

CHRISTIE'S

Press release | PARIS | Friday 17 October 2014

IMPORTANT WATCHES INCLUDING THE PATEK PHILIPPE **REFERENCE 5016/1G**



An important 18k white gold wristwatch with perpetual calendar, tourbillon, retrograde date, moon phases, bracelet,
Estimate: SFr.500,000 -1,000,000/ US\$560,000-1,100,000

Geneva – On 10 November 2014, Christie's Geneva will present its *Important Watches* sale which will feature an exceptional selection of 407 rare and historical timepieces. The catalogue is composed by different sections featuring important models from the world's most renowned manufacturers including Rolex, Patek Philippe, Audemars Piguet, Breguet, Cartier, Longines and Omega. The sale is expected to achieve in excess of SFr. 13 million/US\$ 14 million.

The Watch department is particularly proud to present a unique reference 5016/1 in white gold with black dial, Breguet numerals and white gold bracelet manufactured in 2010, estimated SFr. 500,000-1,000,000/US\$560,000-1,100,000. The watch was originally made as a special order for the famous musician and watch collector Eric Patrick Clapton and the case backs feature the initials 'EPC'.

Sabine Kegel, Head of Sale, comments: "We are delighted to present on 10 November, following the Patek Philippe 175 anniversary auction, our Fall auction with a wide array of over 400 carefully selected highest quality collector's timepieces. Manufactured from the 17th to the 21st centuries by the most renowned houses in the world, this auction offers watch enthusiasts a large and diversified range of timepieces often appearing for the first time in public and sourced from distinguished private collections".

Thomas Perazzi, Senior Specialist: “We are pleased to offer in our auction several thematic sections with high end quality watches. Among those I’m delighted to mention the Omega section focused on caliber 33.3, amongst collectors one of the firm’s most sought after calibers, and the Longines section focused on the manufacturer’s production from the early 1920s to the late 1940s”.

PATEK PHILIPPE

Reference 5016/1G

Reference 5016, in production from 1994 to 2010, is one of the most intricate creations made by Patek Philippe. It incorporates all the complications sought after by discerning watch aficionados: a minute repeater with sublime resonance, a retrograde perpetual calendar with moon phases, and a tourbillon. Patek Philippe’s technical refinement is legendary and the present watch exemplifies their commitment to engineering detail. Patek Philippe watches never exhibit the tourbillon carriage through a dial aperture, fearing the lubrication oils will degrade with exposure to light. To the casual observer the only distinction is the word “tourbillon” noted on the dial, suggesting the presence of one of the most complex mechanisms in the world of horology. The present example of reference 5016 is one of the last to be produced and carries the legendary Patek Philippe Seal. The engraved monogram EPC on the solid case back and printed on the glazed back suggests that the watch was a special order for the well-known watch aficionado and important collector, Eric Patrick “Slowhand” Clapton, CBE. The famed Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee and top guitarist is an avid ultimate watch collector. His fabled collection is known to have encompassed many treasured timepieces including one of the only two existing platinum reference 2499, sold at Christie’s Geneva on 12 November 2012.



‘The present example of reference 5016 is one of the last to be produced and carries the legendary Patek Philippe Seal’



ROLEX

Reference 6241

‘Lemon Dial’

The department is also honoured to present an important section of different Rolex Daytona models, including the Paul Newman *Lemon Dial* reference 6241 from circa 1969 (SFr. 300,000-500,000/US\$340,000-420,000).

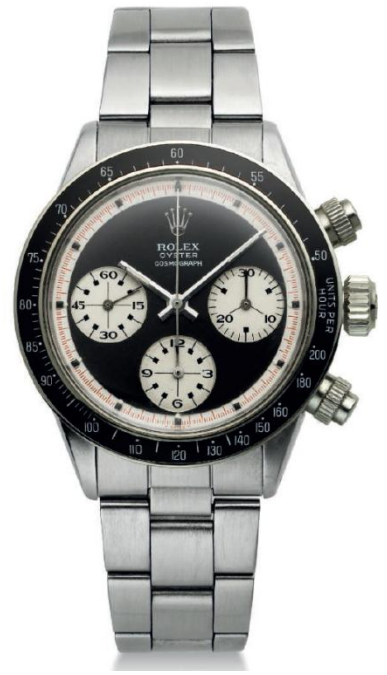
This outstanding example of the incredibly rare and captivating so-called “limoncino” (Italian for little lemon) Paul Newman Daytona is distinguished by the champagne dial with white graphics on the black subsidiary dials. The aesthetic impact of the dial makes this variation one of the most appreciated and sought-after by collectors.

ROLEX

Reference 6263

'The Black Ghost ROC Paul Newman Dial'

An important example of the 6263 reference will also be part of the sale. With this lot, Christie's is proud to rewrite the textbooks about Rolex Daytona as it introduces to the public the only example of reference 6263 with black "non-Oyster sotto" Paul Newman dial. All the details of the dial are consistent with those of a "normal" Oyster Sotto dial. The graphics of the numerals, the font of the Rolex designation, the sunken subsidiary dials style, the step at 6 o'clock, the angular Singer hallmark on the back of the dial, absolutely everything is exactly as it should be on a black Paul Newman dial, the only difference being indeed the Oyster designation "Rolex Oyster Cosmograph" instead of "Rolex Cosmograph Oyster" (SFr.350,000-550,000/US\$390,000-610,000).



'Not only can this timepiece be considered the holy grail of Daytona collecting for its uniqueness and importance, but it further amazes even the most seasoned Rolex collector with it superb condition'

PATEK PHILIPPE

Reference 5959



already today considered a classic amongst collectors. Launched in 2005, reference 5959 features a 60 minutes register instead of Patek Philippe's better known 30 minutes; it is furthermore the world's thinnest column-wheel chronograph wristwatch. Exclusively cased in platinum, the first series was available with white dial and black Breguet numerals, followed by a black metal dial version with applied white gold Breguet numerals launched in 2008.

In addition to Patek Philippe's reference 5016/1G, Christie's will present other timepieces from the celebrated manufacture, including a very fine and rare platinum chronograph wristwatch with Breguet numerals (estimate: SFr. 180,000-240,000/US\$200,000-270,000). From the estate of an important private collector, this reference 5959P is fresh to the market and believed to be one of the only seven examples of the model with white dial to appear in public to date. Although still listed in Patek Philippe's catalogues, reference 5959 is



PANERAI

'Titanium Prototype'



The renowned house Panerai is represented with an extremely rare titanium experimental prototype of a diver's wristwatch from circa 1985 (estimate: SFr. 80,000-120,000/ US\$89,000-130,000). The watch is part of a small series of eight experimental prototypes, four in titanium and four in bronze. The watches were completed in the laboratories of Officine Panerai, made for the development of timepieces for the Diver Corps of the Italian Navy. The project was launched in 1985, the last prototype was made in 1988. The present prototype of a Panerai One Thousand Meter watch in titanium is an extremely appealing example of this super rare species. In fact it is believed to be the only example of a Panerai prototype fitted with the final bezel version featuring the triangle and luminous dot to appear in public to date, particularly outstanding by its superb "tropical" dial: designed by Panerai's celebrated engineer Alessandro Bettarini and used by the latter as

desk clock on his windowsill for many years, the originally black colour has changed to an extremely charismatic, uniform dark chocolate tone, rendering it a very unique look. Its case is in close to new condition, impressing with its substantial design.

Furthermore offered for sale with three framed limited edition prints of Mr. Bettarini's original drawings dated 1983 and 1984 for the prototype in titanium, such as the present watch. Made in a limited edition of 20 examples only, the prints are numbered 1/20, signed by him personally and bearing his stamp "Certified Bettarini Original Firenze".

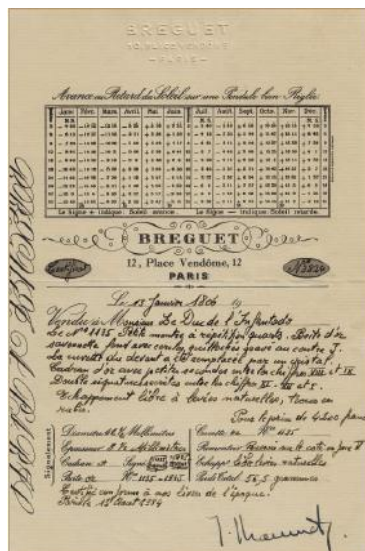
BREGUET

'Monsieur Le Duc de l'Infantado' No. 1135



Christie's watch department will also present a selection of masterpieces from the workshops of Abraham-Louis Breguet such as the magnificent Monsieur le Duc de l'Infantado's pocket watch No. 1135 (estimate: SFr.180,000-280,000/ US\$200,000-310,000). Consigned by a private collector and distinguished by its very crisp, original overall condition, the present watch is an important discovery both from a technical and historical point of view. The most noteworthy and interesting aspect is its "échappement naturel", the first example of Breguet's form of free escapement ever made. Like the detent escapement, it did not require oil on the impulse surfaces and was Breguet's ultimate solution to the problem of a free escapement with natural lift' (George Daniels, *The Art of Breguet*, p. 319).

The copy of its design in a notebook in Breguet's hand and copies of workshop records provided with the watch show that its manufacture took nearly four years and involved some costly development work. Other points of interest include unusual details of the construction of the movement and the case and the colourful life of its first owner, the Duke of Infantado, at a turbulent time in European history - the Napoleonic Wars. When watch number 1135 was delivered on 16 January 1806, almost four years after the order, its price on delivery was 4,200 Francs, an extraordinary amount for a watch without additional complications or a jewelled case. For comparison, at the time Breguet's first class gold repeaters cost around 2,000 Francs, depending on the optional extras requested by the client. With a diameter of 42 mm, watch no. 1135 is one of Breguet's smallest repeating garde-temps. In his advertisements of the time he states that 'All men's watches are of mid-size, e.g. 20 à 25 lignes' (45-56 mm). Small watches with diameters between 35 and 45 mm. were therefore not part of Breguet's normal production for men's watches.



A LADY'S COLLECTION OF TIMEPIECES



De Grisogono

A 18k white gold, white and pink diamond-set square automatic dual time zone wristwatch
SFr.45,000-65,000/ US\$50,000-72,000



Cartier

A fine and rare platinum limited edition jump hour wristwatch with bracelet
SFr.16,000-22,000/US\$18,000-24,000



Chopard

A very elegant and large 18k white gold and diamond-set rectangular curved automatic dual time wristwatch
SFr.10,000-15,000/US\$12,000-17,000

Moreover, a large selection of watches will be dedicated to ladies. Signed by the most notorious houses in the world, women will be able to discover several tasteful watches by Cartier, Chopard, Audemars Piguet or De Grisogono. All consigned by one "amatrice", this selection reflects the sophisticated taste with which this lady acquired all these timepieces. The most valuable piece of this collection is a 18k white gold and pink wristwatch signed De Grisogono. This Instrumento Uno, caliber 2892 and created around 2006 is estimated SFr. 45,000-65,000/US\$50,000-72,000.



SALE GENEVA

Monday 10 November at 10 Hours and 2.30 Hours

VIEWING - GENEVA

Friday 7 November 10.00 - 18.00 Hours

Saturday 8 November 10.00 - 19.00 Hours

Sunday 9 November 10.00 - 17.00 Hours

HOTEL DES BERGUES

At the Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues - 33 quai des Bergues, 1201 Geneva

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Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2014 that totaled £2.69 / \$4.47 billion, making it the highest half year 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 around 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 & Contemporary, Impressionist & Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales in the first half of 2014 totalled £498.9 million (\$828.2 million).

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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Images upon request

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