

For Immediate Release

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A CUTTING EDGE COLLECTION AT CHRISTIE'S IN OCTOBER

Michael Clark Company Benefit Sale of Contemporary Art To Be Sold For Charity at Christie's London in October



Tracey Emin, *I Kiss You*, 2004
Estimate: £12,000-14,000

The Michael Clark Company Benefit Sale
Christie's King Street
Sunday, 15 October 2006 at 3pm

London – Christie's is pleased to announce **The Michael Clark Company Benefit Sale**, to be sold in **The Contemporary Sale** in London on Sunday, 15 October 2006 at 3pm. This 20 lot auction will comprise of works donated by friends and collaborators of Michael Clark, one of this country's most significant and influential dancers and choreographers.

The majority of pieces have come directly from the artists' studios or have been specially commissioned for this sale – most have never before been seen by the public and offer an outstanding opportunity for collectors. The works, including pieces by Damien Hirst, Jim Lambie, Sarah Lucas and Elizabeth Peyton are being auctioned to help raise funds needed to engage a high calibre group of dancers in the longer term, enabling Michael Clark to continue working with them over a sustained period, to explore new ideas and projects, and to realise a mature body of work.

The Contemporary Sale will take place on Sunday 15 October 2006 at 3pm during a week when the world's focus will be on London's international contemporary art market, including Frieze and a host of contemporary art exhibitions and events.

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Images available on request

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Notes to Editors

Christie's leads the Contemporary Art Market sales. The February 2005 London evening sale of Post-War and Contemporary Art achieved £24,461,600 (\$45,792,115), the highest total ever realized in this category, while the June 2005 London evening sale totalled £24,459,600 (\$44,516,472). In New York, the May 2005 evening sale fetched \$133,707,200, the highest total for a sale in this category worldwide.

London Viewing:

At Christie's 8 King Street, St James's SW1Y 6QT, London

Wednesday 11 October	9.00am – 4.30pm
Thursday 12 October	9.00am – 4.30pm
Friday 13 October	9.00am – 4.30pm
Saturday 14 October	10.00am – 6.00pm
Sunday 15 October	10.00am – 12.30pm

Sale:

Sunday 15 October from 3.00pm to 6.00pm

At Christie's 8 King Street, St James's SW1Y 6QT, London

Michael Clark Biography

For almost twenty-five years Michael Clark has been redefining the nature and limits of contemporary dance. Combining rigorously controlled choreography and head-thumping, heart-pumping music he has radicalised dance's relationship to itself and to its audience. Born in Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1962, he began traditional Scottish dancing at the age of four and went on to win numerous awards and trophies at Highland gatherings. In 1975 he left home to study at The Royal Ballet School in London. By 1982, aged just 20 he staged the first public concert of his own choreography, at London's Riverside Studios. He became resident choreographer at Riverside and by 1984 Clark had made 16 original pieces for himself, his friends, and various small-scale companies. Michael Clark and Company was launched the same year.

In 2005 Michael Clark became an Artistic Associate of the Barbican London. His current project is the  Stravinsky Project Part 1 which was premiered on 1st November 2005 and marks the first of three projects centred around 'Apollo', 'The Rite of Spring' and 'Les Noces' by Igor Stravinsky. Over the next three years the Barbican will co-produce a new production each year, which will form part of the company's touring repertoire. Part 2, *Mmm...* in which Michael reworks his extraordinary 1992 version of "The Rite of Spring" premieres at the Barbican on 30 October 2006, with an entirely new work as a prelude. For Part 3, both "Apollo" and "The Rite of Spring" will be performed alongside a major new creation to "Les Noces", presented with live music at the Barbican in Autumn 2007.