

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Finest & Rarest Wines to be offered at Christie's Hong Kong in Spring 2010



*The Liquid Gold Collection - Three Centuries of Château d'Yquem  
Estimate on Request*

- **The largest collection of Château d'Yquem ever to come to auction**
- **Presenting a careful selection of the choicest wines with excellent provenance and in superb condition**

**Finest & Rarest Wines**  
**Saturday, 29 May 2010**  
**10:30am & 2:30pm**

**Hong Kong** – Christie's *Finest & Rarest Wines* sales have demonstrated unrivalled results since their return in 2008. In 2009, Christie's Hong Kong had an average lot value of HK\$134,000 (US\$17,300) per lot, the highest for any auction house operating in Asia. Christie's, the international leaders of fine wine at auction, are proud to present Asia's most discerning collectors and connoisseurs with an outstanding array of Bordeaux, Burgundy and Champagne from elite vintages and impeccable cellars, with excellent provenance and in superb condition on 29 May 2010 at the Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre. The sale will be divided into two sessions at 10:30am in the morning and 2:30pm in the afternoon. Highlights include *The Liquid Gold Collection* which provides a unique opportunity to acquire Château d'Yquem vintages spanning three centuries, from 1825 to 2005 (estimate on request), *illustrated above*, and an extensive selection of Château Lafite-Rothschild featuring very rare Double Magnums, Jeroboams and Imperials, Jeroboams of 1961 and various formats of the stellar 1982 vintage. The sale will feature over 350 lots, which are expected to realize in the region of HK\$30 million.

Since the Hong Kong government's abolishment of wine duty in 2008, Hong Kong has risen to become an important centre on the world stage for the finest wines sold at auction. Collectors from throughout Asia have become a major force not only in wine auctions in Hong Kong, but also in international auctions outside of the region, and today constitute an important group of buyers in each of Christie's international wine sales, from New York to London. Last year, the top lot in Christie's global wine sales was a 78-bottle "super lot" of 1999 Domaine de la Romanée-Conti which was sold in Hong Kong in November for HK\$1.4 million (US\$185,760/£112,752).

## The Liquid Gold Collection Three centuries of Chateau d'Yquem

The *Liquid Gold Collection* of Chateau d'Yquem, presents a unique, once in a life time opportunity for collectors around the world. Comprising 129 bottles and 40 magnums, this collection represents a wide range of rare and excellent vintages with bottles dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century (earliest vintage in this collection is 1825); and bottles of every vintage produced in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries, as well as the only major collection of magnums ever offered at auction spanning 1900 to 2005. The bottles and magnum have been examined and approved by the dedicated staff at Chateau d'Yquem, in the process of applying new labels or capsules, or for controlled re-corking of many of the older vintages.

The wines of Chateau d'Yquem are legendary in the world of Fine Wine. This historic property sits on top of a small hill, with commanding views over its neighbouring Sauternes Chateaux, surrounded by immaculate, well-tended vines that are famous for bearing the grapes that make this world renowned dessert wine. The history of the buildings at d'Yquem dates back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century and the estate itself, established in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Classified in 1855 as 'Premier Grand Cru Classe' the reputation and quality of the wines were at that time already widely known and d'Yquem wines were considered superior to the other First Growths of the Medoc that were recognised in the same classification. The most illustrious and successful period of ownership was under the Lur-Saluces Family from 1785-1997.



### **The Liquid Gold Collection - Three Centuries of Château d'Yquem**

The largest collection of Château d'Yquem ever to come to auction:  
129 bottles and 40 magnums spanning three centuries.  
*Estimate on Request*

## Sought-After Bordeaux Collection

One of the benefits of buying at Christie's is that the wine we sell is not only from prestigious makers, of the highest quality, but it frequently boasts excellent provenance. Christie's are pleased to announce an incredible collection of rare vintages which have remained in the cellar of the internationally acclaimed Bordeaux Négociant Family, since they were first created. The collection has been shipped to Hong Kong specifically for this sale, providing a unique opportunity to acquire exquisite First Growths and other fine Châteaux from many of the outstanding vintages of the 20th century. The collection dates as far back as 1905, to vintages that are exceedingly hard to find today. Adding to the appeal of these wines is the fact that the majority of the collection was re-corked and reconditioned by the Châteaux in 1997/1998. This entire collection exemplifies bottles with excellent appearance, labels and levels, displaying a standard of perfection that is particularly rare in wines of this age. All bottles within the collection are in their original wooden cases, unless stated otherwise. The estimates per dozen bottles start from HK\$20,000.



*Some of the Bordeaux highlights include:*

<p><b>Château Lafite Rothschild</b> Vintage 1949 – one jeroboam <i>Estimate: HK\$150,000-200,000</i></p>	<p><b>Château d'Yquem</b> The every rare 1918 and 1919 vintages <i>Estimates from HK\$20,000</i></p>
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<p><b>Château Mouton-Rothschild</b> Extremely rare full cases of 1944, 1952 and 1953 <i>Estimates from HK\$80,000</i></p>	<p><b>Château Lafite Rothschild</b> Vintage 1945 – 4 bottles <i>Estimates HK\$60,000 - 100,000</i></p>
<p><b>Château Latour</b> Six bottles from the legendary 1959 vintage <i>Estimate: HK\$120,000-150,000</i></p>	

## An Exceptional Range of Chateau Lafite-Rothschild



Lafite is renowned for its perfume, finesse and subtlety. Lots 1 to 49 of the Spring *Finest & Rarest Wines* sales will feature bottles of perfect provenance and impeccable condition from this chateau through select vintages from 1934 to 2007, in a variety of different formats – bottles, magnums, double-magnums, jeroboams and imperiales. Not everyone realizes that the ageing process is slightly different because of the smaller air to liquid ratio in large format bottles. As a result wine cellared in these large bottles stay younger and fresher over time – adding to their value. Just one jeroboam contains enough exquisite wine to fill around 40 wine glasses. Whether you are serving this wine in your own home, or giving it as a gift, people are going to acknowledge the bountiful gesture of this offering.

Examples such as the great 1982 vintage are included in the sale offered in bottles, magnums, doubles magnums and jeroboams. The estimate for 12 bottles is HK\$250,000-350,000.

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### Auction

*Finest & Rarest Wines*  
Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre

Saturday, 29 May 2010, 10:30 am & 2:30pm

### Click here for image:

<http://cshk.myftp.org/Spring%202010%20Christie's%20Hong%20Kong%20Auctions/Wines/Images/>

For more information about Christie's Hong Kong Spring 2010 Season Highlights go to [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com)

### **About Christie's**

Christie's, the world's leading art business had global auction and private sales in 2009 that totalled £2.1 billion/\$3.3 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 450 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 53 offices in 30 countries and 10 salesrooms around the world including London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai and Hong Kong. More 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. For more information, please visit [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com).

*\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium*