

For Immediate Release

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[bchen@christies.com](mailto:bchen@christies.com)**Christie's Hong Kong June 2012 Wine Sale Presents****Fine and Rare Wines: Featuring an Important European Cellar*****Distinguished Names, Exquisite Quality & Perfect Provenance******Fine & Rare Wines, Featuring an Important European Cellar*****Date: Saturday, 16 June 2012****Time: 12.00pm****Venue: 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Alexandra House, 18 Chater Road, Central, Hong Kong**

**Hong Kong** – Building on the success of Christie's May sale of *Fine and Rare Wines, The Property of a Gentleman, Part II*, which realized in excess of HK\$20,000,000 with a 100% sold rate, Christie's Hong Kong presents the final sale of the spring season on Saturday, June 16. This is an opportunity for collectors in Asia to acquire some of the finest and rarest treasures of pristine quality and flawless provenance from throughout the world of wine. A small selection of choice vintages direct from the personal cellar of the renowned Henri Jay lead the sale alongside an excellent assemblage of Burgundies, ranging from the Liger Belair *grandes crus* to select 1949 vintages to more modern DRC assortments and full cases of the exceptional 1988 Romanée-Conti.

**Charles Curtis MW, Head of Wine for Asia at Christie's** commented, *"The central jewel of our sale, comprising the majority of our lots, is a pristine collection from a European collector. This connoisseur has a long connection to the wine trade, and today offers our clients the finest wines from his personal cellar. His discerning palate bought only the very best and in nearly every category from Left Bank to Right Bank Bordeaux to Burgundy, Italy and the United States. The offerings range from case quantities of the best first and "Super Second" Left Bank Bordeaux to the classics from the Right Bank: Petrus, Le Pin, Ausone, Trotanoy and all of the top names. This is an excellent opportunity to enhance your personal collection with the best wines in pristine condition and with impeccable provenance"*

In addition to the superlative array of Bordeaux, a collection of well-chosen vintages ranging from Domaine de la Romanée-Conti to Masseto, Sassicaia and Harlan are also included. These wines were purchased upon release and stored in professional storage prior to their removal by Christie's specialists. Both new and veteran collectors alike will delight in the refined drinking experience as well as the value of this selection.

## Auction Highlights

Lot 1

### La Romanée—Vintage 1949

*Côte de Nuits, Liger-Belair. French-bottled by C. Marey & Cte*



The roots of the Liger-Belair family in Burgundy go back to their purchase of the Château de Vosne-Romanée in 1815 by Comte Louis Liger-Belair, whose son Louis-Charles married into the Marey family of negociants. Upon his death, the family was the sole proprietor of La Romanée, La Tâche, La Grande Rue and also held other important vineyards, an estate totaling 60 ha. Ownership continued through the ups and downs of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, but by mid-century many of these vines were worked *en metayage* with local growers. The marvelous 1949 vintage offerings here were bottled by the negociant arm of the family, C. Marey & Cte Liger-Belair.

Levels: one 1cm, one 2cm, one 2.5 cm, two 3cm, three 3.5cm, one 4.5cm, one 5cm, and one 6cm. Variation in bottle shapes and colour. Foil capsules. One depressed cork, two slightly depressed corks. Eight bin-soiled and three badly bin-soiled labels.

11 bottles

Estimate per lot: HK \$ 85,000-120,000

Lot 53-55

### Vosne Romanée, Cros Parentoux—Vintage 1999

*Côte de Nuits, Henri Jayer*



Lot 53: Level: 1 cm. Slightly stained and very slightly torn label; corroded and loose capsule. In carton.

Lot 54: Level: 0.5 cm. Slightly stained and very slightly torn label; heavily glue stained bottle; corroded and loose capsule. In carton.

Lot 55: Level: 0.5 cm. Slightly stained and scuffed label; heavily glue stained bottle; corroded and loose capsule. In carton.

*"It seems that these exquisite offerings have barely budged since they were bottled. At this point, the 750 ml note remains accurate, though I found a bit less wood influence here than I did in the smaller format version: An expressive, ripe and elegant nose of Vosne style spice, moderate oak and a mix of earth, minerals and violets leads to rich, round and impressively precise flavors that deliver serious punch and excellent depth. I very much like the overall sense of harmony and fine balance here."*

*Allen Meadows, 8 March 2008*

1 bottle

Estimate per lot: HK \$42,000-65,000

Lot 176

### Château La Mission Haut Brion—Vintage 1989

*Talence (Graves), cru classé. Château-bottled*





Levels: all in neck. Two stained and two very slightly damaged labels.

*"A marvel of youthful energy, this wine shows a very primary red and black berry fruit character, and is just now beginning to open up on the nose. On the palate the baby fat has disappeared, to reveal a firm, classic structure and balance."*

*Charles Curtis MW, October 2008*

12 bottles

Estimate per lot: HK \$70,000-95,000

	<p>Lot 227  <b>Château Le Pin—Vintage 2000</b>  <i>Pomerol. Château-bottled</i></p> <p>“<i>Exotic, opulent, extravagant, and impossible to resist, the 2000 Le Pin is an explosive, virtually perfect example of this estate. Dense purple-colored, with luxurious levels of extract and richness, this intense, unctuously-textured, black fruit-filled Pomerol is thick enough to drink with a spoon. Revealing abundant tannin and definition for such a young Le Pin, it is typical of many of the blockbuster, but backward and tannic 2000 Pomerols. It is a great wine for multi-millionaires who are able to latch onto a few bottles. Anticipated maturity: 2005-2025.</i>”  <i>Robert Parker, April 2003</i></p> <p>6 bottles          Estimate per lot: HK \$ 140,000-200,000</p>
	<p>Lot 277  <b>DRC Assortment—Vintage 1996</b>  <i>Domaine de la Romanée Conti</i></p> <p><b>Romanée Conti (1)</b>          Level: 1.5 cms. Excellent appearance.</p> <p><b>La Tache (3)</b>          Levels: one 0.5cm, two 1.5cms. Excellent appearance.</p> <p><b>Richebourg (2)</b>          Levels: one 0.5cm, one 1.5cms. Excellent appearance.</p> <p><b>Romanée St. Vivant (3)</b>          Levels: two 0.5cm, one 1cm. Excellent appearance.</p> <p><b>Grand Echezeaux (1)</b>          Levels: one 1.5cms. Excellent appearance.</p> <p><b>Echezeaux (2)</b>          Levels: one 0.5cm, one 1cm. Excellent appearance.</p> <p>12 bottles          Estimate per lot: HK \$ 200,000-280,000</p>

Offering some of the most superb cases of wine to come to market in recent years, *Featuring an Important European Cellar* presents new and experienced collectors alike with the occasion to acquire an excellent selection of fine and rare wines.

### IMAGES available for download:

<http://cshk.myftp.org/2012/%20Spring%20Christie's%20Hong%20Kong%20Auctions/June2012WineSale/Images/>

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#### Christie's Wine Auctions – A Tradition Since 1766

Wine auctions at Christie's started in 1766 when James Christie wielded the gavel, and since then there has been a long and glorious history of selling fine and rare wines. For over 240 years, Christie's - the world's leading auction house - has been offering the finest and rarest wines for trade buyers and private collectors. Our trusted team of specialists offers unparalleled experience and understanding of the market, enabling us to offer wines that fulfill stringent demands on quality, provenance and condition. Leading the wine auction world with over US\$90 million in sales in 2011, Christie's International Wine Department offers wine sales at ten locations spanning Europe and North America and Asia.

#### About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2011 that totaled £2.0 billion/\$3.2 billion. In 2010 it achieved global auction and private sales of £3.3 billion/\$5.0 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 \$100 million. Christie's has 53 offices in 32 countries and 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Zurich, 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.

\* 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.