

For Immediate Release

18 September 2006

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**A PRIVATE COLLECTION OF CLASSICALLY INSPIRED TREASURES AT
CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON**

Gipson's Grand Tour: The Dean Gipson Collection

Christie's South Kensington

16 November 2006 at 10.30am



South Kensington – A private and personal collection of classically inspired treasures will be offered in *Gipson's Grand Tour: The Dean Gipson Collection* sale at Christie's South Kensington on Thursday, 16 November 2006. This single-owner sale will include a fabulous array of over 500 lots ranging from Grand Tour and Regency items to European works of art, furniture, sculpture and prints. Everything will be offered without reserve.

Over the past thirty years, Dean Gipson, a London-based antiques dealer with a showroom in Core One, off the King's Road, has carefully amassed this wonderful private collection. In his three-story Islington house, Gipson has skilfully mixed antique and classical works of art and furniture with more modern 20th century fittings to create a contemporary look. Gipson now feels that he is ready for a change in style and so has decided to offer the entire contents of his house for sale.

Gipson's passion for Grand Tour-related items is evident throughout the house. A plethora of classical vases of different variations, sizes and materials jostle for space, including a large pair of cast iron models of the celebrated Townley vase (estimate: £4,000-6,000) and a pair of bronze models of the Borghese and Medici vases (estimate £3,000-5,000). Italian and French bronze and marble busts and temples of antique and classical subjects are also offered, including one lot of eight works comprising Italian triumphal arches and columns inspired by the remains of those in the Roman Forum (estimate: £1,000-1,500). The sale also includes a good selection of statuary ranging from a pair of Italian tazza with snakes running around the rim, 19th century (estimate: £2,000-3,000) to a number of classically inspired marble urns in varying forms (estimates range from £500 to £2,000).

Decoration for the garden has not been overlooked either and the sale features a wonderful collection of urns and vases including a large pair of cast-iron models of the classic Warwick vase (estimate £3,000-5,000) and a pair of Regency white marble urns (estimate £1,500-2,500). A stylish

French marble table top with six cast-iron paw feet, late 19th century (estimate: £800-1,200) and an exquisite Italian white marble bench, late 19th century (estimate: £2,500-3,500) are also offered.

Classical French furniture and works of art have also inspired Gipson in his collecting and the sale includes a diverse selection ranging from a pair of striking French Louis XVI style painted and giltwood console tables with marble tops, 19th century (estimate: £4,000-6,000) to an amusing French bookcase with gilt-tooled leather bookspines applied to the doors, 19th century (estimate: £1,500-2,000). A wide range of sparkling French lighting includes a Louis Philippe gilt bronze chandelier, circa 1840 (estimate: £2,500-4,000) and numerous pairs of bronze and Siena marble candelabra, mid 19th century (estimates range from: £500-2,000). Among the more unusual items is a striking 7ft Piranesi print of Trajan's column (estimate: £1,500-2,000).

Throughout the house, Gipson has cleverly used a variety of decorative mirrors of varying shapes and sizes. Among the examples for sale is an over-size Venetian bevelled glass mirror (estimate: £3,000-5,000) and a large Continental convex mirror with a carved wood frame (estimate: £2,000-3,000). Other items offered include an early Victorian brown leather Chesterfield sofa (estimate: £1,000-1,500), together with two other Victorian brown leather library armchairs (estimates: £1,000-1,500 each). Earlier English examples include a crisply cast Regency twin-branch chandelier, originally fitted for colza oil, (estimate £1,500-2,500), a bronze and leather Regency window seat with a red leather buttoned top, (estimate: £3,000-5,000) together with two limed oak console tables of Gothic design (estimate £1,500-2,500 each).

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Images available on request

Visit Christie's on the Web at www.christies.com

CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON

85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 3LD

Nearest Underground: South Kensington

Public Enquiries: 020 7930 6074

Public Viewing:

Sunday 12 November: 10am – 4pm

Monday 13 November: 9am – 7.30pm

Tuesday 14 November: 9am – 5pm

Wednesday 15 November: 9am – 5pm

Notes to Editors:

Christie's South Kensington is open seven days a week with monthly sales for the home on Sundays. Throughout 2006, Christie's South Kensington will hold 22 weeks of Interior Sales which bundle together all the regular home furnishing auctions over one week in the single easy, magazine-style catalogue.

The UK's busiest auction house, Christie's South Kensington offers more sales in more categories than any other auction house. Prices range from £200 to over £20,000, with the average price at just under £1,000. For those contemplating selling, Christie's expertise is also available 7 days a week, free of charge, at the Valuation Counter to advise you on the current market value for your works of art.

Established in 1975 on the Old Brompton Road, Christie's South Kensington offers over 50,000 objects a year including works of art, furniture, paintings, prints and drawings, glass, ceramics, lighting, modern design, fashion, jewellery and silver. There is something for everyone and all you need to decorate your home or start a collection.