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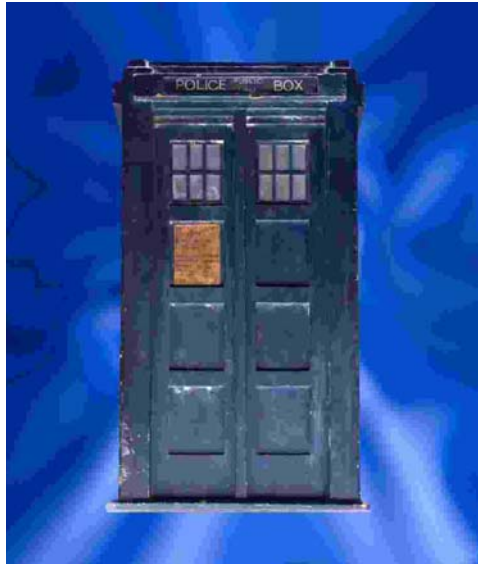
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CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON ROLLS OUT THE RED CARPET IN DECEMBER



Film and Entertainment

Wednesday, 14 December 2004 at 2pm

South Kensington – Christie's South Kensington rolls out the red carpet on 14 December 2005 in honour of its annual *Film and Entertainment Memorabilia* sale. The auction is led by a stellar cast including a scale model of the TARDIS from *Doctor Who* (estimate: £4,000-6,000) and a collection of props from the *Star Wars* films. The 150 lots are expected to fetch in excess of £125,000, with estimates from £200 up to £15,000.

The first episode of *Doctor Who* was broadcast in 1963 and the appearance of the famous 'Police Box' TARDIS has changed little since then. The 18 inch high model offered in the sale is distinctive due to its wider door rail and is therefore easily identifiable on screen. This TARDIS was used from 1965-1970, thereafter appearing on the opening credits and on t-shirts, calendars, posters and the 1979 soundtrack. The image of the TARDIS has become synonymous with *Doctor Who* and has been brought to the attention of a new generation as recently as last year. This is a unique opportunity to own an iconic piece of television memorabilia with lasting appeal.

For those mourning the completion of George Lucas' legendary *Star Wars* series, Christie's sale features a number of dazzling props from the first film *Star Wars: A New Hope* (1977). The leading-lights of this section are two rare Imperial Stormtroopers' helmets, both of which were worn by Stormtroopers (or Sandtroopers) in the Tatooine sequences of the film, shot in Tunisia (estimates: £8,000-10,000 each). There were only twelve Sandtrooper helmets used in Tunisia, all of which were discarded after the shoot and these examples were rescued from a skip at Elstree Studios. For truly dedicated *Star Wars* fans the auction also offers a X/Y Wing Rebel Fighter helmet (estimate: £6,000-8,000) and a prop blaster gun (estimate: £8,000-10,000) both from *A New Hope*.

From classic Sci-Fi to modern day fantasy, the spellbinding lots from *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* are sure to bring some magic to the auction room. With the release of the fourth film imminent, fans of Potter and his wizarding chums can relive those first moments at Hogwarts school. Highlights include a gown believed to have been made for the Head of Ravenclaw house (estimate: £800-1,200) and a prop school text book '*Magical Drafts and Potions*' possibly the property of Harry throughout the film (estimate: £500-700). For those keen to brush up on their spells the sale also features a prop wand (estimate: £300-500).

The Animation section of the sale is led by a cell and production background from Disney's 1937 *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. The cell depicts Snow White lying on the forest floor, surrounded by woodland animals and is signed by the studio artist on behalf of Walt Disney. The estimate for this unique lot is between £10,000 and £15,000.

On a more personal note, the sale features a selection of autograph material and correspondence, subjects include James Dean, Audrey Hepburn, Laurel and Hardy, Charlie Chaplin and Stanley Kubrick. Perhaps the most intriguing is a series of letters from Errol Flynn to his close friend Dr. Hermann F. Erben from 1933-1947. These give a fascinating insight into Flynn's crude sense of humour, his career and his racial and gender prejudices; '*...All the men I've met so far are either quakers (sic) or such damned hypocrites that I couldn't be bothered talking to them. The women I do not care to talk to but am prepared to poke*' (22nd August 1933). It is obvious that he values Erben's friendship highly and is generous in his offers of money and help; '*...a friend is to me one of the rare treasure we can find in this world...*' (11th December 1947). This lot, which also includes a lock of Flynn's hair and a selection of photographs, is estimated at £2,000 to £3,000.

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Images available on request

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

Notes to Editors:

Public Viewing Days:

Saturday 10 December through to Wednesday 14 December

Public Auction:

Christie's South Kensington, Wednesday 14 December 2004 at 2pm
85 Old Brompton Road
London SW7 3LD

Public Enquiries: 020 7930 6074 / www.christies.com

Opening hours at Christie's South Kensington:

- Monday 9am – 7.30pm
- Tuesday to Friday 9am to 5pm
- Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm

Christie's South Kensington is the first international auction house in London to offer regular weekend auctions.

Film and Entertainment Memorabilia at Christie's

In the last two decades, Christie's has sold memorabilia ranging from Bette Davis' Academy Award for *Jezebel* to the sled from *Citizen Kane*. Most recently in June 2005, Christie's New York auctioned The Personal Property of Marlon Brando which totalled \$2,378,300 and set a new world auction record for any film script with Marlon Brando's working script for *The Godfather*, 1972 which sold for \$312,800. Exceptional prices have included \$666,000 for Dorothy's Ruby Slippers from *The Wizard of Oz* film and \$1,267,500 Marilyn Monroe's "Happy Birthday Mr. President" Dress. Christie's holds annual entertainment memorabilia sales in South Kensington, London and New York.