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**CHRISTIE'S LANDMARK INTERNATIONAL
ART EXHIBITION IN ABU DHABI -
\$300 MILLION OF INTERNATIONAL SALES
HIGHLIGHTS ON SHOW OCTOBER 26 & 27, 2008**

**MASTERPIECES BY WORLD-RENOWNED ARTISTS
INCLUDING MONET, RENOIR, GAUGUIN, WARHOL, ROTHKO,
RICHTER & ZENG FANZHI**

**MAGNIFICENT JEWELS & WATCHES FROM SALES IN GENEVA, PARIS,
HONG KONG & NEW YORK INCLUDING A 42-CARAT SAPPHIRE**

**UNPRECEDENTED EXHIBITION OF
LEADING WORKS BY MIDDLE EASTERN ARTISTS
TO BE SOLD BY CHRISTIE'S IN DUBAI AS WELL AS
MASTERPIECES ON LOAN FROM PRIVATE COLLECTORS**



Claude Monet, *Dans la Prairie*, 1876

United Arab Emirates / London – Masterpieces from Christie's forthcoming international sales will be showcased in an unprecedented exhibition alongside work by leading Middle Eastern artists and magnificent jewels and watches in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, on 26 and 27 October, 2008 at the Emirates Palace

Hotel. Under the patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Sultan Bin Tahnoon Al Nahyan, in association with Tourism Development & Investment Company (TDIC) and sponsored by Credit Suisse, this exhibition is a vital component of Christie's global exhibition programme which tours selected masterpieces to international locations such as London, New York, Hong Kong and Moscow, and will be the first of its kind held in the Middle East.

Jussi Pylkkänen, President of Christie's Europe and Middle East, said: *"This major international exhibition has been curated to bring the very finest works of art to the Middle East and we are delighted to be working with TDIC on this rare and exclusive event. It is a further illustration of our ongoing commitment to supporting the vibrant and growing cultural platform in the region, and we look forward to sharing these exceptional works with art collectors from around the world."*

"This exhibition is a further testament to Abu Dhabi's commitment to bring the best in the Arts and Culture world to the United Arab Emirates and the region. This is an exhibition which celebrates artistic excellence across a variety of platforms and one which I am confident will be enthusiastically received by Abu Dhabi's growing audience of art lovers and connoisseurs. As Abu Dhabi progresses its goal of becoming a state global capital and a centre of international cultural dialogue, arts education is being prioritised as never before within the emirate. Exhibitions of this calibre play a huge mentoring role in our educational programme and, as we chronicle our advancement, this will be an event which will demonstrate it clearly," said His Excellency Sheikh Sultan Bin Tahnoon Al Nahyan, Chairman, Abu Dhabi Authority For Culture and Heritage (ADACH) and TDIC, the name behind the planned Cultural District of Saadiyat Island.

"We are delighted to be working with TDIC and to continue a sponsoring partnership with Credit Suisse, one of the leading global providers of financial products and services in Private Banking, Investment Banking, and Asset Management. We are also very proud to have been at the heart of the growth in the Middle Eastern art market for several years and the exhibition further illustrates how Middle Eastern art can sit alongside the best works available worldwide. We remain extremely committed to promoting and internationalizing Middle Eastern artists, a category which we firmly believe in," said Michael Jeha, Managing Director, Middle East.

***International Exhibition, in association with TDIC and sponsored by
Credit Suisse - 26 and 27 October 2008, Emirates Palace Hotel, Abu Dhabi***

Christie's international exhibition will present approximately 75 works of art including leading highlights from the auctions of *Post-War and Contemporary Art* in New York in November, 2008 and *Impressionist and Modern Art* in London in February, 2009. Alongside will be major works from the auctions of *Jewels and Watches* and *International Modern and Contemporary Art* to be held on 29 and 30 October in Dubai. Other stellar items from Christie's sales around the world include Asian Contemporary art, Orientalist paintings and an impressive selection of jewels and watches from forthcoming auctions in Geneva, New York and Hong Kong. The exhibition will be complemented by approximately 17 works of art on loan from Middle Eastern private collections, a tribute to the connoisseurship of collectors in the region.

Impressionist & Modern Art

Christie's will offer an important European collection of Impressionist and Modern art on 4 February 2009 in London, four of which will provide the highlights of the exhibition in Abu Dhabi. The collection is led by *Dans la Prairie*, 1876, a masterpiece by Claude Monet (1840-1926) which was exhibited at the seminal third Impressionist Exhibition in 1877 in Paris (estimate on request). Painted in Argenteuil, one of the great cradles of Impressionism where the artist lived from 1871 to 1878, and where he executed a significant number of his most influential paintings, the present picture depicts the artist's wife, Camille, reclined and reading amongst blooming flowers in an open meadow. It is one of Monet's seminal works from one of his most important and celebrated periods. Also by Monet is *La Promenade d'Argenteuil*, painted in 1872 on the banks of the Seine with the Ile Marante on the left of the picture and a manor house in the distance. A plume of smoke rises from a chimney which sits beside the traditional manor, as the then modern industrial age contrasts with the landscape. The present work is one of a series of four painted by Monet in 1872, with other examples now in the National Gallery of Art in Washington and the Musée d'Orsay in Paris and is expected to realize US\$6.5-9.2 million.



Also included in the Abu Dhabi exhibition and from the same private collection, is *Les dindons, Pont-Aven* (shown here) by Paul Gauguin (1848-1903), painted in 1888 at the time Gauguin was corresponding with Vincent van Gogh. The present work is filled with bold colour and depicts two turkeys in the foreground, the birds painted black against a background of vivid green, pink and blue. Formerly on exhibition at The Art Institution of Chicago from 1924 to 1948, the painting was also part of the artist's retrospective in 1959 which travelled from the Chicago institution to The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. It is expected to realise US\$3.7-5.5 million. *Pot bleu*, an exquisite colourist still-life by Pierre Bonnard (1867-1947) will also be traveling to Abu Dhabi (estimate: US\$1.4-1.8 million).

Post-War and Contemporary Art

An epic work in scale and appearance by Gerhard Richter, *Oxii*, painted in 1986 and one of the largest of his celebrated abstract pictures, will be one of the most significant works in the Abu Dhabi exhibition. Estimated at US\$10-15 million and one of the most important works in the New York Evening Sale of Post-War and Contemporary Art on 12 November, 2008, it will dominate the exhibition in Abu Dhabi. Measuring around 2.5 by 4 metres and painted across two canvases, this vast work illustrates the contrasting forces of light and dark and was the catalogue cover for Richter's first major retrospective held in America and Canada in 1988 and 1989.



Also from the New York sale is a flame-hued work by Mark Rothko, *Composition*, painted in 1958, (shown above) with a lighter ground of bright yellow pigment that glows through the rectangular fields of red paint. It is being sold from the collection of Robert and Jean Shoenberg and is estimated at US\$4-5 million. Also from the Shoenberg collection is Roy Lichtenstein's *Self-Portrait* (estimate: US\$4-6 million), painted in 1976, in which he transforms Italian Futurism, combining it with his

distinctive dots and vivid primary colours. A classic 1964 *Jackie* by Andy Warhol (estimate: US\$2-2.2 million) acquired by the vendor from the estate of the artist is another exciting work of art in the exhibition.

Orientalist Art

From the Christie's Paris sale of Orientalist Art is an oil by Etienne Dinet *L'Andalouise au temps des Maures*, estimated at US\$800,000-1,200,000 and to be sold on 17 January, 2009. It shows a woman dancing before a crowd, her arm raised and head thrown back. This sale category is of particular interest to collectors in the Middle East, many of whom have been collecting for decades, but the last two years has seen a rebirth in this field.

Contemporary Asian Art



Contemporary art in Asia has captured the imagination of a worldwide audience of art lovers who are finding the ways in which artists from Korea, Japan, India, and China are interpreting the world to be refreshing and vibrant. Christie's has played a pioneering role in shaping the scope, scale and range of the market for Asian Contemporary Art since being the first auction house to introduce the category. The highlight among this section of the exhibition is Zeng Fanzhi's *Dusk of Shanghai*, (shown left) estimated at US\$961,500 – 1,217,900. Zeng Fanzhi belongs to a group of artists who pioneered contemporary

art in China, developing new expressive forms and providing critical insights into the radical changes taking place around them. It will be sold in Hong Kong in the 30 November sale of Asian Contemporary Art.

Jewellery & Watches

A spectacular selection of diamonds in different shapes and sizes will lead the selection of highlights from sales in Geneva on November 20 and Hong Kong on December 2. These include a circular-cut gem of 44.46 carats showing the highest colour and clarity: D, Flawless, (estimate: US\$8-9 million), together with a matching pair of similar diamonds weighing 16 carats each (estimate: US\$5-8 million). There will also be an

important pear-shaped diamond of 30.15 carats, D colour, VS1 clarity (estimate: US\$2.4-2.8 million), as well as several exquisite diamond necklaces, chokers and bracelets, both modern and Antique.



An impressive 42-carat Kashmir sapphire (estimate: US\$2.8-3.8 million), one of the largest ever offered at auction, will lead the selection of coloured stones (shown left). Alongside jewels by Bulgari and Van Cleef & Arpels, the work of leading contemporary jewellers will be illustrated by a stunning sapphire, seed pearl and diamond necklace by JAR, the renowned Paris designer (estimate: \$100,000-150,000), with a pair of matching earclips (estimate: \$60,000-80,000), as well as an unusual jadeite, diamond and coloured diamond ring and earclips, by Wallace Chan in Hong Kong (\$230,000-310,000).

An impressive selection from this season's international watch auctions at Christie's will also be exhibited in Abu Dhabi. Models by Patek Philippe will lead the show, with an extremely rare platinum minute repeating perpetual calendar wristwatch with moon phases (estimate: US\$440,000-610,000, to be sold in Geneva on November 17). This example, reference 5013, is considered one of the distinguished Geneva manufacturer's landmark models. It will be exhibited alongside another rare Patek Philippe platinum watch with a perpetual calendar, chronograph, leap-year and moon-phase display set among 36 baguette-cut diamonds (estimate: US\$250,000-300,000, to be sold in Hong Kong on December 3) and a spectacular Patek Philippe platinum and diamond perpetual calendar split seconds chronograph wristwatch with moon phase (estimate: US\$250,000 - 350,000, to be sold in New York on December 12). Among the other highlights on display will be a tourbillon wristwatch "Pour Le Mérite" by A. Lange & Söhne, a strictly limited model executed in only 50 platinum examples (estimate US\$110,000-140,000), as well as several rare and unusual pieces by Breguet and Cartier.

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PRESS CONFERENCE AND PRIVATE PRESS VIEW:

Sunday, October 26 at 10am

THE BALLROOM RECEPTION AREA, EMIRATES PALACE HOTEL, ABU DHABI

If you require transportation from Dubai, please do contact us

Public Viewing: Sunday, October 26 from 3-10pm

Monday, October 27 from 11am-8pm

Visit Christie's on the web at www.christies.com

Notes to Editors:

About Christie's Middle East

- ❖ Christie's commitment to the Middle East is unrivalled. Christie's was the first international auction house to have established a permanent presence in the Middle East when a representative office was opened in Dubai in April 2005, and have staged four series of auctions to date in the Middle East.
- ❖ Christie's auctions in the Middle East have achieved over US\$100 million in total with approximately 50% of buying from the Middle East, demonstrating the strong demand from clients in the region for this new platform in the international art market.
- ❖ In addition to auctions, Christie's have staged five international public art exhibitions in the region, bringing over US\$60 million/AED 180 million worth of Art, objects, Jewellery and watches from Christie's most important sales worldwide direct to clients in the Middle East.
- ❖ Christie's has organized a number of charity events in the region. Most recently, Christie's conducted the charity auction for His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum's *Dubai Cares* charity which raised US\$10 million /31 million AED towards providing education for children in poor countries around the world. This event established a record for the amount of money raised during a charity auction in the region. The total sum achieved by charity sales which Christie's have conducted in the region to date stands at over US\$16 million.
- ❖ Christie's LIVE™ will enable collectors and interested parties around the Middle East and the world to enjoy the look, sound and feel of these exciting sales in Dubai from their personal computer, as well as participate in them www.christies.com.

About Christie's

Christie's is the world's leading art business with global art sales in 2007 that totalled £3.1 billion/\$6.3 billion. This marks the highest total in company and in art auction history. For the first half of 2008, art sales totalled £1.8 billion / \$3.5 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's conducted the greatest auctions of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, and today remains a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 600 sales 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 \$80 million. Christie's has 85 offices in 43 countries and 14 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Hong Kong and Zurich. Most recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in emerging and new markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

About Tourism Development & Investment Company

Tourism Development & Investment Company (TDIC) is Abu Dhabi's leading cultural and tourism asset developer. It is the name behind some of the world's most significant cultural initiatives including Saadiyat Island, which will be home to the world's largest single

concentration of premier cultural institutions, including the Sheikh Zayed National Museum, designed by Lord Norman Foster; the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi Museum designed by Frank Gehry; the Louvre Abu Dhabi museum designed by Jean Nouvel; a performing arts centre designed by Zaha Hadid and a maritime museum by Japan's Tadao Ando.

About Credit Suisse

As one of the world's leading banks, Credit Suisse provides its clients with private banking, investment banking and asset management services worldwide. Credit Suisse offers advisory services, comprehensive solutions and innovative products to companies, institutional clients and high-net-worth private clients globally, as well as retail clients in Switzerland. Credit Suisse is active in over 50 countries and employs approximately 49,000 people. Credit Suisse is comprised of a number of legal entities around the world and is headquartered in Zurich. The registered shares (CSGN) of Credit Suisse's parent company, Credit Suisse Group AG, are listed in Switzerland and, in the form of American Depositary Shares (CS), in New York. Further information about Credit Suisse can be found at www.credit-suisse.com.

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CHRISTIE'S DUBAI SALES:

- Christie's auction of *Jewels and Watches; The Dubai Sale*, takes place at the Jumeirah Emirates Towers Hotel, Dubai on 29 October 2008 at 7pm
- Christie's auction of *International Modern and Contemporary Art* takes place at the Jumeirah Emirates Towers Hotel, Dubai on 30 October 2008 at 7pm

(separate press release available for both sales)

- For catalogues and further information, please telephone +971 4425 5647