

**For Immediate Release**

October 22, 2008

Contact: Rik Pike      212.636.2680      [rpike@christies.com](mailto:rpike@christies.com)

**NEW BEGINNINGS, NEW FORMATS AND A DIVERSE SALES PROGRAM FOR THE CHRISTIE'S AMERICAS WINE DEPARTMENT THIS FALL**



**New York** – With the recent appointment of Charles Curtis MW as the new Head of Christie's Wine Sales in the Americas this summer, the Wine Department in North America looks forward to an exciting and innovative sale program for the remainder of the Fall season. Six auctions will be conducted during the remainder of the year, featuring three Evening Sales, including one to be held at Le Cirque restaurant in Manhattan – a first for New York wine buyers, with much of the sale stock being sourced directly from the surrounding restaurant's carefully-crafted cellars.

“Christie's aims to offer our buyers and sellers the very best venues, sale formats and catalogues to enhance and further develop their love of the finest wines in the world. Christie's remains at the forefront of the global marketplace, and we pride ourselves on offering the most-enticing selections of wine, with a select emphasis on quality over quantity, and impeccable provenance. We are

Christie's  
20 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10020  
phone 212.636.2680 fax 212.636.4951  
[www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com)

particularly excited about the auction at Le Cirque, where all the anticipation of a Christie's wine auction will be transferred to one of the most respected restaurants in North America," says Charles Curtis MW, Head of Christie's North American Wine Sales.

## New York Auction Highlights

### The Le Cirque Sale

**Monday, November 17**

The auction, to be conducted on the evening of November 17 on 58<sup>th</sup> Street, will aid the legendary New York restaurant to expand its wine cellar, with a selective divestment of duplicate cases. These wines, carefully chosen and meticulously stored, will form the core of the evening's 170-lot sale. At this ticketed event, bidders will enjoy a four-course Gala Dinner. The auction will be conducted according to standard Christie's procedures, with telephone and internet bidding utilizing Christie's LIVE™.



Le Cirque wines to be offered include an enticing collection of top red Bordeaux, including 12-bottle cases of 1959 Château Margaux (estimate: \$15,000-20,000); 1982 Château Mouton-Rothschild (estimate: \$12,000-18,000); and Château Pétrus 1995 (estimate: \$15,000-20,000). There is also an attractive range of Italian wines, including Piemontese favorites from Bruno Giacosa and Angelo Gaja, and Super Tuscans such as Ornellaia and Sammarco. Elsewhere, a vertical of Opus One Impériales back to 1979 features (estimate: \$25,000-35,000), along with a 12-bottle case of 1967 Château d'Yquem (estimate: \$12,000-18,000).

Further to the Le Cirque offering, a judicious 80-lot selection from another leading wine collection has been added to the evening's proceedings, including a highly significant collection of top-growth Bordeaux 2005 – the most important to be presented to the market by Christie's in the Americas yet. Châteaux include Le Pin, Pétrus, Ausone, Margaux, Latour, Lafite-Rothschild, Haut-Brion and La Mission-Haut-Brion, in full-case bottle and magnum formats.



## The Evening Sale: Finest and Rarest Wines Featuring Domaine de la Romanée-Conti Friday, November 21

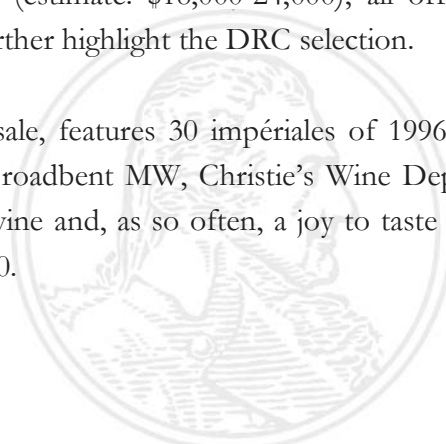
Following on from The Le Cirque Sale on Monday night, the Wine Department returns to Christie's at Rockefeller Center on Friday night for a 220-lot Evening Sale that features an outstanding collection of wines from Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, a selection of champagne sourced directly from the House of Krug and a notable superlot of 1996 Château Margaux.

Established in 1843, the House of Krug has pursued an uncompromising philosophy of total craftsmanship and bespoke luxury over six generations, and is a personal favorite of Champagne experts and connoisseurs worldwide. Six lots sourced directly from Krug open the Evening Sale proceedings, including wines that have never before appeared at auction, such as jeroboams of 1995 Krug (estimate: \$4,500 - \$5,500); two six-bottle assortments featuring both Krug Collection and Clos du Mesnil from vintages throughout the 1980s: 1981/82/85 (estimate: \$10,000-\$12,000) and 1988/89/90 (estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000); and one of the world's three remaining sets of magnums from 1962 and 1982 that commemorate the winemaking career of Henri Krug (estimate: \$9,000-\$11,000).



Over 55 lots from the Domaine de la Romanée-Conti will be offered, including many in much-sought after large formats. Enviably methuselah and jeroboam combinations of Montrachet 1985, 1986, 1988, 1990 and 1996 feature, all with early serial 1,2 or 3 bottle numbers (estimate range: \$15,000 to 50,000). Elsewhere, a methuselah of Romanée-Conti 1988 (estimate: \$30,000-50,000) adds to the large format selection. Also, two 12-bottle lots of 1978 DRC Assortment (estimate: \$60,000-80,000 each); one 12-bottle lot of Richebourg 1978 (estimate: \$40,000-50,000); and one 12-bottle lot of Richebourg 2005 (estimate: \$18,000-24,000), all offered in original wooden cases, further highlight the DRC selection.

The superlot, offered towards the end of the sale, features 30 impériales of 1996 Margaux all in original wooden cases. According to Michael Broadbent MW, Christie's Wine Department Senior Consultant, Margaux 1996 is, "an outstanding wine and, as so often, a joy to taste from the start." The superlot is estimated at \$220,000 to \$300,000.



## Los Angeles Auction Highlights

### **Finest and Rarest Wines: The Evening Sale, featuring Rarities from the Private Cellar of the Paul Jaboulet Family and Château La Mission Haut-Brion Thursday, October 30**

The 150-lot Evening Sale, to take place at Christie's Los Angeles in Beverly Hills, features two significant consignments sourced directly from leading global wine producers, along with important Californian lots.

To celebrate 25 years of ownership of one of Bordeaux's unique and greatest properties, Château La Mission Haut-Brion, the Dillon family has consigned wines directly from the Château library. The origins of the estate date back to the early 16<sup>th</sup> century, and today produces some of the most sought-after wines in the world. Auction highlights include three magnums of 2000 (estimate: \$6,000-8,000); one jeroboam of 1989 (estimate: \$12,000-20,000); and an impériale of the 2003 (estimate: \$2,000-3,000), all offered in original wooden cases.



A 12-lot selection direct from the private cellar of the renowned Paul Jaboulet Aine Domain in the Rhône Valley also feature. The Domain, founded in 1834, governs one of the most unique and demanding vineyards in the world, and the most-renowned wine is the mythic Syrah-based 'La Chapelle' Hermitage. Among the most expensive wines in the world, 1961 La Chapelle will be offered across two lots, including six bottles (estimate: \$60,000-90,000), and two magnums (estimate: \$50,000-75,000).

The Californian section of the sale includes a rare opportunity to acquire a 12-bottle original carton of 1974 Heitz, Martha's Vineyard (estimate: \$15,000-20,000). An important historical lot from a superb vintage, and one that leads the section, the carton has never left the Napa Valley.

###

#### **Other Christie's Americas Wine Sales Fall 2008:**

- **Fine and Rare Wines featuring Bordeaux from a Private Collection**  
Saturday, October 25 – Christie's New York
- **Fine and Rare Wines**  
Saturday, November 1 – Christie's Los Angeles
- **Fine and Rare Wines**  
Friday, December 5 – Christie's New York



## Notes to Editors:

- Christie's International Wine Department is the leading global fine wine auctioneer, with ten sale locations around the world and a dedicated team of specialists across Europe and North America - and now Asia.
- Christie's International Wine Department reported its best year ever in 2007, with a global auction total of \$71,647,944/£36,003,991/€52,925,868.
- Christie's remains the only international wine auctioneer to sell on both sides of the United States – and in Europe, the only auction house to hold regular sales outside London - and now, only auctioneer to sell across three continents.
- Christie's offers the most sought-after wines, and sells the most notable wines at the most notable prices – Christie's hold the case records for Rhone and Bordeaux wines – and \$345,000 for a case of Mouton-Rothschild 1945 remains the outright world auction record, set at Christie's Los Angeles in 2006.

## 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 billion / \$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](http://www.christies.com)*

