

For Immediate Release

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**CHRISTIE'S LONDON POST WAR & CONTEMPORARY ART
EVENING SALE TOTALS £39.8 MILLION / \$80.6 MILLION**

- **Francis Bacon's Rent Cheque Painting *Study from the Human Body, Man Turning on the Light* Sells for £8,084,500 / \$16,371,113 / €11,528,497**
- **Marc Newson's *Lockheed Lounge* sells for £748,500 (\$1,515,713/€1,067,361)
Setting a New World Auction Record for Any Living Designer**

London – Christie's *Post War & Contemporary Art Evening Sale including Double Vision* held on 14 October 2007 totalled £39,810,200 (\$80,615,655 / €56,769,345), the highest ever total for Christie's October Post War & Contemporary Art sale in London and double the previous total for this sale of £19 million in 2006. Strategically timed during a week when the world's focus is on international contemporary art in London, the sale was led by Francis Bacon's rent cheque painting *Study from the Human Body, Man Turning on the Light* which sold for £8,084,500 / \$16,371,113.

"The increasing interest in collecting art has been fuelled by an unprecedented breadth and depth of the international collecting community. We continue to see confidence in the international art market, notably the Post War & Contemporary Art segment, with strong prices achieved for top quality and sensibly estimated works. The results tonight are a testament to Christie's unrivalled knowledge and expertise of this dynamic market," said **Pilar Ordovas, Head of Post War and Contemporary Art, Christie's London.**

The sale was highlighted by *Study from the Human Body, Man Turning on the Light* by Francis Bacon (1909-1992) which sold for £8,084,500 (\$16,371,113 / €11,528,497), the fourth highest price for the artist at auction. The picture was offered by the Royal College of Art who were given the work directly by the artist as rent for the use of a studio in Cromwell Road in 1969 and who were selling the painting in order to raise funds for a major new campus. All proceeds of the sale will be invested directly into the construction of the new Royal College of Art buildings based in Battersea.

Sir Christopher Frayling, Rector of the Royal College of Art said: *"We are very happy with the result of today's sale. I hate to use the phrase 'bringing home the bacon', but since the major phase of the new building development in Battersea, with all its promises, will be supported by this sale of Francis Bacon's painting, I've a feeling that's just what we're doing here. The RCA lent Bacon a studio in 1969. He gave us a painting as rent. That eight-month occupancy of a single studio will help us to build over a hundred studios for future generations of students."*

Other highlights of this evening's sale included:

- *Double Vision: Important Contemporary Art and Design from a Private Collection*, a single-owner collection which merged post-war and contemporary art with 20th century design, and which totalled £7,846,100 / \$15,888,353 / €11,188,539. Forming the design centerpiece of the collection,

Australian-born Marc Newson's (b. 1963) futuristic *Lockheed Lounge*, 1986 sold for £748,500 (\$1,515,713/€1,067,361) and set a new world auction record for any living designer.

- *Small Vase of Flowers*, (1991) by Jeff Koons (b.1955), from the artist's notorious *Made in Heaven* series, which sold for £1,588,500 (\$3,216,713 / €2,265,201).

- Donald Judd's (1928-1994) *Untitled*, 1985, executed in aluminium and blue plexiglass, which realised £1,364,500 (\$2,763,113 / €1,945,777).

- *Wayward Nurse* by Richard Prince (b.1949) which sold for £1,028,500 (\$2,082,713 / €1,466,641) against a pre-sale estimate of £400,000,600,000.

- The section of Chinese Contemporary Art which offered ten paintings, all of which sold for a collective total of £5,245,500 (\$10,622,138 / €7,480,083). The top price was *Mask Series 1999, No. 5* by Zeng Fanzhi (b.1964) which realised £804,500 (\$1,629,113 / €1,147,217).

In today's sale, 10 artists records were established including for Shiro Kuramata, Scott Burton, Marc Newson, Ron Arad, Jonathan Meese, Robert Longo, Olafur Eliasson, Anselm Reyle, Yin Zhaoyang and Carsten Höller.

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Notes to Editors:

Christie's Post-War & Contemporary Art

Christie's is the leading marketplace internationally for Post-War and Contemporary Art with global sales in 2006 totalling £442 million/\$822 million. Christie's New York *Post-War and Contemporary Art Evening Sale* in May 2006 became the most valuable auction ever in the category, and the second highest art auction in history totalling \$384,654,400. In June 2007, the highest ever European sale total for *Post-War and Contemporary Art* was achieved at Christie's London when the evening sale realised £74.1 million /\$147.3 million.

About Christie's

Christie's is the world's leading art business with global auction sales in 2006 that totalled £2.51 billion / \$4.67 billion. Worldwide sales for the first half of 2007 totalled £1.63 billion / \$3.25 billion, an increase of 32% by £ and 45% by \$ from the same period last year and highest half year sales ever in art market history. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service, and 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 London, New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Tel Aviv, Dubai and Hong Kong. Most recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in emerging markets such as China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Dubai, Mumbai and Russia. Christie's also offers its clients worldwide access to its sales through Christie's LIVE™, its unique, real-time online bidding service.

For more information on the RCA's Battersea development, contact Aine Duffy, Head of Media Relations at the RCA: +44 (0)20 7590 4127