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## CHRISTIE'S *BRITISH ART WEEK AUTUMN* REALISES **£32.1 MILLION (\$60.8 million / €47.3 million)**

- Five picture sales realise a record **£29.1 million**, highest ever total for a week of British picture sales at Christie's
- *20<sup>th</sup> Century British Art* sale realises **£12.5 million** – record total for the category anywhere
- **46 new artist records established and 64 lots sell for over £100,000**
- *British Art Week* in June and *British Art Week Autumn* realise a combined total of **£64.9 million / \$121.2 million**

**London** – Christie's *British Art Week Autumn* concluded today having realised **£32,074,400 (\$60,774,725 / €47,278,248)** from six auctions dedicated entirely to British art and furniture. The five sales of paintings, drawings and watercolours realised a total of **£29,127,840**, the highest ever total for a week of British picture sales at Christie's, and set 46 new artist records including those for David Bomberg, E.W. Cooke, Philip de Lazslo, Sir Thomas Lawrence, Sir Terry Frost and William Scott. A total of 64 lots sold for over **£100,000** and the sale of *20<sup>th</sup> Century British Art* on 17 November realised a total of **£12.5 million**, breaking Christie's own record from June 2006 for the highest ever sale total anywhere for the category. The top lot of the week was *Portrait of Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington, K.G., K.B., M.P.* by Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A. (1769-1830) which sold at the auction of *British Pictures 1500-1850* for **£2,080,000**, more than doubling the previous record price for the artist.

The sales of *British Art Week* in June and *British Art Week Autumn* in November have realised a combined total of **£64.9 million / \$121.2 million**.

Jonathan Horwich, Deputy Chairman and Head of the British and Irish Art Department and Robert Copley, Deputy Chairman and Head of the Furniture Department said: "*This year we have celebrated British art and craftsmanship with two series of auctions devoted to British pictures and furniture, and the results have been fantastic throughout realising an impressive total of £64.9 million. The pre-sale exhibitions in June and November saw a huge number of people pass through the King Street salerooms and appreciate the impressive selection of works, while the sales have welcomed a significant number of new, predominantly private clients, including a notable number of international buyers. This week's sales have realised a total of £32.1 million, set 46 artist records and seen 64 lots sell for over £100,000, illustrating the continuing depth, quality and value of British art and furniture sales at Christie's.*"

The sales totals were as follows:

Wednesday, 15 November	<i>The Poetry of Crisis: The Peter Nahum Collection</i>	£3,065,360
Thursday, 16 November	<i>British Art on Paper</i>	£1,864,800
Friday, 17 November	<i>20<sup>th</sup> Century British Art</i>	£12,485,040
Wednesday, 22 November	<i>British Pictures 1500-1850</i>	£7,918,480
Wednesday, 22 November	<i>Victorian and Traditionalist Pictures</i>	£3,794,160
Thursday, 8 June	<i>Important English Furniture</i>	£ 2,946,560
	<b><u>TOTAL:</u></b>	<b>£32,074,400</b>

Highlights of the week included:

- *Portrait of Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington, K.G., K.B., M.P.* by Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A. (1769-1830) which sold at the auction of *British Pictures 1500-1850* for £2,080,000, more than doubling the previous record price for the artist.
- *A River Bank* by L.S. Lowry (1887-1976) which sold at the record-breaking auction of *20<sup>th</sup> Century British Art* for £1,408,000, the second highest ever price for the artist at auction.
- *Cuenca from Mount Socorro* by David Bomberg (1890-1957) which sold at the record-breaking auction of *20<sup>th</sup> Century British Art* for £1,016,000, breaking the world record price for a work by the artist set at Christie's in June of this year.
- A George II mahogany stand, *circa* 1755, which sold at the auction of *Important English Furniture* for £232,000, nearly ten times its pre-sale estimate.
- The sale of *20<sup>th</sup> Century British Art* which realised £12,485,040, the highest ever total for the category anywhere.
- *The Poetry of Crisis: The Peter Nahum Collection of British Surrealist and Avant-Garde Art 1930 - 1951* which realised a total of £3,065,360 and set 30 artist records.

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- In June 2006, *British Art Week* realised £32.8 million (\$60.4 million) from five auctions. The sales of paintings, drawings and watercolours *not including furniture* realised £28,294,660, compared with this week's total of £29,127,840.