

CHRISTIE'S

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IMPORTANT WATCHES AT CHRISTIE'S NEW YORK ON JUNE 17



PANERAI (LOT 153)

AN EXTREMELY RARE BRONZE WRISTWATCH LABORATORY PROTOTYPE BUILT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INSTRUMENT TO BE GIVEN TO DIVER CORPS OF THE ITALIAN NAVY
ESTIMATE: \$100,000 – \$200,000



PATEK PHILIPPE. REFERENCE 2499 (LOT 185)

A FINE AND VERY RARE 18K GOLD PERPETUAL CALENDAR CHRONOGRAPH WRISTWATCH WITH MOON PHASES
ESTIMATE: \$260,000 – \$360,000

New York – Christie's New York auction of *Important Watches* on June 17 will offer over 260 vintage and modern timepieces, pocket watches and pens. Highlights include a very rare 1903 Patek Philippe Two Train Trip Minute Repeating Split-Seconds Chronograph (Lot 118; estimate: \$50,000 – \$70,000; one of only three known), and a unique Patek Philippe Hunter Case Pocket Watch with Suzanne Rohr Enameling based on Renoir's *Two Sisters* (Lot 65; estimate: \$120,000 – \$180,000). Additional top lots include a rare Platinum Asymmetrical Watch (Lot 56; estimate: \$60,000 – \$90,000), designed by Gilbert Albert, and a rare and attractive Patek Philippe reference 2499 (Lot 185; estimate: \$260,000 – \$360,000). This sale features a special selection of Vacheron Constantin watches, including an Important Single-Button Chronograph, formerly owned by King Alexander I of Yugoslavia (Lot 81; estimate: \$40,000 – \$60,000).

HIGHLIGHTS FROM

PATEK PHILIPPE



The important selection of Patek Philippe timepieces is highlighted by the **Reference 2499** (Lot 185; *illustrated above*). The reference 2499 was introduced to the market in 1950 and is acknowledged to be one of the most coveted wristwatches of all time. The reference 2499 perfectly embodies Patek Philippe's technological and artistic know-how, and has greatly inspired and influenced the configurations of many important wristwatches. Moreover, this particular **Reference 1518** (Lot 48; estimate: \$200,000 – \$400,000) was last seen at auction in 1987, marking its appearance at auction on June 17 the first time it will appear in public in nearly 30 years. The full crisp lugs and short signature on the beautifully aging dial make this an extremely desirable watch for the discerning collector.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM

ROLEX



In 1970, Rolex introduced two new Cosmograph Daytona models; the References 6262, which was manufactured for only one year in 1970, and the present example **Reference 6264** (Lot 40; estimate: \$80,000 – \$120,000), manufactured for three years in 1970 – 1972. Both are produced in stainless steel, and only the Reference 6264 appeared on the international market also in 14k and 18k gold. Fresh to the market, the present watch is of great interest to collectors not only because of its rarity, but also because of the *Tiffany & Co.* signature on the dial. The cooperation between *Tiffany & Co.* and Rolex was longstanding, but extremely scarce where examples signed by *Tiffany & Co.* are even more special in this condition and with all the original parts.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM

VACHERON CONSTANTIN



Purchased by the father of the current owners in the 1960's during a layover in Dubrovnik the present wristwatch (Lot 81; estimate: \$40,000 – \$60,000) has never before been offered at auction. In remarkable overall nice condition given its 80 plus year's history, the watch is fascinating from both horological and historical perspectives. Single button chronograph wristwatches were first produced during the golden age of watchmaking in the 1920s and 30s. A true classic at the time and even today, their elegant lines and understated quality make them a must have for any passionate collector. From a historical point-of-view the original owner of the watch King Alexander of Yugoslavia (December 16, 1888-October 9, 1934) lived during one of the most turbulent times of the 20th Century. As a young man, Alexander spent time in Geneva schooling and one can only speculate that years later his early experiences in Switzerland could lead him to buy a Vacheron Constantin. The present example will undoubtedly present a unique and special opportunity to collectors on June 17 to own such a rare and historical wristwatch.

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2014 that totalled £5.1 billion / \$8.4 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 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 totalled £916.1 million (\$1.5 billion).

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**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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