



## Hart Davis Hart Sells 99.8% of Lots as Prices Soar for Rare Sine Qua Non Amidst Intense Bidding

(December 8, 2008—Chicago, IL)— Hart Davis Hart capped off the year with another successful auction this weekend in Chicago, realizing \$2,773,421 against a pre-sale auction estimate of \$2,076,940 - 3,115,850. A collection featuring a comprehensive offering of Sine Qua Non as well as vertical offerings of Screaming Eagle and Harlan brought intense bidding with many prices skyrocketing over the high estimate. Two bottles of 2000 Sine Qua Non Syrah Heels Over Head more than doubled the high estimate, bringing \$2151 against an estimate of \$600-900. Nine bottles of the rare 1998 Sine Qua Non Syrah Alban Vineyard, bottled for the Hospices du Rhône, commanded \$5378 against an estimate of \$1800-2800. A live internet bidder was the largest buyer of the day for the second straight auction, as hdhlive.com continues to grow in popularity.

Eager bidders participated from 40 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Columbia, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, the Philippines, South Korea, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

“Though prices have retreated from the record highs that we saw earlier in the year, demand for great wine is alive and well,” said Vice-Chairman Michael Davis. “Collectors have been reinvigorated by the prospect of more reasonable prices.”

The seven auctions held by Hart Davis Hart in 2008 at Tru restaurant in Chicago brought \$32,273,540, a twenty percent increase over 2007. The firm achieved by far the highest sell-through rate in the industry at 99.8%, with a mere 17 of the 8,257 lots offered in 2008 failing to find a buyer. HDH also conducted the year’s largest wine auction, The Fox Cellar, which set record prices in many categories and was 100% sold.

“Our success this year was due to the many fabulous collections we had the good fortune to represent, and to the buyers from all over the world who place their trust in HDH. We look forward to working harder than ever for them in 2009,” commented Chairman John Hart.

### Top Ten Lots (inclusive of 19.5% buyer’s premium):

1. Lot 39: 12 bottles of 2005 Château Pétrus at **\$33,460** (est. \$28,000-42,000)
1. Lot 341: 12 bottles of 2005 La Tâche DRC at **\$33,460** (est. \$35,000-55,000)
3. Lot 11: 12 bottles of 1989 Château Pétrus at **\$26,290** (est. \$18,000-28,000)
4. Lot 646: 9 bottles of 1990 La Tâche DRC at **\$22,705** (est. \$18,000-28,000)
5. Lot 833: 6 bottles of 2005 La Tâche DRC at **\$17,925** (est. \$17,000-26,000)
5. Lot 340: 6 bottles of 2005 La Tâche DRC at **\$17,925** (est. \$17,000-26,000)
7. Lot 169: 9 bottles of 2002 Screaming Eagle at **\$13,145** (est. \$9,000-14,000)
7. Lot 5: 12 bottles of 1989 Château Haut Brion at **\$13,145** (est. \$9,000-14,000)
7. Lot 342: 12 bottles of 2005 Grands Echézeaux DRC at **\$13,145** (est. \$9,500-14,000)
10. Lot 161: 5 bottles of 1997 Screaming Eagle at **\$11,950** (est. \$8,500-13,000)

Total hammer: **\$2,279,030**  
 Total aggregate: **\$2,723,441**  
 Percent sold by lot: **99.8%**



## 2009 Auction Calendar

January 31, 2009

March 14, 2009

### 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 nearly 90 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

**For more information on Hart Davis Hart Wine Co., please contact Hart Davis Hart at 312.482.9996 or visit [hdhwine.com](http://hdhwine.com).**

