

CHRISTIE'S

MEDIA ALERT | LONDON | 13 JANUARY 2023

AN OPULENT AESTHETIC: AN IMPORTANT PRIVATE COLLECTION FROM AN ENGLISH COUNTRY HOUSE

London, 9 February 2023



Interiors, from left to right: *The Drawing Room* and the 'salon' hang in *The Bar*

London – On 9 February, Christie's will offer *An Opulent Aesthetic: An Important Private Collection from an English Country House* in a live auction. Presenting an opulent reinterpretation of the traditional *country house style*, the sale comprises 266 lots. The collector's notable connoisseurship and taste is evident in the distinctive *mise-en-scène* they created; the house provided a luxurious retreat from the city, where friends were entertained on a grand scale. Spanning 19th century and Old Master paintings to fine furniture, clocks, porcelain, silver, soft-furnishings and lighting, many works boast illustrious provenance, coming from important English, European and American collections such as that of Alberto Bruni Tedeschi and those of the Lords Hesketh at Easton Neston and the Sackville family at Knole. Estimates range from £600 up to £600,000. The pre-sale public exhibition will be on view at Christie's headquarters from 3 to 8 February.

19TH CENTURY AND OLD MASTER PAINTINGS, INCLUDING SPORTING ART

The top lot of the sale is *The Return* by Alfred de Dreux, 1859 (estimate: £400,000-600,000). Sporting art is a thread which runs throughout the collection largely in the form of dog pictures, which were 'salon' hung in *The Bar*. *The wounded hound* by Richard Ansdell, 1847, leads this group (estimate: £200,000-300,000, also illustrated *in-situ* above). Notable Old Master

pictures include John Constable's *Flatford Mill from the tow path* (estimate: £80,000-120,000) and Sir Joshua Reynolds's half-length *Portrait of a lady, traditionally identified as Mrs. Elizabeth Sheridan* (estimate: £50,000-80,000). All illustrated left to right, below:



DECORATIVE ARTS



Among the rich array of Decorative Arts offered from this eclectic collection are, from left to right: a Louis XV ormolu-mounted Japanese lacquer bombe commode, attributed to Jacques Dubois, mid-18th century (estimate: £70,000-100,000); a set of three Charles II silver-gilt furnishing vases and covers, *circa* 1670-80 (estimate: £70,000-100,000); a pair of ormolu-mounted brule-parfums, *circa* 1785-1790 (estimate: £40,000-60,000); and a Louis XIV savonnerie carpet fragment, late 17th century, commissioned by Louis XIV to furnish the Grand Galerie au bord de l'eau at the Palais du Louvre (estimate: £40,000-60,000).

To view the full sale please click [here](#)

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- Following the groundbreaking 2021 sale of the first digital art NFT ever offered by a global auction house ([Beeple's *Everydays*](#)), Christie's recently launched the [first fully on-chain auction platform](#) dedicated to exceptional NFT art. As an industry leader in digital innovation, Christie's also continues to pioneer new technologies that are redefining the business of art, including the use of hologram technology to tour life-size 3D objects around the world, and the creation of viewing and bidding experiences that integrate augmented reality, global livestreaming, buy-now channels, and hybrid sales formats.

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**Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium.*

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