

# CHRISTIE'S

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## CHRISTIE'S TO SELL THE PERSONAL COLLECTION OF THE FILM AND FASHION LEGEND

# AUDREY HEPBURN

EXHIBITION, FLAGSHIP LIVE AND ONLINE AUCTIONS  
SEPTEMBER 2017

#HepburnAtChristies



*Bud Fraker (1916-2002), Audrey Hepburn, circa 1957*

**London** – Christie's will present the sale of the personal collection of Audrey Hepburn, the globally renowned and celebrated film and stage actress, fashion legend and humanitarian in London this September. The collection of one of the most famous and beloved stars in the history of film and fashion will be showcased in a flagship auction at Christie's King Street headquarters in London on 27 September, alongside an online sale which will be open for bidding from 19 September until 3 October. The collection is an extraordinary archive chronicling the life and career of arguably the most famous screen actress of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century through the lens of the objects she collected, used and loved. This is the first time these remarkable, personal items, which have remained in the ownership of Audrey Hepburn's family, have been offered for sale. The collection will be on view to the public in an exhibition at Christie's King Street, London from 23 September.

The auctions will feature Audrey Hepburn's extensive personal wardrobe and her own annotated working copies of film scripts from her best loved films including *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. The sales will also include portraits from her personal archive of original professional portraits by major photographers, the majority of which date from between 1953 and 1968 when she was at the height of her screen career, and her own collection of memorabilia and letters which offer an intimate snapshot of her extraordinary life and career.

*"We are thrilled to have been entrusted with the sale of items from Audrey Hepburn's personal collection", said Adrian Hume-Sayer, Director, Private Collections at Christie's. "Her name is one that instantly resonates; her appeal and relevance remain as strong today as they ever were. The sales will offer fans and collectors alike the opportunity to acquire unique personal objects which have never before been seen on the market and which will undoubtedly offer new insights into the remarkable life of a remarkable woman. We hope the sales will pay tribute to the timeless style of this legendary actress and continue the long tradition of Christie's leading the private and iconic collection sales market."*

Born in Ixelles, Brussels in 1929 as Audrey Kathleen Hepburn, she spent her childhood between Belgium, England and the Netherlands. She studied ballet and performed as a chorus girl in the West End and before travelling to the USA to star on Broadway in *Gigi*, quickly rising to stardom with her Academy Award winning performance in *Roman Holiday* in 1953. Her talent was instantly recognised; she became the first actress to win an Academy Award, a Tony Award and a Golden Globe in the same year. Hepburn went on to win three BAFTAs and in 1994 became one of only twelve people in history to win competitive Emmy, Grammy, Academy and Tony Awards, known by the acronym EGOT. Audrey Hepburn went on to star in some of the most iconic films in the history of the silver screen including *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *My Fair Lady* and *Sabrina*. Later in life, she devoted much of her time to UNICEF (The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) and was awarded the US Presidential Medal of Freedom in recognition of her work as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador in December 1992. Audrey Hepburn died in 1993 at the age of 63.

Audrey Hepburn is rightly regarded not only as one of the greatest screen actresses of all time, but as a style icon. 24 years after her death she maintains a resonance and popularity as strong today as it was during her lifetime. With estimates starting at just £100 and ranging up to £80,000 the auction will offer collectors and devoted fans from around the world an unprecedented opportunity to acquire personal items treasured by one of the most famous and well-loved women of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

**Luca Dotti and Sean Hepburn Ferrer commented:** *"On January 20th, 1993 we lost our mother and best friend and the world lost an enduring symbol of grace, elegance and humanity. We preserved our feelings for her as well as all of her belongings which each signified her life's choices and philosophy. After 25 years we have focused on those items we wished to keep as well as to pass on to future generations."*

*"In an effort to include all who partake in these feelings for her, we have selected a collection of items to share with her ever-growing base of admirers. We are honored to entrust Christie's with this sale and it is with great joy that we wish to share her spirit, through this sale, and its related previews, with all who have enjoyed her films, her sense of style and followed her humanitarian legacy."*

Read more at [www.christies.com/audreyhepburn](http://www.christies.com/audreyhepburn).

## AUDREY HEPBURN AND HER PERSONAL WARDROBE

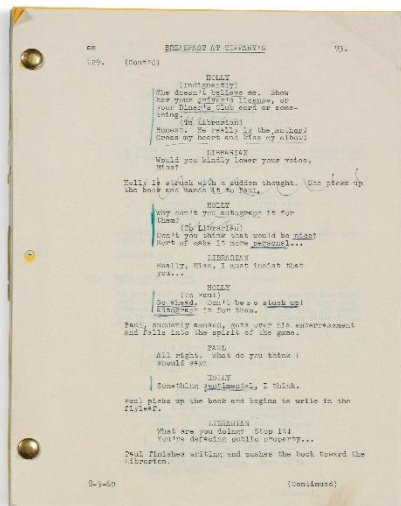
The auctions will present a unique opportunity to view and acquire items from the extensive personal wardrobe of the screen star who remains a globally recognised fashion legend. Key pieces that exemplify her signature look include a Burberry trench coat (estimate: £6,000-8,000, *illustrated below right*) and a selection of her ballet pumps in a rainbow of colours, with estimates from £1,500, *illustrated below left*.

Audrey Hepburn was associated with the celebrated couturier Hubert de Givenchy who was first hired at her suggestion to design the actress's wardrobe for her second Hollywood film, *Sabrina*. The two became close friends and frequently collaborated, Givenchy went on to design Hepburn's costumes for *Love in the Afternoon*, *Funny Face*, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *Paris When It Sizzles* and *How to Steal a Million*. Hepburn often wore clothes designed by Givenchy in her private life as well as on screen.

A highlight of the sales is a blue satin Givenchy cocktail dress; worn by Hepburn, this model featured in a photo shoot photographed by William Klein for a fashion editorial promoting *Two for the Road* in 1966 (estimate: £10,000-15,000, *illustrated below center*). The elegant gown is trimmed with blue satin fringes and epitomises the deceptively simple style for which Hubert de Givenchy and Audrey Hepburn are justly famous.



## FILM MEMORABILIA



Audrey Hepburn is one of few actresses to have won Academy, Emmy, Grammy and Tony Awards. The auctions will include Hepburn's personal annotated working scripts from her best-loved films, including *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (estimate: £60,000-80,000, *illustrated left*) and *Charade* (estimate: £15,000-25,000). Hepburn often used turquoise ink to make notes and revisions for her portrayal of some of Hollywood's most memorable characters.



Further highlights include a letter from Truman Capote in which he expresses his pleasure that Hepburn had taken on the now iconic role of Holly Golightly in the screen adaptation of his 1958 novella *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (estimate: £4,000-6,000); and a gold lighter engraved 'For My Fair Lady, Gene Allen, December 1963', a gift from the Art Director of the 1964 film (estimate: £3,000-5,000, *illustrated above right*).

## PHOTOGRAPHY

The auctions also feature Audrey Hepburn's personal archive of photographs including many official portraits by major photographers, dating to the height of her film career. Highlights include personal portraits by Bud Fraker, who was a stills photographer for *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (*photograph illustrated on page one*: estimate £500-800); wardrobe photographs for *My Fair Lady* together with personal portraits by Cecil Beaton, and personally dedicated prints of Hepburn for Vanity Fair by fashion photographer Steven Meisel.



LEFT: Bud Fraker (1916-2002), *Audrey Hepburn*, 1956, estimate: £1,000-2,000  
RIGHT: Steven Meisel, (b. 1954), *Audrey Hepburn*, Vanity Fair, 1991, estimate: £2,000-3,000

Further information will be available in the coming months.

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### Notes to editors

In December 2006, a black satin evening gown designed by Hubert de Givenchy for Audrey Hepburn as Holly Golightly in the 1961 Paramount film *Breakfast At Tiffany's* was sold at Christie's South Kensington for £456,200. The dress had a pre-sale estimate of £50,000-70,000. At the time, the auction set a new world record for a dress made for a movie. The dress was given by Hubert de Givenchy to his friends Monsieur and Madame Dominique Lapiere to raise funds for their charity City of Joy Aid. It is cited as one of the most iconic items of clothing in the history of the twentieth century.

### About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in 2016 that totalled £4 billion / \$5.4 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Christie's offers around 350 auctions 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 \$100 million. Christie's also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War & Contemporary, Impressionist & Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery.

Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

*\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.*

*Images available on request*

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