

PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 15 OCTOBER 2020

# TAYLOR SWIFT'S GIBSON ACOUSTIC GUITAR JOINS DOLLY PARTON'S DULCIMER IN STAR-STUDDED COUNTRY MUSIC AUCTION

CHRISTIE'S ANNOUNCES DETAILS OF 'NASHVILLE: AN AUCTION TO BENEFIT ACM LIFTING LIVES® COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND'

FEATURING INSTRUMENTS AND EPHEMERA FROM KEITH URBAN, SHERYL CROW, VINCE GILL, TIM McGRAW, CARRIE UNDERWOOD, BERNIE TAUPIN, BRADLEY COOPER AND MORE

ONLINE SALE TO TAKE PLACE: OCTOBER 15-29 [HERE](#)



Taylor Swift's live debut performance of "betty" on her black Gibson acoustic at the 2020 ACM Awards © Getty Images | Courtesy of the Academy of Country Music

NEW YORK – Christie's announces the full star-studded Country Music line-up for the online auction entitled "**NASHVILLE: An Auction to Benefit ACM Lifting Lives® COVID-19 Response Fund**" open for bidding October 15-29 on [christies.com/Nashville](http://christies.com/Nashville). In addition to the previously announced Swarovski-crystal bedazzled four-string dulcimer owned by **Dolly Parton** for 30 years, the sale features a stunning black 2018 Gibson acoustic guitar personally inscribed and dated by global superstar **Taylor Swift** (estimate: \$25,000-40,000). The lot includes the original hard-shell case, embroidered Levy guitar strap (pictured) and plectrum caddy containing five personalized Taylor Swift custom guitar picks including one commemorating her 2017 sixth studio album *reputation* and her record-breaking stadium tour and four commemorating her 2019 seventh studio album *Lover*. Played during Swift's live, world premiere debut of her *folklore* single "betty" at the 2020 ACM Awards show at Nashville's legendary Grand Ole Opry House, her appearance marked a return to the ACM stage after seven years.

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."

Other auction highlights include **Sheryl Crow's** vintage Baldoni accordion (estimate: \$8,000-12,000) which has an extensive and important studio and live performance history. Made circa 1940 in Castelfidardo, Italy, the accordion has a rhinestone-studded logo, has been owned by the artist since the nineties and used in the 1996 recording of her second album "Sheryl Crow." The accordion was played in numerous memorable performances including her 1997 *Lilith Fair* live

performance of “Strong Enough”; the 1997 VH1 Honors show performing “Back in the High Life” with Steve Winwood; the 1998 Global Sessions tour; as well as appearances with Bob Dylan, Emmylou Harris, Levon Helm, Marty Stuart and others.

Additional important musical instruments in the sale include **Keith Urban’s** Hi-9 semi-solid body electric guitar played in Urban’s 2018 *Coming Home* video from the album *Graffiti U* and on the 2018 ACM Awards Show (estimate: \$5,000-10,000); **Bradley Cooper’s** semi-hollow body electric Gibson guitar (estimate: \$2,000-4,000) used by Cooper as “Jackson Maine” alongside Lady Gaga throughout rehearsals and filming of the 2019 blockbuster “A Star is Born”; and **Dwight Yoakam’s** first ever owned Epiphone Casino guitar with hard shell case from the cover of his 2005 16th studio album *Blame the Vain* (estimate: \$3,000-5,000). The auction also offers signed guitars from **Vince Gill, Blake Shelton, Kenny Chesney** and more (estimates range from \$500 to \$2,000).

In addition to instruments, the sale features **Tim McGraw’s** F131 HELLCAT MOTORCYCLE, 2007 by Curtiss Motors (estimate: \$30,000-50,000). A gift from long-time friend NFL quarterback and Hall of Famer **Brett Favre**, the bike boasts 137 horsepower and is equipped with a vast array of must-have features. Also included in the sale is “HAGGARD” a 2019 work by Visual Artist and Academy Award-winning songwriter **Bernie Taupin**, saluting the lyrics of American country singer Merle Haggard from his 1970 epic “The Fighting Side of Me” (estimate: \$15,000-20,000).

The stellar line up of items contributed by artists includes a *circa* 1930 acoustic guitar from **Little Big Town**; ephemera from documentary documentarian and filmmaker of Country Music **Ken Burns** and Country artist **Marty Stuart**, along with performance wear worn by **Reba McEntire, Billy Bob Thornton**, reigning ACM Entertainer of the Year **Carrie Underwood** and **Trisha Yearwood**, custom and stage worn cowboy boots from **Miranda Lambert** as well as **Clint Black** including one of his iconic harmonicas (estimates range from \$300 to \$2,000).

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 Country Music community in Nashville and partner with ACM Lifting Lives COVID-19 Response Fund to support the frontline workers who are in need at this time. We are excited to be presenting this collection of important instruments and ephemera from legendary artists; their participation speaks to the philanthropic hearts of the Nashville community taking care of its own.*”

**“NASHVILLE: An Auction to benefit ACM Lifting Lives COVID-19 Response Fund,”** visit: [www.christies.com/nashville](http://www.christies.com/nashville).

#### SELECT AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS



**DOLLY PARTON**

JOHN RAWDON, AN APPALACHIAN  
DULCIMER, NEWCOMERS, OHIO, 1980  
\$50,000-100,000



**TAYLOR SWIFT**

AN ACOUSTIC GUITAR, BOSEMAN, 2018  
\$25,000-40,000



**SHERYL CROW**

BALDONI, 2 OCTAVE 12 BUTTON ACCORDION,  
CASTELFIDARDO, ITALY, CIRCA 1950  
\$8,000-12,000



**BRADLEY COOPER**  
GIBSON, HOLLOW BODY ELECTRIC  
GUITAR FROM "A STAR IS BORN",  
MEMPHIS, 2015  
\$2,000-4,000



**CARRIE UNDERWOOD**  
55TH ACM AWARDS ENSEMBLES, 2020  
\$2,000-4,000



**TIM McGRAW**  
F131 HELLCAT MOTORCYCLE, 2007  
\$30,000-50,000

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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](http://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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