

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**December 1, 2007**

**FOR:**  
**Hart Davis Hart Wine Co.**  
363 West Erie Street, 500W  
Chicago, IL 60610  
312.482.9996  
[www.hdhwine.com](http://www.hdhwine.com)

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**HART DAVIS HART HOLDS ANOTHER 100% SOLD AUCTION  
AS THE VERLIN COLLECTION SELLS FOR \$3.9 MILLION  
AMIDST FIERCE BIDDING FROM AROUND THE GLOBE**

(December 1, 2007; Chicago, IL)—The incredible offering from the Verlin Collection, A Further Offering from the Magnificent Cellar, had bidders from around the world focused on Chicago this weekend, where Hart Davis Hart Wine Co. sold 100% of the 931 lots offered for \$3.9 million against a pre-sale estimate of \$2.27-\$3.4 million. Four of the firm's last five auctions have realized a remarkable 100% sell-through rate, an astonishing achievement. The auction capped off an explosive year for Hart Davis Hart, which led the wine auction industry in 2007 with an unprecedented 99.3% annual sell through rate, while auctioning 7,850 lots for \$26.9 million, a 95% increase over auction sales in 2006. The best modern Champagne, hundreds of cases of top Bordeaux from 1982, 1989, 1990, 1995, 1996, and 2000, and Burgundy from the likes of Henri Jaye, Domaine de la Romanee Conti, and Coche-Dury, drew spirited bidding from a standing-room only crowd which competed against eager phone bidders, online buyers at [hdhlive.com](http://hdhlive.com), and the incredibly strong absentee bids of buyers from all over the world.

“This sale is a testament both to the passion that Grae and Steven Verlin brought to acquiring only the best wines in the world, and to the meticulous care they gave in storing them. It was an honor to represent this collection and it has been a pleasure to work with Grae. This sale of the Verlin Collection is a fitting end to an exceptional year for Hart Davis Hart,” commented President Paul Hart.

Bidders participated from 37 states and 15 countries, including Brazil, Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, and the UK.

Highlights of the sale included:

**BORDEAUX**

3 Double-Magnums of 1982 Lafite-Rothschild (estimate \$16,000-24,000) at \$31,070  
1 Imperial of 1989 Haut Brion (estimate \$12,000-16,000) at \$19,120  
12 bottles of 1989 La Mission Haut Brion (estimate \$8,000-12,000) at \$14,340  
12 bottles of 1990 Cheval Blanc (estimate \$9,500-14,000) at \$15,535  
12 bottles of 1990 Margaux (estimate \$8,000-12,000) at \$14,340  
12 bottles of 1990 Lafleur (estimate \$12,000-18,000) at \$22,705  
6 magnums of 1996 Lafite-Rothschild (estimate \$7,000-10,000) at \$14,340  
1 Imperial of 1996 Latour (estimate \$6,000-9,000) at \$11,950

12 bottles of 1998 Petrus (estimate \$20,000-30,000) at \$35,850  
6 magnums of 2000 La Mission Haut Brion (estimate \$5000-7500) at \$10,158

### BURGUNDY

2 bottles of 1986 Romanee-Conti, DRC (estimate \$4,000-6,000) at \$11,195  
3 magnums of 2003 Romanee St.-Vivant, DRC (estimate \$3,000-4,500) at \$9,560  
4 bottles of 1990 V-R Cros Parantoux, Henri Mayer (estimate \$7,500-10,000) at \$22,705  
3 mags of 1990 V-R Cros Parantoux, Henri Mayer (estimate \$17,000-26,000) at \$33,460  
12 bottles of 2002 Bonnes Mares, Roumier (estimate \$3,500-5,500) at \$7,768  
12 bottles of 2002 Chambertin, Armand Rousseau (estimate \$3,200-4,800) at \$7,170  
7 bottles of 1995 Corton-Charlemagne, Coche-Dury (estimate \$5,000-7,500) at \$11,353

### OTHER EUROPEAN & AUSTRALIAN WINES

6 magnums of 1990 Hermitage La Chapelle Jaboulet (estimate \$4,500-6,500) at \$7,170  
12 bottles of 1995 Chateauneuf-du-Pape, Rayas (estimate \$3,000-4,500) at \$6,573  
3 bottles of 1973 Riesling, Clos St. Hune, Trimbach (estimate \$1,200-1,800) at \$3,346  
10 bottles of 1985 Sassicaia (estimate \$10,000-15,000) at \$19,120  
12 bottles of 1996 Barolo Riserva, Falletto Giacosa (estimate \$2,600-3,800) at \$5,378  
3 bottles of 1995 Pingus (\$1,000-1,500) at \$3824  
12 bottles of 1998 Penfolds Grange (estimate \$3,000-4,500) at \$5,975  
12 bottles of 1997 Quinta do Noval Port (estimate \$1,200-1,800) at \$3,107

Total hammer: \$3,276,100

Total aggregate: \$3,914,952

Percent sold by lot: 100%

Concurrent with the Chicago auction, Grae Verlin hosted an exciting wine weekend at the W Union Square New York featuring *An Evening of Grae's Favorite Wines* on Friday night and *A Wine Affair with Grae Verlin* on Saturday. Guests tasted wines from the Verlin Collection, along with a broad selection of wines available on [hdhwine.com](http://hdhwine.com), while following the auction from New York and bidding live online via [hdhlive.com](http://hdhlive.com). Grae Verlin will host a second series of events on February 29 and March 1, 2008 at the W Union Square New York.

### **2008 Auction Calendar**

February 2, 2008

April 5, 2008

May 17, 2008

June 28, 2008

September 20, 2008

November 1, 2008

December 6, 2008

### **Bidding Information**

Auction catalogs are available through the website or by calling Hart Davis Hart ([hdhwine.com](http://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](http://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](http://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

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).

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT JARVIS COMMUNICATIONS AT  
310.313.6374**