

CHRISTIE'S

8 King Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6QT

For Immediate Release

Thursday 9 December 2004

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Important European Furniture, Sculpture and Carpets including the Badminton Cabinet Thursday 9 December 2004

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Total: £ 23,947,206 | Lots Offered: 252 | Lots Sold: 164 | Sale No: 6968 |
| \$ 46,098,371 | Sold by Lot: 65% | Sold by £: 91% | \$1.925 / €1.442 |
| € 34,531,871 | | | |

Comment: Amjad Rauf and Donald Johnston, Specialists in charge of the sale

“The centrepiece of today’s auction was the sale of the Badminton Cabinet, which realized £19,045,250 becoming the most expensive work of decorative art ever sold at auction. It was purchased in the room by Dr. Johan Kraeftner, Director of the Liechtenstein Museum in Vienna on behalf of Prinz Hans-Adam II of Liechtenstein for the museum. The museum is to put the Badminton Cabinet on permanent display in Vienna in Spring 2005. Throughout the rest of the sale strong bidding for rare and decorative pieces was witnessed across the board, with particular interest in classical ormolu objects and sculpture. Other highlights today included the Westminster commode (lot 100) which sold for £811,650 and a pair of carved sphinxes, originally commissioned by Marie-Antoinette, which achieved £386,050 (lot 240).”

| LOTS | £ | \$ | € | Estimate | Buyer |
|------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|
| 119 | £19,045,250 | \$36,662,106 | €27,463,250 | £ On Request | Liechtenstein Museum |

The magnificent Florentine Pietra Dura, ebony and ormolu cabinet, made for the 3rd Duke of Beaufort, by the grand ducal workshops and Baccio Cappelli, *circa* 1720-1732

WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR A WORK OF DECORATIVE ART

| | | | | | |
|-----|----------|-------------|------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 100 | £811,650 | \$1,562,426 | €1,170,399 | £700,000-1,000,000 | European Private |
|-----|----------|-------------|------------|--------------------|------------------|

A late Louis XV ormolu-mounted Japanese lacquer and ebony commode, marked Bernard II or Bernard III Van Risenburgh, *circa* 1763-1770

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|-----|-----------|-----------|----------|------------------|-----------|
| 240 | £ 386,050 | \$743,146 | €556,684 | £300,000-400,000 | Anonymous |
|-----|-----------|-----------|----------|------------------|-----------|

A pair of carved stone sphinxes representing autumn, by Joseph Deschamps, carved for the *Belvedere* of Marie-Antoinette at Trianon, Versailles

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|-----|----------|-----------|----------|------------------|---------|
| 156 | £285,250 | \$549,106 | €411,330 | £150,000-200,000 | Private |
|-----|----------|-----------|----------|------------------|---------|

An Italian tapestry woven carpet, probably Turin, *circa* 1740-60

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|-----|----------|-----------|----------|------------------|---------|
| 200 | £195,650 | \$376,626 | €282,127 | £150,000-250,000 | Private |
|-----|----------|-----------|----------|------------------|---------|

A Louis XV ormolu-mounted Chinese lacquer and Japanned commode, by Matthew Criaerd, mid-18th century

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|----|----------|-----------|----------|-----------------|----------------|
| 75 | £134,050 | \$258,046 | €193,300 | £70,000-100,000 | European Trade |
|----|----------|-----------|----------|-----------------|----------------|

A north Italian walnut bureau-bookcase, mid-18th century, Veneto

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|-----|----------|-----------|----------|----------------|----------------|
| 189 | £128,450 | \$247,266 | €185,224 | £25,000-35,000 | European Trade |
|-----|----------|-----------|----------|----------------|----------------|

A pair of bronze busts of men, Italian or French, second half 17th or first half 18th century

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|-----|----------|-----------|----------|----------------|---------|
| 245 | £106,050 | \$204,146 | €152,924 | £60,000-90,000 | Private |
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A carved marble dog, by Anne Seymour Damer, probably 1800

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|----|---------|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------|
| 69 | £94,850 | \$182,586 | €136,773 | £80,000-120,000 | Anonymous |
|----|---------|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------|

A Sardonix double-sided cameo portrait of Sir Christopher Hatton, English *circa* 1590

45 £89,250 \$171,806 €128,698 £30,000-40,000 Private
A pair of Empire ormolu nine-light candelabra, attributed to Pierre-Philippe Thomire, *circa* 1810