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HART DAVIS HART WINE CO. CONTINUES UNPRECEDENTED STREAK OF 100% SOLD AUCTIONS ON MAY 16th/17th IN CHICAGO: INTERNATIONAL DEMAND FOR LARGE FORMAT BOTTLES SENDS PRICES SOARING

(May 19, 2008; Chicago, IL)—Hart Davis Hart achieved their record fifth straight (and seventh in eight) 100% sold auction in Chicago on Friday and Saturday. Bidders participated from 40 states as well as Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Switzerland, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. The highlight of the auction was an impressive consignment that comprised the entire Saturday session and featured large format bottles including rarely seen Balthazars, Nebuchadnezzars, and Melchior. Records were set by default as bottles never before seen at auction sold to determined absentee, phone, and internet bidders from all over the world. The auction tallied \$4,721,677, far exceeding the high end of the pre-sale estimate of \$2,878,320-\$4,305,750. A Balthazar (12 liter bottle) of 1998 Haut-Brion signed by Prince Robert of Luxembourg sold for \$19,120 against an estimate of \$7,000-10,000, a double-magnum of 2000 Pétrus brought \$23,900 against an estimate of \$12,000-18,000, and a Melchior (18 liter bottle) of 2003 Château Pavie achieved \$14,340 against an estimate of 6,000-9,000, all selling to the same European phone bidder who aggressively took on all would-be buyers.

“During my 25 years in the wine business I have rarely, if ever, seen many of these bottlings offered, let alone so many in a single consignment,” noted Vice-Chairman Michael Davis. “The buyers seemed to recognize the uniqueness of the opportunity.”

Highlights of the sale were not limited to large format Bordeaux, as a 6-bottle lot of 1943 La Tache, DRC brought \$41,825 against an estimate of \$26,000-38,000, a 5 liter bottle of 1997 Dal Forno Amarone sold for \$6,572 against an estimate of \$3,200-4,800, and 5 magnums of 1997 Harlan achieved \$13,145 against an estimate of \$8,500-13,000.

In a fitting tribute to the incredible wine visionary and philanthropist who passed away on Friday morning, a 12 liter Balthazar of 1999 Robert Mondavi Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve signed by Robert Mondavi soared past the high estimate.

Commented Chairman John Hart: “It was with deep sadness that we heard about the passing of Bob Mondavi during our Friday session. No one has had such a profound influence on wine lovers in the US. I have so many wonderful memories of time spent with him. He will be sorely missed.”

Top Ten Lots:

1. Lot 546: 6 magnums of 1961 Château Latour (est. \$32,000-48,000) at **\$57,360**
2. Lot 263: 6 bottles of 1943 La Tache (est. \$26,000-38,000) at **\$41,825**
3. Lot 919: 6 bottles of 2003 Romanée-Conti (est. \$24,000-36,000) at **\$40,630**
4. Lot 893: 9 bottles of 1990 La Tache (est. \$22,000-32,000) at **\$33,460**
5. Lot 575: 1 double-magnum of 1982 Château Le Pin (est. \$12,000-18,000) at **\$31,070**
6. Lot 924: 6 bottles of 2004 Romanée-Conti (est. \$18,000-28,000) at **\$31,070**
7. Lot 565: 6 magnums of 1982 Château Latour (est. \$12,000-18,000) at **\$28,680**
8. Lot 912: 12 bottles of 2002 La Tache (est. \$11,000-17,000) at **\$26,290**
9. Lot 748: 12 bottles of 2000 Château Ausone (est. \$11,000-17,000) at **\$23,900**
10. Lot 756: 1 double magnum of 2000 Château Pétrus (est. \$12,000-18,000) at **\$23,900**

Total hammer: **\$3,951,195**

Total aggregate: **\$4,721,677**

Percent sold by lot: **100%**



Lots 756, 748

Upcoming June 28, 2008 auction

Our exciting upcoming auction will be held at Tru Restaurant in Chicago on June 28th. The session will begin at 9:00 a.m. with fantastic consignments on offer including a further sampling of impressive large format bottles from the same cellar that was enthusiastically received at our auction on May 17th. The auction will be preceded by a dinner at North Pond featuring a vertical tasting of the incredibly rare Bâtard-Montrachet from Michel Niellon.

2008 Auction Calendar

June 28, 2008

September 20, 2008

November 1, 2008

December 6, 2008



Lot 544 (June Sale)

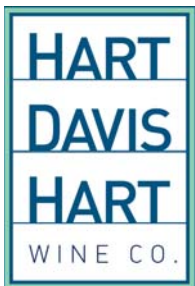
Bidding Information

Auction catalogs are available through the website or by calling Hart Davis Hart (hdhwine.com; 312.482.9996.) The expanded website allows bidders to view and search the auction catalog and place absentee bids online.

Hart Davis Hart's state-of-the-art technology allows bidders worldwide to participate in the Chicago-based live auctions via the Internet. Bidders can follow the auction in the salesroom, hear the live auction, and bid against the room, all in real-time. More details about the technology can be found at www.hdhwine.com.

Bidders are encouraged to attend the auction in person, but Hart Davis Hart welcomes bids by phone, fax, through the website, and via the new live-bid technology. For more information, contact Hart Davis Hart at 312.482.9996 or go to hdhwine.com.

About Hart Davis Hart Wine Co.



Hart Davis Hart Wine Co. is both a dynamic retailer and an internationally prominent wine auction house, occupying a unique position in the rare wine market. We offer collectors and restaurateurs a broad range of options for buying and selling wines, providing unrivaled expertise and personalized service.

Founded in October 2004, Hart Davis Hart represents the alliance of three highly-respected industry leaders: John Hart, Michael Davis, and Paul Hart, with a combined experience of over 75 years in the rare wine business. John Hart, a renowned expert, has been a leader in the rare wine retail business for over three decades. With extensive careers at Christie's, Davis & Company, and Sotheby's, Michael Davis and Paul Hart are the most experienced wine auctioneers in America.

Hart Davis Hart has emerged as one of the most innovative and trusted sources for rare wines in America, with over 150 years of combined experience in the specialized field of fine and rare wines. No other firm can approach their level of expertise, network of relationships, or dedication to service.

Hart Davis Hart core services:

- Traditional Live Auctions
- Private Retail Services
- Online Sales
- Consultation

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