

CHRISTIE'S



PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 15 SEPTEMBER

CHRISTIE'S TO OFFER DOLLY PARTON'S SWAROVSKI CRYSTAL-STUDED DULCIMER

LEADING A SALE TO BENEFIT ACM LIFTING LIVES® COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND



Dolly Parton performing with the dulcimer at her 50th Anniversary concert at the Grand Ole Opry / © Grand Ole Opry | Photo by Chris Hollo

NEW YORK – Christie's announces an exciting online-only charity auction entitled "**NASHVILLE: An Auction to benefit ACM Lifting Lives® COVID-19 Response Fund**" led by a Swarovski-crystal bedazzled four-string dulcimer owned by Dolly Parton for 30 years accompanied by its original stand and used by the artist as she celebrated her 50th Anniversary performing at the Grand Ole Opry in 2019. The dulcimer is estimated at \$50,000 - 100,000, and leads a sale featuring items generously donated by country music's biggest names, including **Reba McEntire, Tim McGraw, Marty Stuart, Bernie Taupin, and Trisha Yearwood.**

The auction will receive a special mention during the live broadcast of the 55TH ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS™ hosted by Keith Urban on Wednesday, September 16 (live 8:00 ET/delayed PT) on CBS. ACM Lifting Lives® is the philanthropic arm of the Academy of Country Music® dedicated to improving lives through the power of music™. Christie's auction dates and additional lots will be announced at a later date.

Dolly Parton comments: "*Seeing my country music community suffer due to the pandemic has broken my heart. It was important to donate the dulcimer that was designed for my 50th Opry Anniversary so we can raise awareness and much needed funds to keep these folks on their feet before we can open the doors to our stages once again.*"

Lyndsay Cruz, Executive Director, ACM Lifting Lives, comments: *“We are immensely grateful to the artists in the Nashville community and beyond who have generously donated items for this auction in collaboration with Christie’s. Every winning bid will go towards our COVID-19 Response Fund to support the workers of our country music community: the tour bus drivers, aspiring musicians, techs and venue workers – so many of whom have lost their livelihoods overnight during the course of this pandemic. So far, the fund has distributed \$1.5 million and we are hoping the sale of these iconic items will enable us to support more affected by this crisis.”*

Nancy Valentino, Strategic Business and Client Development, Christie’s, comments: *“Christie’s is honored to work with the music community in Nashville and partner with ACM Lifting Lives COVID-19 Response Fund to support the country music frontline workers who are in need at this time. We are particularly excited to be offering the first musical instrument ever to appear at a global auction from Dolly Parton. Her magnanimity in donating her gold, Swarovski-studded one-of-a-kind Dulcimer and stand played at her Grand Ole Opry 50th Anniversary Show, speaks to the enduring appeal of Dolly Parton as an artist so loved and lauded around the world for both her music and philanthropy.”*

While the dulcimer is an ancient instrument, the Appalachian dulcimer is a cornerstone to the sound of Country music, and one that Country Music Hall of Famer Dolly Parton has used throughout her career. The gold painted, crystal-studded dulcimer offered for auction was used during Dolly Parton’s 50th Anniversary concert at the Grand Ole Opry. As the crowd roared, waiting for Dolly to play “Jolene”, she eased onto a stool and put the bedazzled dulcimer across her lap and quipped, “I never leave a rhinestone unturned.”

To sign up for more information on the auction announcements for **“NASHVILLE: An Auction to benefit ACM Lifting Lives COVID-19 Response Fund”**, visit: www.christies.com/nashville.



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About ACM Lifting Lives®

ACM Lifting Lives® is the philanthropic arm of the Academy of Country Music dedicated to improving lives through the power of music. Through partnerships with artists and strong ties in the music industry, ACM Lifting Lives® funds music health programs while also serving members of the music community who face unexpected hardships through its Diane Holcomb Emergency Relief Fund. With generous donations and the support of artists and fans, ACM Lifting Lives® has funded national music therapy programs serving various mental and physical health organizations. Some of the recipients have included patients at children's hospitals and other healthcare facilities, recovering veterans, people with Williams syndrome, and individuals with mental illness. For more information, please visit www.ACMLiftingLives.org.

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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