

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | SOUTH KENSINGTON
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Monday, 17 February 2014

POP CULTURE

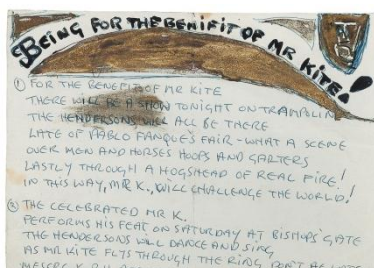
LASTING LEGACIES

AT CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON IN JUNE

GRACE KELLY



THE BEATLES



OASIS



MICHAEL JACKSON



CECIL B. DEMILLE



STAR WARS



STEVE MCQUEEN



ANDY WARHOL



South Kensington, London – Christie's is pleased to announce full details of the *Pop Culture* sale which will take place on 20 June 2014. Comprising 144 lots, the auction will offer costumes, props, photographs, original artwork, instruments and personal items. Featuring items previously worn, owned or played by rock, pop and Hollywood royalty the selection on offer provides collectors spanning several generations the opportunity to acquire a piece of memorabilia associated with their celebrity idols. Highlights include: a rare page of lyrics in John Lennon's hand; (estimate: £100,000-150,000); a lace empire line day dress by Helen Rose, made for Grace Kelly as Princess Alexandra in the 1956 M.G.M. film *The Swan*, (estimate: £30,000-50,000) and the drum kit used by Tony McCarroll, the original drummer in legendary British band Oasis, (estimate: £12,000 – 15,000). All items on offer will be available to view on exhibition at Christie's Old Brompton Road galleries in South Kensington, London, from 14 to 19 June 2014. Estimates range from £800 to £150,000.

CECIL B. DEMILLE (1881-1959)



As 2014 marks the 100 year anniversary of Cecil B. DeMille's first feature film, *The Squaw Man* (1914), Christie's is proud to present a collection of concept artworks, sketches and costume accessories with estimates ranging from £800 - £15,000. They pay homage to the career of Hollywood's greatest showman, the king of epic film, **CECIL B. DEMILLE**. Best known for his mastery of the spectacle, this collection reveals a glimpse 'behind the scenes' of a DeMille production, enabling us to see how the great storyteller immersed himself completely in each project with meticulous attention to detail and historical accuracy.

A magnificent gilt-metal falcon chest-plate (estimate: £10,000 -15,000, *illustrated below right*) was made for Yul Brynner as Rameses II in the 1956 Oscar-winning film, *The Ten Commandments*. Further highlights include a watercolour and pencil costume sketch by Travis Banton of Claudette Colbert as Cleopatra in the 1934 Paramount film, directed by DeMille, (estimate: £10,000 -15,000, *illustrated above left*).



1930s – 1940s

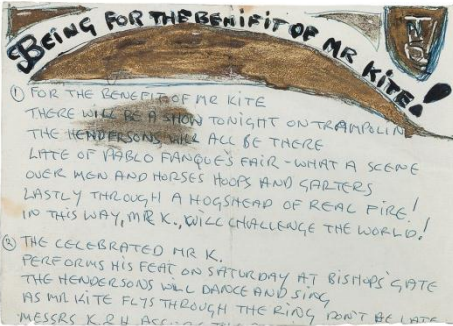


Published in 1936, Margaret Mitchell's, **GONE WITH THE WIND** is a classic captivating story which has been adapted many times for stage and screen. A 1938 first edition which was personally used by Ona Munson who played Belle Watling in the 1939 M.G.M film (estimate: £5,000-7,000) will be offered in the sale. The majority of references to Belle Watling underlined in red pencil with the flyleaf signed by many of the cast and crew including the director Victor Fleming. Further *Gone with the Wind* memorabilia includes a collapsible top hat worn by Clark Gable as Rhett Butler (estimate: £2,000 – 3,000, *illustrated left*).

1950s

Few names are as equated with style as **GRACE KELLY**. The Oscar-winning actress was one of the most beautiful women in the world and celebrated for her classic ladylike look. Her style so timeless and influential continues to inspire everything from museum exhibitions to movies, magazines, books, and, of course, fashion. One of the highlights in the Pop Culture sale is a lace empire line day dress by Helen Rose, made for Grace Kelly as Princess Alexandra in the 1956 M.G.M. film *The Swan*, (estimate: £30,000-50,000 *illustrated right*) originally set in 1915, the costumes brought about the return of the empire silhouette—a high waistline and straight semi-slim skirt. Reports circulated from the set that she “looked like an angel” so MGM shared publicity photos including one that showed Grace and Helen looking at a sketch from *The Swan*.





Among a wide selection of **THE BEATLES** memorabilia is a rare page of lyrics in John Lennon's hand; (estimate: £100,000-150,000 *illustrated left*) for *Being For The Benefit of Mr. Kite!*, released on the 1967 Beatles album *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. The inspiration for the song came from an old circus poster that John Lennon purchased in an antique shop whilst filming the promotional video for *Strawberry Fields Forever* in Sevenoaks, Kent in January, 1967.

From the collection of John Hill comes a plectrum scratched with the initials J.L. which was used by John Lennon during the Beatles' performance at the A.B.C. Theatre, Hull, 16 October, 1964 (estimate: £2,000 – 3,000) and a microphone used by the Beatles *circa* early 1960s (estimate: £5,000 -7,000, *illustrated right*). Reslo microphones such as this example were used predominantly at the Cavern Club in the early 1960s and it appears that the Reslo was the band's preferred microphone for live appearances in the early days. The vendor attended the Beatles concert and following the show, struck up a conversation with one of the band's technicians. The vendor was keen to start his own band so the technician with whom he was speaking gave him the microphone.



A rare page of notes in Paul McCartney's hand for the recording of the Beatles song *Hey Jude*, from July-August, 1968 is expected to fetch between £50,000 and 70,000 (*illustrated left*). *Hey Jude* was conceived by Paul McCartney in June, 1968 whilst out for a drive and was originally intended as "Hey Jules", a song written to comfort John Lennon's son, Julian, in the aftermath of his parents' divorce. *Hey Jude* was released in August 1968 as the first single on the newly formed Apple label and became one of the most successful Beatles songs ever. *Hey Jude* became the biggest selling debut release for a record label ever, selling an estimated eight million copies worldwide and topping the charts in eleven countries. The Beatles spent two days at Abbey Road Studios recording *Hey Jude* on 29 and 30 July, 1968 before recording a master track at Trident Studios on 31 July. Recording notes very rarely appear on the market.

1970s & 80s



A pair of tortoiseshell folding Persol sunglasses owned by **STEVE MCQUEEN** *circa* 1970s are a further highlight of the sale (estimate: £15,000-25,000 *illustrated left*). Persol folding sunglasses were a favourite of Steve McQueen's. He can be seen wearing a similar pair during the filming of *The Thomas Crown Affair* in 1968 and was photographed by friend and photographer, William Claxton, wearing Persol glasses on numerous occasions.

The sale features important props from the 20th Century Fox/Lucasfilm **STAR WARS** trilogy including a collection of Imperial Stormtrooper costume components (estimate: £20,000 – 30,000, *illustrated right*) and a prototype Imperial Stormtrooper's helmet made for the 1977 production *Star Wars: A New Hope* (estimate: £3,000 – 5,000).



In 1978 **ANDY WARHOL** attended the opening of a shoe shop Ananena on Koenigsallee in Dusseldorf, Germany and made an opening speech explaining that before he was an artist, he was a shoe illustrator. This pair of white leather ballerina pumps were the only shoes he signed that evening (estimate: £2,000 – 3,000, *illustrated left*).



1990's

The drum kit used by Tony McCarroll, the original drummer in legendary British band **OASIS**, is one of the highlights in the sale (estimate: £12,000 – 15,000, *illustrated right*). The drum kit was used on the band's first album *Definitely Maybe* which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. Tony McCarroll was the first drummer with Oasis, playing and recording with the band from its inception as "Rain" in 1990 until April, 1995. This drumkit was purchased early in the history of the band from Johnny Roadhouse in Manchester and McCarroll then played it throughout his career with Oasis. For a full press release please click [here](#).



2000 - NOW



Pop legend **MICHAEL JACKSON** is represented in the sale by a black fedora hat by Shannon Phillips Collection worn at the Michael Jackson: 30th Anniversary Special at Madison Square Garden, New York on September 7 and September 10, 2001. Labelled with grosgrain ribbon hat band, printed in gold on the inner head band Michael Jackson, signed and inscribed on the underside of the brim Love Michael Jackson and accompanied by a document concerning the provenance from David Gest (estimate: £3,000-5,000 *illustrated left*).

A Prada gown worn by **MICHELLE DOCKERY** to the 2013 Emmy Awards will be offered at auction, with all proceeds benefitting Oxfam. The gown has been donated by the Downton Abbey star to raise funds for the Syria Crisis; (estimate: £3,000-5,000). For a full press release please click [here](#).

JULIA ROBERTS was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actress in 1990 for her role in *Pretty Woman*. Roberts attended the ceremony with Kiefer Sutherland and wore this Richard Tyler full length silk crepe evening dress (estimate: £4,000 – 6,000, *illustrated right*).





A key prop from the 2006 Columbia Pictures film **THE DA VINCI CODE** is a further highlight in the sale. This working 'cryptex' is central to the elaborate plot of *The Da Vinci Code* (estimate: £12,000 – 18,000, *illustrated left*). The film centres around the secrets of the Priory of Sion, guardians of the bloodline of Jesus Christ and Mary Magdalene. Following the murder of her grandfather in the Louvre, Audrey Tatou as Sophie Neveu and Tom Hanks as Robert Langdon follow the cryptic messages he left behind. The clue found on the cryptex leads them to Sir Isaac Newton's tomb at Westminster Abbey in London, where Langdon solves the password code - 'apple' - releasing the papyrus from the cryptex. The 'cryptex' was skilfully hand-crafted by UK based prop makers Dick George Associates under the creative direction of Allan Cameron and Giles Masters. All elements had to physically work exactly as described in Dan Brown's novel. Approximately 17 were made for the production. According to Dick George, three were used in the film, while the others were gifted to directors, producers and key members of the production.

PRESS CONTACT: Dernagh O'Leary | +44(0)207 752 3121 | doleary@christies.com

Please click [here](#) for the complete eCatalogue

Public Exhibition:

Saturday 14 June 11.00 am – 5.00 pm
Sunday 15 June 11.00 am – 5.00 pm
Monday 16 June 9.00 am – 7.30 pm
Tuesday 17 June 9.00 am – 5.00 pm
Wednesday 18 June 9.00 am – 5.00 pm
Thursday 19 June 9.00 am – 5.00 pm

Auction:

Pop Culture
20 June 2014
1:00pm

#

Visit Christie's Website at www.christies.com

Complete catalogue available online at www.christies.com or via the Christie's iPhone app

FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:



CHRISTIE'S SOUTH KENSINGTON

85 Old Brompton Road, London, SW7 3LD

OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

Monday: 9.00am – 7.30pm

Tuesday – Friday: 9.00am – 5.00pm

Saturday & Sunday: 11.00am - 5.00pm