

CHRISTIE'S

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NOBLE DISCOVERIES AT CHRISTIE'S LONDON IN OCTOBER

- Royal & Noble properties including: S.H. Erbprinz von Anhalt & Prinz Maximilian zu Fürstenberg
- Undocumented studies for the official portraits of The Emperor Napoleon III
- An Imperial ormolu service made for the Russian Tsarevich Alexander & Swedish Crown Prince Oscar



London - Christie's is pleased to announce the first London sale of *European Noble & Private Collections Including Fine Tapestries* which will take place 2 October 2013. The sale includes various properties from continental Royal and Noble collections, each displaying characteristics that reflect the collector's passions. The lots offered reflect the wide interests and tastes of the collectors and offer a fascinating voyage through various European styles of living. Featuring 431 lots, the auction includes: furniture, silver, clocks, porcelain, glass, sculpture, rugs and carpets, arms and armour, textiles, prints, drawings, pictures and Asian works of art, from the medieval period to the late 19th century. In conjunction with the private properties, this sale will include important and fine tapestries from the early 16th century to the 18th century.

VARIOUS NOBLE GERMAN PROPERTIES



The sale includes various properties from German Royal and Noble collections including the properties of S.H. Erbprinz von Anhalt, Prinz Maximilian zu Fürstenberg and the Zu Lynar-Redern Family. The property from a Noble Rhinish Baroque castle includes fine French furniture with matching tapestry panel (estimate: £10,000 –15,000, *illustrated left*), Chinese works of art and an important Napoleon III ormolu centre table depicting the Four Seasons are further highlights of the sale. Combining rich gilt-bronze with Algerian onyx-marble the centre table is exemplary of the luxuriant furniture and objects made during the Second Empire. Onyx-marble had been known since antiquity and used by both the ancient Egyptian and Roman civilizations (estimate: £30,000 – 50,000, *illustrated page*

right). An important early pair of 18 ½ inch library globes, by Johann Ludwig Andreae, Nuremberg, *circa* 1715 comes from a Lower-Saxony Noble Family (estimate: £100,000 – 150,000, *illustrated right*).



REDISCOVERED OFFICIAL PORTRAIT STUDIES OF NAPOLEON III BY WINTERHALTER



From the property of a private European collector come two recently discovered, undocumented studies for Franz-Xaver Winterhalter's famous official portraits of *The Emperor Napoleon III*; and *Portrait of his wife The Empress Eugénie* (estimate: £50,000 – 70,000, *illustrated left and page 1 left*). The originals, destroyed by a fire in the Tuileries Palace in 1871, were among Winterhalter's most important commissions, cementing his international reputation, and reaffirming under the Second Empire the establishment position he had enjoyed under King Louis-Philippe in the 1840s. His portraits, distinguished by their fresh palette, a high degree of corporeal likeness along with a permissible amount of flattering idealization, were sought-after throughout the courts of Europe. The extensive *pentimenti*, and the studio setting of these works are significant differences between these and the imagined backgrounds in the finished portraits. These two highly worked up studies provide a rare insight into the artist's working technique, while showing the same bravura qualities of painterly swagger and *comme-il-faut* elegance, which characterize the artist's best finished portraits.

THE BARON PER ADOLF TAMM ORMOLU AND CUT-GLASS TABLE SERVICE

Further highlights of the sale include the impressive Baron Per Adolf Tamm ormolu and cut-glass table service, exclusively commissioned for an Imperial state dinner, hosted by Baron Per Adolf Tamm (1774-1856) in honor of the Russian Tsarevich Alexander and Swedish Crown Prince Oscar on the 20 June 1838 at Österby Bruk in Sweden. Baron Tamm contacted one of the finest sculptors and *bronziers* of the period, Pierre-Philippe Thomire (1751–1843) in Paris to make the ormolu-bronze table service for his royal guests, including Prince Liewen, Lord Youriwitsch, Baron Liewen, Barron Sparre, Chamberlin de Tolstoy, Minister Youkowsky and the Russian minister Count Potocki. The service is comprised of over 50 pieces including a Charles X ormolu surtout-de-table (estimate: £25,000 – 35,000) and a Charles X ormolu and cut-glass centre piece (estimate: £7,000 – 9,000, *illustrated right*).



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PUBLIC EXHIBITION:

Saturday, 28 September 2013: 12:00pm – 5.00 pm
Sunday, 29 September 12:00pm – 5.00 pm
Monday, 30 September 9:00am – 4:30pm
Tuesday, 1 October: 9:00am – 6:30pm

AUCTION:

European Noble & Private Collections Including
Fine Tapestries
Wednesday, 2 October 2013
10:00am

Notes to Editors

Since its foundation in 1766, Christie's has held some of the most significant sales of important private collections. These sales have embraced all fields, tastes and artistic endeavours - from the jewels of Madame du Barry in 1793 and the 40-day Stowe sale in 1848, to more recent auctions of property of Rudolph Nureyev, the Viennese Rothschild's, Hubert de Givenchy, Christopher Gibbs and Royal auctions including the collections of the Royal House of Savoy, the Princely House of Liechtenstein and property from the collection of H.R.H. The Princess Margaret.

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2013 that totaled £2.4 billion/ \$3.68 billion. In 2012, Christie's had global auction and private sales that totaled £3.92 billion/\$6.27 billion making it the highest annual total in Christie's history. 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 £465.2 million (\$711.8 million) in the first half of 2013, an increase of 13% on the previous year, and for the third successive year represents the highest total for the period in both company and art market history.

Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 12 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Mumbai. 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.*

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