

For Immediate Release

14 December 2004

Contact: Rhiannon Bevan-John

020.7752.3120

rbevan-john@christies.com

ROALD DAHL CHARITY AUCTION TOTALS £84,500 AT CHRISTIE'S

13 December 2004

London – Just over £84,000 was raised at last night's charity auction of Roald Dahl's private photographs at Christie's London. The top lot of the night was a picture taken by Roald Dahl of his first wife Patricia Neal with children under her skirts, *circa* 1960 which sold for £7,500.

Other significant prices achieved included £6,000 for Arch of Ctespion, Iraq, 1940 for which Roald Dahl won a silver medal in the Egyptian Salon of Photograph Exhibition in Cairo in 1941 and £5,500 for two photographs of Baghdad Market taken by Roald Dahl in 1940. The photographs were developed especially for the event by Roald's 18 year-old grandson Luke Kelly.

The auction also included a "Treasure Trove" of Roald Dahl items, including artwork by Quentin Blake and Gerald Scarfe which sold for £2,800 and £5,000 respectively and a limited-edition giant Angelpoise lamp fit which sold for £4,000. Proceeds from the auction will benefit The Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre which opens in Great Missenden in June 2005.

Liccy Dahl, Roald Dahl's widow commented:

"It was a wonderful evening and a fantastic result, exceeding all our expectations. We can now get on with the exciting work of completing the Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre in time for its June 2005 opening."

Christie's Duncan McEuen and the evening's auctioneer commented:

"It was a great honour for Christie's to be involved in this special Roald Dahl charity sale. The sale was 100% sold with many photographs easily exceeding their pre-sale estimates. It was a wonderful tribute to one of Britain's most-loved writers."

#

Images available on request

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

Notes to Editors:

The funds raised from the auction will benefit The Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre, which opens in Great Missenden in June 2005. This will be the ultimate destination for every Roald Dahl fan – child or adult. The venue will house the extensive Roald Dahl archive, which includes his ideas book, personal correspondence and every draft of every major story. Roald Dahl was a firm believer in getting others to read and write and the “story centre” will be dedicated to this end with a host of interactive activities, a writer-in-residence and a replica of Dahl’s famous writing hut. For more information, please visit www.roalddahlmuseum.org and www.roalddahl.com.

For further information, visuals and interview requests please contact:

Justin Somper: (020) 8341 6523

Mary Byrne: (020) 7729 6359

Rhiannon Bevan-John (Christie’s): (020) 7752 3120