

Following the success of the 11th Hour Charity Auction held in May 2013 at Christie's

The Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation Announces its First Grant of \$3 Million to Help WWF Double Nepal's Tiger Population



New York - Following the tremendous success of the 11th Hour Auction organized by Christie's Loic Gouzer and Leonardo DiCaprio, which raised \$38.8 million for conservation projects, the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation has awarded its first grant to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). This \$3 million donation to WWF will go towards a tiger conservation project in the Terai Arc Landscape of Nepal: <u>http://worldwildlife.org/press-releases/leonardo-dicaprio-foundation-donates-3-million-to-help-wwf-double-nepal-s-tiger-population</u>. This grant is the first of a series which will be announced over the coming year.

"Time is running out for the world's remaining 3,200 tigers, largely the result of habitat destruction and escalating illegal poaching," said **Leonardo DiCaprio**, a WWF Board member. "WWF, the government of Nepal and local communities are on the front lines of this battle and I am hopeful this grant will help them exceed the goal of doubling the number of these noble creatures in the wild. I am grateful for the amazing support our

Foundation has received — especially to our partners at Christie's who helped create a historic night for conservation fundraising with the 11thHour Auction.".

"Christie's is proud to have worked with the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation on the extraordinary project that was the 11th Hour Auction. Too little is done for the environment and conservation, and Leonardo's leadership in the field will hopefully inspire others. This first grant will allow WWF to do critical work for tiger conservation in the Terai Arc Landscape in Nepal," declared **Loic Gouzer**, Christie's International Specialist.

ABOUT WORLD WILDLIFE FUND

WWF is one of the world's leading conservation organizations, working in 100 countries for over half a century. With the support of almost 5 million members worldwide, WWF is dedicated to delivering science-based solutions to preserve the diversity and abundance of life on Earth, halt the degradation of the environment and combat climate change. Visit <u>www.worldwildlife.org</u> to learn more and follow our news conversations on Twitter @WWFNews.

ABOUT LEONARDO DICAPRIO FOUNDATION

Dedicated to protecting Earth's last wild places and fostering a harmonious relationship between humanity and the natural world. Since 1998, the Foundation has been working on pressing environmental and humanitarian issues through grant making, campaigning and media projects. Areas of focus include; wildlife and habitat preservation, healthy oceans, water access, climate change and disaster relief. The Foundation's strategic approach to philanthropy for a better planet relies upon active collaboration with effective organizations as well as with other funders who share our goals and can magnify our impact. In tandem with LDF's philanthropic efforts, the foundation uses digital media and Leonardo's website & social media channels to inform and rally the public on environmental issues.

The Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation is a component fund of the California Community Foundation. For more information visit www.leonardodicaprio.org

ABOUT CHRISTIE'S

Christie's, the world's leading art business, reached a total of £2.4 billion/\$3.68 billion in global auction and private sales in the first six months of 2013. In 2012, global auction and private sales totaled £3.92 billion/\$6.27 billion, marking the highest annual revenue ever reached by Christie's. 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, jewelry, photography, 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 an emphasis on Post-War and Contemporary, Impressionist and Modern, Old Masters and Jewelry. Global private sales totaled £465 million/\$711 million in the first half year of 2013, an increase of 13% from the same period last year, breaking the sales record of half year private sales for Christie's and the art market for three consecutive years.

Christie's has a global presence of 53 offices in 32 countries and 11 salerooms around the world including London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, and Shanghai. Christie's has recently led in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and The United Arab Emirates, with successful sales, exhibitions and initiatives held 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.

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