited his work in the New Generation shows of 1966 and 1968 at the Whitechapel Art Gallery. In the 1970s he produced a much darker body of work inspired by architectonic forms and the pre-historic bones in the Natural History museum. A number of his works were also exhibited at the South London Art Gallery in 1984, a powerful tribute to his life and work. He died of AIDS in 1985.

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Images available on request

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

Notes to Editors:

Public Viewing Times:

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| Saturday 15 October | 10am – 4pm |
| Sunday 16 October | 10am – 4pm |
| Monday 17 October | 9am – 7.30pm |
| Tuesday 18 October | 9am – 5pm |
| Wednesday 19 October | 9am – 5pm |
| Thursday 20 October | 9am – start of sale |

Auction: Thursday 20 October, 2.00pm

Enquiries: 85 Old Brompton Road, SW7 3LD

Tel: 020 7930 6074 / www.christies.com

In 2005 Christie's South Kensington will have the following opening hours:

Monday 9am – 7.30pm

Tuesday to Friday 9am to 5pm

And will be open for Weekend Shopping on:

Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm

The weekend openings will be throughout the year except for bank holidays