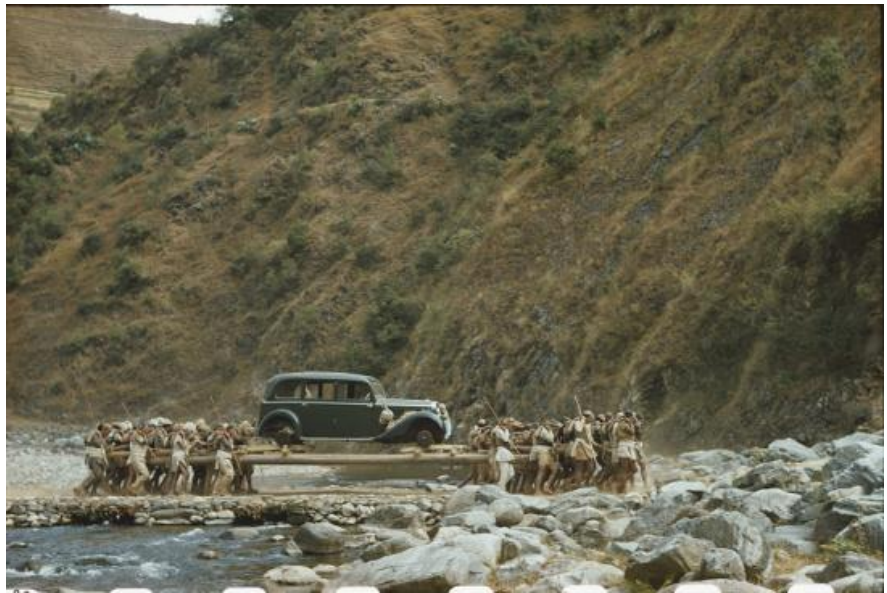


# CHRISTIE'S

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## CHRISTIE'S PRESENTS THE SALE OF *THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC COLLECTION: THE ART OF EXPLORATION* CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



**New York** – Christie's is honored to present *The National Geographic Collection: The Art of Exploration*, an auction of fine art from the archives of the National Geographic Society, celebrating the legacy of National Geographic on the eve of the Society's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Taking place on 6 December, the sale will encompass a breadth of works that represents the National Geographic's rich history in the fields of geography, archaeology, exploration, science, wildlife and world cultures. Marking the first time that works of art from the National Geographic archive have been presented at auction, the sale will include iconic photographs ranging from the 1800's to the present and paintings by illustrious artists including both Andrew and Newell Convers Wyeth. The collection is expected to realize in excess of \$3,000,000, with all proceeds being dedicated to preserving and disseminating the National Geographic archives as well as nurturing emerging photographers and artists.

**Katherine Brambilla, Associate Vice President, Private & Iconic Collections, commented:** *"It is a tremendous honor to partner with National Geographic to present this exceptional collection. National Geographic has been bringing its readers to the farthest corners of the earth with its groundbreaking images for 125 years, and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to offer these images to the people that they have inspired. This collection represents the enormous scope of what has been accomplished by National Geographic, and Christie's could not be more proud to celebrate their legacy and take a part in their future."*

**Maura Mulvihill, Senior Vice President for National Geographic Society and Director of the National Geographic Image Collection, said:** *"Over the course of 125 years, National Geographic has amassed an extensive collection of photographs, illustrations and paintings that now encompasses more than 11.5 million images, many of which have never before been published nor exhibited. As we celebrate our past accomplishments and look forward to our new ones, we are thrilled to bring a selection of these special works of art to the public and enable them to share in the rich legacy of National Geographic."*

**Further details of the sale and catalogue will be available by November.**

**Auction:** *The National Geographic Collection: The Art of Exploration*, December 6, 2012

**Viewing:** Christie's Rockefeller Galleries December 1-5, 2012

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#### **About Christie's**

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2012 that totaled £2.2 billion/\$3.5 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 has since conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 450 auctions 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 \$100 million. Christie's also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War and Contemporary, Impressionist and Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales totaled £413.4 million/ \$661.5 million in the first half of 2012, an increase of 53% on the previous year.

Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, and Hong Kong. More recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

*\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and do not reflect costs, financing fees or application of buyer's or seller's credits.*

#### **About National Geographic**

The National Geographic Society is one of the world's largest nonprofit scientific and educational organizations. Founded in 1888 to "increase and diffuse geographic knowledge," the Society's mission is to inspire people to care about the planet. It reaches more than 400 million people worldwide each month through its official journal, National Geographic, and other magazines; National Geographic Channel; television documentaries; music; radio; films; books; DVDs; maps; exhibitions; live events; school publishing programs; interactive media; and merchandise. National Geographic has funded more than 10,000 scientific research, conservation and exploration projects and supports an education program promoting geographic literacy. For more information, visit [www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com).

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*Images available on request*

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