

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | 18 JUNE 2020 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Christie's New York Wine Department announces
The Benjamin Ichinose Collection of Fine and Rare Wines
Online | 16-31 July 2020 | [Browse eCatalogue](#)



Lot 252
Domaine de la Romanée-Conti,
Romanée-Conti 1970
1 jeroboam per lot
\$40,000- \$60,000



Photograph of Ben Ichinose's
cellar in California



Lot 17
Château Lafite-Rothschild 1961
1 imperial per lot
\$6,000- \$10,000

"When I saw Ben Ichinose's cellar, I recognised immediately that it was one of the greatest wine cellars in the world; absolutely perfect in every sort of way." – The Late Michael Broadbent MW

New York - Christie's New York Wine Department is delighted to announce the single owner sale [The Benjamin Ichinose Collection of Fine and Rare Wines](#), taking place Online from July 16-31.

The auction contains 626 lots representing the world's best wines and spirits from the cellar of the celebrated collector and connoisseur. **The Benjamin Ichinose Collection of Fine and Rare Wines** was assembled with passion and knowledge over his lifetime. A collection built during the 1960's and 1970's, a different world for the wine enthusiast. It offers a glimpse to the golden age of wine collecting, when it was about enjoying the bottle and sharing fond treasures with others. Throughout his life, Dr. Ichinose established meaningful friendships with producers and experts including Michael Broadbent MW, Christian Moueix, Alexandre de Lur-Saluces, Robert Mondavi, and Harry Waugh.

The breadth of the collection spans the finest wines ever produced in Bordeaux, Burgundy, the Mosel. Rare Port and Madeira are presented alongside the greatest assemblage of mature Californian wines ever to appear at auction. Provenance is impeccable, with many wines purchased directly from auctions, the producers or through respected importers Esquin Imports, Alexis Lichine and George Linton. Additionally, the cellar includes the esteemed vintages of 1929, the year Dr. Ichinose and his wife were born, and 1961, 1964 and 1965, the birth dates of their children.

Taught by Jim Guymon, a professor of oenology at UC Davis, that storage was vital for the preservation of older wines, the Ichinose cellar maintained a disciplined regimen. The main cellar for red wines was kept at a constant 52 degrees and for whites at 48 degrees. Due to this optimum facility, bottles remain in impeccable condition, levels in most cases of top-shoulder or better, all with good clarity and colors. Discover more by reading Christie's online article, [link here](#).

Chris Munro, Head of Department, Americas Fine Wine & Spirits, remarks, *"This collection represents one of those rare opportunities to acquire great wines from an impeccable source. Well cellared, bought with strict guidance from importers and producers from a hugely knowledgeable and loved collector. Auctions like this do not happen often – any serious wine collector should grab the chance to purchase from this outstanding and unique collection. We are delighted to present this incredible cellar in an Online format, it will showcase the collection to the broadest possible global audience as witnessed with the unprecedented engagement in our online sale earlier this year."*

Select Highlights | The Benjamin Ichinose Collection of Fine and Rare Wines | 16-31 July 2020



Lot 3
Bollinger, Brut R.D. 1961
6 magnums per lot
\$6,000- \$9,000



Lot 464
Heitz, Martha's Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon 1975
4 magnums per lot
\$2,800- \$3,500



Lot 101
Petrus 1961
1 bottle per lot
\$5,500- \$8,000



Lot 585
Very Old Canary, Blair Castle 1740
1 half bottle per lot
\$2,000- \$4,000



Lot 386
JJ Prüm, Wehlener Sonnenuhr, Feinste BA 1949 (1)
JJ Prüm, Wehlener-Zeltinger Sonnenuhr, TBA 1949 (1)
JJ Prüm, Wehlener Sonnenuhr, Auslese 1969 (1)
3 bottles per lot
\$600- \$1,000



Lot 431
Beaulieu Vineyard, Private Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 1951
1 bottle per lot
\$1,000- \$1,500

PRESS CONTACT

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had auction sales in 2019 that totalled £4.5 billion / \$5.8 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and international expertise. Christie's offers around 350 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.

Alongside regular sales online, Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

**Please note when quoting estimates above that other fees will apply in addition to the hammer price - see Section D of the Conditions of Sale at the back of the sale catalogue.*

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.*

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Images available on request

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