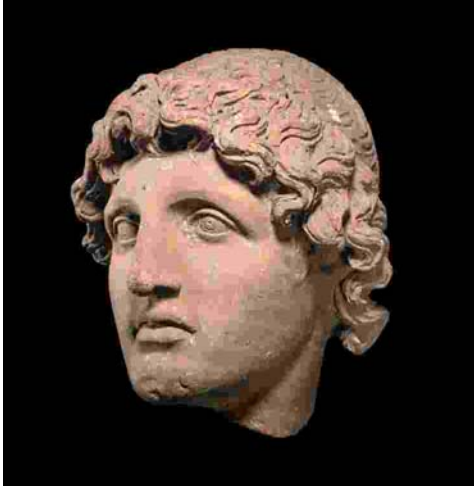


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**A GRAND COLLECTION OF ANTIQUITIES AT CHRISTIE'S
LONDON IN OCTOBER**



A Graeco-Etruscan terracotta head of a youth, late 4th – 3rd century B.C.
(estimate: £60,000-90,000)

Important Antiquities from Capesthorpe Hall, Cheshire

Tuesday, 18 October at approx. 11.30 am

Fine Antiquities

Tuesday, 18 October 2005 at 10.30 am and 2.30pm

King Street – A single owner collection of **Important Antiquities from Capesthorpe Hall in Cheshire** leads Christie's King Street Antiquities' sale on 18 October 2005. The accompanying **Fine Antiquities** sale will feature over 200 lots of Greek, Roman, Egyptian and Near Eastern artefacts, including a rare example of the earliest form of writing in the world discussing the beer making process. With estimates ranging from £500 to £250,000, the sales are estimated to fetch in excess of £1.5 million.

Important Antiquities from Capesthorpe Hall, Cheshire

One of Britain's great country houses, Capesthorpe Hall, is the home of the Bromley-Davenport family and was first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The extensive Grand Tours in Europe of Edward 'Ned' Davies Davenport (1778-1847) and his younger brother, the Rev. Walter Davenport Bromley (1787-1862), filled Capesthorpe with many of its treasures.

In opposition to his Tory father, Edward became a Whig M.P. and attracted a wide circle of liberal-loving and radical intellectuals. His curiosity took him to Elba to interview Napoleon and this tour of Italy led to the formation of his antiquities' collection. Expected to fetch in excess of £400,000, the 11 lots of ancient sculptures and vases provide an insight into the English passion for the Classical world and the formation of Country House collections in the 18th and early 19th centuries.

Amongst the lots offered are 5 Greek vases, some of which are said to have come from Lucien Bonaparte's excavations at Canino, near Vulci, including an Attic black-figure lidded amphora attributed to the Antimenes Painter, *circa* 525 B.C. (estimate: £80,000-120,000). Sculpture from the collection includes a Roman marble portrait bust of a lady, *circa* 81-96 A.D. (estimate: £70,000-90,000), and a fine life-size Graeco-Etruscan terracotta head of a youth, late 4th – 3rd century B.C. (estimate: £60,000-90,000).

Fine Antiquities

The general **Fine Antiquities** sale is led by the more than 3,000 year old Egyptian granodiorite head of Sekhmet which means 'the powerful'. Although this lioness deity was a symbol of destruction, she was also a protecting goddess (estimate: £200,000-250,000). Formerly in a European private collection when it was acquired in Paris in the mid 1960s, the head probably came from one of the many seated statues of Sekhmet found in the Temple of Mut at Karnak, and dates to the reign of Amenhotep III (1386-1349 B.C.).

Also featured is the 5,000 year old 'Stansfeld' inscribed tablet (estimate: £60,000-90,000), a rare example of the earliest form of writing in the world which discusses the process of making beer using pictographic symbols. The clay tablet records the distribution of beer and the amount of barley and malt needed in its brewing. Easily identifiable are the jars with pointed and rounded bases, for different types of beer. The tablet was formerly in the Erlenmeyer collection.

The auction will also offer over 60 antiquities from the collection of the late Wilhelm Horn (1870-1959), a Berlin banker who was fascinated by Egyptology and the ancient Greeks and Romans. Together with his wife Anna Winkelmann, the couple acquired the majority of their collection on their numerous travels through Egypt mainly between 1926 and 1938. The couple forged life-long friendships with many famous names in the art world including Kurt Lange, who became a travel companion, consultant and one of Germany's leading Egyptologists.

The Wilhelm Horn collection is estimated to fetch in excess of £400,000, with estimates ranging from £400 to £35,000. The collection of Greek, Roman and Egyptian antiquities

includes an Egyptian bronze figure of the moon god Khonsu, *circa* 6th-4th century B.C. (estimate: £7,000-10,000) and a Roman marble bust of one of the Emperor Augustus' adopted sons, Gaius or Lucius Caesar, from *circa* 10 B.C. (estimate: £25,000-35,000).

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Images available on request
Visit Christie's at www.christies.com

Notes to Editors:

Viewing: Christie's, 8 King Street, St James's, SW1Y 6QT

- Friday 14 October, 9am -4.30pm
- Sunday 16 October, 2pm-5pm
- Monday 17 October , 9am-4.30pm

Sales: Tuesday, 18 October 2005 at 10.30am & 2.30pm

Christie's London holds the world auction record of £7,926,650 for the Jenkins Venus from Newby Hall, England. This Roman marble statue was sold in 2002 for the highest price ever achieved for any antiquity at auction.