

Press Release

For immediate release

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SOTHEBY'S HONG KONG SPRING SALES 2008 TO OFFER OVER 1,400 LOTS ESTIMATED IN EXCESS OF HK\$1.3 BILLION

Preview: 5th- 7th April, 2008
Auctions: 8th – 11th April, 2008

SALES HIGHLIGHTS		
Contemporary Chinese Art	Works from significant Chinese modern and contemporary artists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liu Xiaodong's <i>Battlefield Realism: The Eighteen Arhats</i> Guo Bochuan's <i>The Forbidden City</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimate upon request Estimate: HK\$30 – 40 million
Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Paintings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miguel Covarrubias' <i>Balinese Fishermen with Outrigger</i> Adrien Jean Le Mayeur de Merprès' <i>Temple de Bancal</i> I Nyoman Masriadi's <i>Jago Kandang</i> Featuring an Important Private Collection of Vietnamese art: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vu Cao Dam's <i>Conversation d'élégantes au jardin</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimate: HK\$700,000– 1.1 million Estimate: HK\$1.9 – 2.75 million Estimate: HK\$150,000 – 200,000 Estimate: HK\$1.25 – 1.75 million
Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art	Special sales: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Tradition of Elegance – The Leshantang Collection Two Song Treasures from a Japanese Collection TAO – The Jiansongge Collection Splendors of the Qing Court 	The sale is estimated to fetch in excess of HK\$513 million in total.
Fine Chinese Paintings	Outstanding works from renowned Chinese master painters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zhang Daqian's <i>Hengguan Mountain Road</i> Zhang Daqian's <i>Recluse in the Spring Mountain</i> Fu Baoshi's <i>Portrait of Tian Lou</i> Li Keran's <i>Waterfalls</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimate: HK\$4 – 6 million Estimate: HK\$2.5 – 3.0 million Estimate: HK\$400,000 – 600,000 Estimate: HK\$3 – 5 million
Magnificent Jewels and Jadeite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> D-colour and Internally Flawless Diamond Necklace A suite of Melo Pearl Jewellery comprising a necklace, a ring and a pair of earrings Jadeite Gourd and Diamond Necklace and a Pair of Matching Pendant Earrings A pair of Jadeite Double-hoops and Diamond Pendant Earrings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimate: HK\$26 -33 million Estimate upon request Estimate: HK\$6 -7 million Estimate upon request
Important Watches	"Legacy of a Collector": <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patek Philippe Ref. 5002P Sky Moon Tourbillon A. Lange & Söhne Tourbograph "Pour Le Mérite" "Important Watches": <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patek Philippe Ref. 5029J 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimate: HK\$8 – 12 million Estimate: HK\$3.5 – 4.2 million Estimate: HK\$2.2 – 3 million

[Hong Kong, Feb 2008] Sotheby's Hong Kong is proud to announce that its Spring Sales 2008 will be held **at the Grand Hall of the Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre from 8th to 11th April 2008**. In addition to the long-established sales of Chinese classical, modern and contemporary paintings, Chinese works of art, jewellery as well as watches, Sotheby's will, for the first time, hold the Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Paintings sale in Hong Kong. **Over 1,400 lots with an estimated value in excess of HK\$1.3 billion*** will be showcased during travelling exhibitions in Asia and New York in March, followed by a **public exhibition held in Hong Kong from 5th to 7th April 2008**.

Mr. Kevin Ching, Chief Executive Officer, Sotheby's Asia, said, "Following on from Sotheby's Hong Kong's remarkable record-breaking performance in 2007, we shall be offering in the forthcoming April Spring sales a strong and exceptional line-up of objects which are extraordinary in terms of both their freshness to the market as well as their superb craftsmanship."

Mr. Ching continued, "In addition, for the first time, Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Paintings will also be sold in Hong Kong in April as a new category after its relocation from Singapore. This is consistent with our worldwide strategy of 'sourcing globally and selling centrally', thereby ensuring even greater international exposure and success for Southeast Asian Paintings."

CONTEMPORARY CHINESE ART SALE

Following the successful achievement of the new sale record in autumn 2007 in Hong Kong, the forthcoming Sale of Contemporary Chinese Art will again bring to the market important works by many of the renowned Chinese contemporary artists in the field. The total pre-sale estimate for the series **over 270 total lots** stands at **HK\$250 million**.



The sale is highlighted by the exceptional *Battlefield Realism: The Eighteen Arhats* by **Liu Xiaodong** (b. 1963) (**estimate upon request**), one of the most prominent neo-realist Chinese

contemporary artists. This large-scale work consists of nine pairs of 200 by 100 cm paintings each juxtaposing which pair a Taiwanese soldier with a soldier from mainland China. This monumental group of paintings represents the artist's profound response to a sensitive issue: China's relations across the Taiwan Strait. **Within Liu's entire oeuvre, this is the only work that directly addresses political issues.**

Battlefield Realism: The Eighteen Arbats is bold statement by the artist, standing in contrast to his usual non-judgmental and even impersonal approach. It's a powerful indictment of the present nationalistic controversy raging across the Taiwan Strait. "In art, it is easier to put them (the soldiers from Taiwan and Mainland China) together, to have them collaborate. I was also trying to show that they are not so different, they are like brothers." he says.

The piece was executed in 2004 for the "Bunker Museum of Contemporary Art – 18 Solo Exhibitions" curated by Cai Guo-Qiang, another notable Chinese contemporary artist. The museum is on Kinmen (Quemoy), a small archipelago in the Taiwan Strait controlled by Taiwan, once the location of fierce fighting between Taiwan and the mainland. Cai invited 18 Chinese artists from Taiwan and mainland China to exhibit their works of art in one of the bunkers, and this present lot was one of them. Liu spent three weeks in the soldiers' barracks on both sides of the Strait, portraying nine soldiers from each side, and establishing their names and nationalities despite the fact that it was difficult to distinguish one from another. Liu thus successfully transgresses and blurs the border between mainland China and Taiwan, with the clear message: beyond nationality and politics, all humans are the same. Liu affirms the essential universality of humanity.



The sale also features another remarkable painting *The Forbidden City* by **Guo Bochuan** (Kuo Po-ch'uan; 1901 – 1974) (estimate HK\$30-40 million), an important Chinese artist from Taiwan. Executed in 1946 during the artist's stay in Beijing well before the establishment of the People's Republic of China when Western aesthetics and philosophy

were more prominent, the present lot is a true rarity, a gem: one of the few paintings dealing with this subject matter that survived the Cultural Revolution and the biggest of its kind in Guo's oeuvre.

Guo's twelve years in Beijing were the most significant phase of his artistic career. Here he combined the spirit of Chinese painting with Western painting techniques, and was greatly influenced by his intimate friend from Beijing, Ryuzaburo Umehara, a student of Renoir. They often went sketching together, captivated by the beauty of Chinese architecture and the magnificence of the Forbidden City. This gradually became the inspiration behind a series of important works featuring Beijing.

The painting is a vista from a vantage point in the renowned Jingshan Park while the strikingly coloured roof tiles of the palace are rendered in shades of flaming red, textured by Guo's unique calligraphic brushstrokes. The Forbidden City is resplendent in light hues, like in an opaque watercolour. This is a strikingly refreshing and yet traditionally majestic view of the palace. The rhythm of the short brushstrokes is a vivid testament the influence of Chinese calligraphy, the distinctive Chinese spirit so redolent in Guo's art.

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY SOUTHEAST ASIAN PAINTINGS SALE

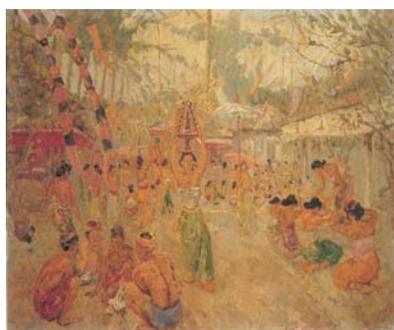
Sotheby's Hong Kong proudly announces that the Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Paintings Spring Sale 2008 will be held for the first time in Hong Kong to join the series of Asian sales in the territory.** The two-session sale will offer **over 180 lots** featuring important works from Indo-European Paintings, Singaporean, Malaysian, Filipino and Thai Paintings, and Contemporary Paintings. The sale will also showcase the category's first ever theme sale featuring Vietnamese paintings and works of art which includes an Important Private Collection comprising works by such celebrated artists as Le Pho, Vu Cao Dam, Mai Trung Thu, to name a few. This eagerly-awaited inaugural sale is expected to attract much attention and is expected to achieve **in excess of HK\$40 million**.

Highlighting the Indo-European oeuvres is a long-lost work by Mexican artist **Miguel Covarrubias (1904-1957)**, Latin America's most influential artist in the Southeast Asian region.



The present gouache on paper version of *Balinese Fishermen with Outrigger* (pictured on p.4; est. HK\$700,000-1.1 million) was last known to have been illustrated in a 1937 edition of *Life* magazine (“Mexican Covarrubias in Dutch Bali”) and whose whereabouts were henceforth unknown. Covarrubias and his wife travelled twice to Bali and its surrounding islands in 1930s, staying for extended periods; the strong influence of Balinese culture and society on both his artistic and anthropological work cannot be doubted. As such, it is an extremely exciting discovery; Covarrubias’ exceedingly rare Balinese works are highly coveted and Sotheby’s is delighted to be able to showcase this magnificent work.

Adrien Jean Le Mayeur de Merprès’ (1880-1958) *Temple de Bancal* (Temple of Bancal; est. HK\$1.9–2.75 million) belongs to a series of paintings that the Belgian Impressionist executed,



the one to be offered in our rooms numbered and titled on the reverse ‘Nr. 20 Temple de Bancal’ depicting a traditional Balinese offering ceremony called *banten*. The gentle hues of *Temple de Bancal* are somewhat of a rarity in Le Mayeur’s canvasses of luscious and vivid reds, greens and oranges showing his home and his love Ni Pollok, dressed in her striking *kaïns*. The exquisite colours in this oil on canvas,

subdued and yet at the same time, strikingly captivating capture a scene of Balinese contemporary life – a female priest (*pedanda istri*) sprinkles holy water upon four women; a group of elegantly-clad women proceed towards the temple carrying upon their heads their offerings for the gods; four men challenge their fighting cocks to a battle in the village *wantilan* (battleground). The natural elegance and sensual movement of the women’s curves in contrast to the men’s physical *squatting* is typical of both Le Mayeur’s and the Balinese manner. Boasting an excellent provenance, *Temple de Bancal* was acquired directly from the artist by the father of the present owner and exhibited in Delft at the Museum Nusantara from 30 March – 27 August 2006.

One of the main gems of the **Important Private Collection of Vietnamese Paintings and Works of Art** sale is without doubt **Vu Cao Dam’s (1908 – 2000) *Conversation d’élégantes au jardin* (A Conversation Amongst Elegant Ladies in a Garden; est. HK\$1.25–1.75 million)**. Executed



in 1939, this ink and gouache on silk, laid on paper, is the largest and most significant work ever to appear at an international auction by this artist for this medium.

Vu Cao Dam attended the Ecole des Beaux Arts d'Indochine in 1931 before moving to France. In 1949 - a seminal moment in Vu's works - he moved to the South of France and became a neighbour of Marc Chagall who profoundly influenced his future work. *Conversations d'élégantes au jardin* is of such paramount importance as Vu ceased to paint with this medium around 1948, at precisely the time when he came to embrace Chagall's friendship. Like many of his contemporaries, Vu was fascinated by the sensuality of the female form – tapered waists, gentle curves, delicate hands and exquisite swan-like necks. Five elegantly and colourfully-dressed ladies with beautiful upswept hairstyles are seated together in a garden, whispering quietly to each other.



The current darling of the Contemporary Southeast Asian art scene, Indonesian artist, **I Nyoman Masriadi (1973–present)** will once again be a star attraction following his overwhelming success in last season's sale where his work *Jangan Tanya Saya Tanya Presiden (Don't Ask Me, Ask The President)* sold for a record-breaking S\$360,000/ HK\$1,854,000 in Singapore. This season, Sotheby's will be presenting ***Jago Kandang (Home Champion)***. **Estimated at HK\$150,000-200,000**, this acrylic on canvas work was executed in 2007 and superficially depicts a moment in a football game. Placed into the social and political context of Masriadi's home country of Indonesia, it however simultaneously conveys a deeper story as he captures both the spirit and psyche of today's society. The emotions that are demonstrated by the football fans in the background – on the far right, anger; elsewhere, cheering supporters waving the national flag and banners carrying the words “Indonesia” – are indicative of Masriadi's cultural sensitivity and sharp humour.

CHINESE CERAMICS AND WORKS OF ART SALE

Sotheby's Spring 2008 sales of Chinese ceramics and works of art promises to be the most important sale of Chinese art to have ever been held, including 3 private collections and a theme

sale together which feature masterpieces spanning from Song, Yuan, Ming to Qing dynasties. The sale offers **over 200 lots, estimated to fetch in excess of HK\$513 million.**

(A) A Tradition of Elegance – The Leshantang Collection

The Leshantang collection formed over the last thirty years belongs to a great Shanghai tradition of ceramic connoisseurship and it includes a number of pieces from some of the most celebrated Shanghai collectors, such as E. T. Chow and J. T. Tai.



The highlight of this sale is the **Magnificent Imperial Jun Flowerpot** from the J.T. Tai collection which is **expected to fetch in excess of HK\$40 million.** Such flowerpots, with their blue and purple glazes of unrivalled beauty, have always been an integral part of the Imperial Collection. The Leshantang flowerpot is a magnificent example, of the largest size, with a lustrous and even blue glaze. While Junyao flowerpots have traditionally been attributed to the Northern Song period, recent archaeological finds in China would support an early Ming dynasty date.

(B) Two Song Treasures from a Japanese Collection

For centuries, the arts of the Song dynasty have been held in high esteem in Japan, particularly in the refined context of the tea ceremony. The two Song treasures from this Japanese collection – a painting and a vase – capture the extreme aesthetic sophistication and taste of the period, characterised by understatement.

An Outstanding Guan Mallet Vase ranks among the world's finest examples of Southern Song (1127-1279) official court ware (guan) and was modelled on its predecessor, Ru ware, the official ware of the Northern Song court (960-1127). Originals of this quality are exceedingly rare and today not more than a dozen vases are preserved worldwide, virtually all in museum collections. The present guan vase is unique not only in its shape, but also in bearing on the base an incised identification of its erstwhile



location at the Southern Song Imperial court. The three characters yu jin yuan refer to one of Hangzhou's Imperial parks, 'Jade Stream Garden', which had been built by the Gaozong Emperor in 1147. The Emperor is known to have used this garden for archery banquets on New Year's day. **It is expected to fetch in excess of HK\$55 million.**

(C) TAO – The Jiansongge Collection



The thirty pieces which form the Jiansongge collection document China's precocious taste for abstraction and embody, in aesthetic terms, the principles of Taoism, which centres on an organic harmony between man and the natural order. Indeed, Taoism, throughout the centuries, had a profound impact on aesthetic trends and particularly from the Tang (618-907) and Song (960-1279) dynasties onwards, the cultural elite - comprising emperors and the leading painters of the day - started appreciating natural rock formations, as microcosms of the universe and vehicles of meditation.

These rocks brought the natural world inside the home or studio, providing imaginary travel to lofty peaks and cave paradises. The Chinese literati mostly prized the formal qualities of the rocks and indeed they may well rank among the world's earliest abstract sculptures.



(D) Splendors of the Qing Court

Following the resounding success of our 'Lost Treasures' sale in October last year, we will offer again an impressive selection of objects made for the court of the Qing Emperors, including superb examples of Imperial glass, jade, cloisonné and furniture.



The highlight in this sale is the **Extraordinary Large (51.5cm) Imperial Gold, Cloisonné and Beijing Enamel Ewer from the Qianlong period (estimate upon request)**. It remains one of the most extravagant, complex and, no doubt, costly objects produced at the court during the

18th century. The body of the vessel is made out of 22-carat gold and decorated with cloisonné enamels and delicate Beijing enamel panels of flowers, figures and landscapes. Only two other similar gold-bodied ewers of this size are known, one in the National Palace Museum, Taipei, the other in the Pierre Uldry Collection, in Zurich.

FINE CHINESE PAINTINGS SALE

Following the success of the 2007 Autumn sale of Fine Chinese paintings, Sotheby's Hong Kong continues to showcase the best of Chinese classical and modern paintings sourced from various collectors in Europe. Celebrated works by Zhang Daqian, Fu Baoshi, Li Keran, Xu Beihong and many more will feature alongside works from the mid-Ming to the beginning of the Qing dynasty. **Over 260 lots are valued at an estimated total of nearly HK\$90 million.**



Hengguan Mountain Road is a magnificent splashed ink and colour on paper work by **Zhang Daqian (Est. HK\$4-6 million)**. Considered to be one of the most representative splashed ink and colour on paper paintings in Zhang's later artistic career, the present lot depicts Hengguan Mountain Road, an impressive piece of infrastructure built in Taiwan in the 1950s, and one of Zhang's favourite subject matters. This large-scale painting was executed in 1964-65 when Zhang's splashed coloured ink technique was so well developed that he was able to produce works of 4 or 6 feet.

Zhang first visited the Hengguan Mountain Road at its 1959 opening, and henceforth he was a frequent visitor to the scenic spot. The magnificent panorama at Hengguan, portrayed in the present lot, is a testament to nature, while the pseudo-abstract rendering of small huts, old woods and a scholar is reminiscent of the Chinese scholarly tradition. Zhang's painting style of this period is further demonstrated by his powerful and unconstrained brushstrokes and less use of the traditional stroke texture technique.



Another exquisite painting by **Zhang Daqian** is *Recluse in the Spring Mountain* (est. HK\$2.5-3 million). Zhang is known for his enthusiastic reproductions of ancient masterpieces, enabling him to incorporate techniques from these great works. The present lot is a reproduction of a masterpiece of the same name by Wang Meng, a master of ink painting of Yuan dynasty, and is considered to be the best reproduction Zhang ever accomplished. Executed in 1947, this *Recluse in the Spring Mountain* is the third reproduction of the painting by Zhang who had, since 1937, been meticulously emulating Wang's innovative and detailed brushstrokes. By his third attempt, Zhang thoroughly understood Wang's painting and fully grasped the great master's techniques. By not strictly following the composition of the original painting, Zhang inserted more human figures in this third version, imbuing the figures with new identities and importance and adding richness to the simple and elegant ambience. Lines are intersected in a controlled manner, and the carefully rendered landscape, huts, figures, trees and other features help develop a spiritual ambience.

Another intriguing painting on offer is **Fu Baoshi's** *Portrait of Tian Lou* (est. HK\$400,000-\$600,000). In 1947, Fu painted a portrait of a friend from France called Tian Youren (transliterated from his French surname; alias Tian Lou). Unlike most of his portraits of fictional characters and imaginary historical figures, it was rare of Fu to paint a portrait of a real life person. In this work Tian Lou is clearly a foreigner, this is evident from his features, but his attire is that of a traditional Chinese *hanfu*. He appears as an intellectual, deep in thought under a pine tree. The unconventional conjunction of east and west is not evident in any of Fu's other work. The crossover is also demonstrated in Fu's scrupulous choice of a Chinese name for Tian Lou which sounded close to his name, and was also a title traditionally used only by intellectuals. The great master saw Tian not only as a connoisseur, but as a person he truly respected.





Li Keran's *Waterfalls* (est. 3-5 million) was executed in 1988, one year before he died, and evokes the beauty of E Wei Mountain in China. It was scripted “once painting here” which refers when Li painted the Qing Yin Court on E Wei in 1956, the first time during his painting excursion. The present lot demonstrates a more developed, sophisticated style and technique rather absent from his 1950s piece depicting the same scenery. The panoramic view includes Qing Yin Court and the surroundings, with waterfalls, pavilions, courts and bridges on both sides. The deliberately composed layers of features contribute to the very poetic ambience

of Chinese painting. A westernized treatment of light and shadow is apparent in the thick layering of ink and contrasting light green ink.

MAGNIFICENT JEWELS AND JADEITE SALE

The diverse influences of east and west inspire the collection this season. Comprising **over 300 extraordinary pieces with estimated total value of nearly HK\$400 million**, this sale promises to be one of the most prominent jewellery auctions in Asia.

“DIF” diamonds of the utmost colour and clarity are scarce. It will be a special and memorable occasion when Sotheby’s Hong Kong presents the **Extremely Rare D-colour and Internally Flawless Diamond Necklace** that achieves this pinnacle of diamond perfection (**estimate HK\$26-33 million**). This meticulous piece of jewellery comprises 43 matching pear-shaped diamonds, totalling approximately 91 carats. Each diamond in this timeless piece was graded as DIF (D-colour and Internally Flawless) by the esteemed Gemological Institute of America (GIA) - denoting they are fine examples of the highest quality diamonds available.



Sotheby's Hong Kong also presents a **Spectacular Suite of Melo Pearl Jewellery comprising a necklace, a ring and a pair of earrings (estimate upon request)**, including 16 Melo pearls weighing 337.30 carats in total. Coming from the Melo Melo marine snail native to the waters of the South China Sea and the Bay of Bengal, these highly prized, vividly orangy-yellow Melo pearls are increasingly rare because of worsening pollution and, therefore, they are not comparable to more common cultured mollusk pearls. Even more rare and unique is this suite the first complete suite of Melo Pearl jewellery ever offered in auction, contrasted with all previous offers of single piece or in pair.



This elegant design is the brainchild of Dickson Yewn, the renowned Hong Kong jewellery designer. He associates the colour of Melo pearls with the emperor of all birds, the phoenix, in Chinese mythology. The shape of a phoenix's tail resembles ocean waves – reminiscent of the pearls' origin in the sea. This association creates graceful curves, embracing the pearls with round diamonds and jadeites. The contrasting orange-yellow and translucent emerald green conveys a harmonious duality, the sum of perfection.



Also on offer is a set of **Jadeite Gourd and Diamond Necklace and a Pair of Matching Pendant Earrings (estimate HK\$6-7 million)**, featuring 13 highly translucent vivid emerald green jadeites enhanced by colourless fine diamonds weighing 19 carats in total. Among the auspicious jadeite gourds which symbolize wealth and luck in the Chinese tradition, the largest is a playfully impressive 26.5mm x 19.81mm x 9.8mm asymmetrically-shaped pendant.

Another highlight of the sale is a **Very Fine Pair of Jadeite Double-hoops and Diamond Pendent Earrings (estimate upon request)**. The luminous jadeite double-hoops, approximately 19mm in diameter and 5mm thick, are of the highest craftsmanship and quality. These translucent emerald green earrings are highly valued by collectors for their exquisite style and vivid, evocative colour.



IMPORTANT WATCHES SALE

Following the outstanding success of Sotheby's Autumn 2007 sale of Important Watches, the Spring 2008 sale will present two auctions dedicated to the most prominent collections of modern timepieces by renowned watchmakers in recent years. With over **220 lots** on offer, the sales **are expected to achieve in excess of HK\$56 million.**

(A) Legacy of a Collector – an exquisite family collection from Asia

The season is highlighted by an exquisite thematic auction, *Legacy of a Collector*, which is devoted to the impeccable taste and unwavering passion of an Asian watch connoisseur. This family collection of 12 exceptionally rare and fine modern wristwatches, which includes 8 Patek Philippe time pieces, demonstrates significant advances in horological technology spanning two decades. **As a testament to the enduring legacy of this distinguished family collection, a portion of the proceeds from the sale will be donated to an approved charity at the seller's discretion.**



The star lot of this collection is a **Patek Philippe Ref. 5002P Sky Moon Tourbillon (est. HK\$8–12 million)**, making its **first appearance at auction in Asia**. Launched in 2001, the Ref. 5002 is the most sophisticated masterpiece ever made by Patek Philippe, and the first double-dialled wristwatch produced by the company. Housing 12 impressive complications in a superbly crafted platinum case, this highly coveted Patek Philippe is extremely rare, with the annual production limited to only 2 pieces.

The reverse dial displays a mesmerizing canopy of stars, a complication, first patented in 2000 for the renowned “Star Calibre” watch. Only one of Patek Philippe’s 186 master watchmakers is capable of attaining the high-skill level required for Ref. 5002’s complex production. The Ref. 5002 is arguably the most significant modern timepiece to appear in recent international auctions.

The collection also showcases the platinum **A. Lange & Söhne Tourbograph “Pour Le Mérite”** (pictured right; est. HK\$3.5–4.2 million), a sought-after piece amongst serious watch aficionados. The pinnacle of this state-of-the-art German watchmaker’s range, the Tourbograph was manufactured in 2005 for the 15th anniversary of the brand’s new manufactory, and only 51 pieces in platinum are planned for production. The Tourbograph couples traditional watch making with modern advances, incorporating the tourbillon with the intricate chain and fusée mechanism, thus



perfecting long-term accuracy. The split seconds chronograph brings added functionality, securing this timepiece the prestigious attribution of ‘Pour Le Mérite’ - a reference to the German order of merit in watch making. This complex, exclusive marvel is expected to spur intense bidding.

(B) Important Watches



In addition to the Patek Philippe pieces offered in the thematic sale, another magnificent limited edition of **Patek Philippe Ref. 5029J** (est. HK\$2.2–3 million) will also be on offer. This rare minute-repeating chronometer was developed by Patek Philippe in 1997 for the opening of their new factory in Geneva. Only 30 pieces of 5029J were produced, and 10 of which were in gold, emphasizing the exceptional rarity of the present lot. The piece is exquisitely cased in the officer-style by Jean-Pierre Hagmann, Master case maker for Patek Philippe. The distinctive champagne-coloured dial adds lustre to this extremely rare commemorative piece.

* Estimates do not include buyer’s premium.

** The Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Paintings Sale was previously held in Singapore for 12 years.

Images available upon request

Appendix

Sotheby's Hong Kong Spring Sales 2008 Calendar

Sale	Preview	Auction
Fine Chinese Paintings Modern & Contemporary Southeast Asian Paintings	5 th – 7 th April	8 th April
Contemporary Chinese Art	6 th – 8 th April	9 th April
Magnificent Jewels and Jadeite Important Watches	5 th – 9 th April	10 th April
Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art	5 th – 10 ^h April	11 th April

*The above information is subject to change.

Hong Kong Exhibition and Auction Venue

Grand Hall

Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Travelling Exhibitions

5 th – 6 th Mar	Beijing
8 th – 9 th Mar	Shanghai
11 th – 12 th Mar	Tokyo
13 th – 17 th Mar	New York
18 th – 19 th Mar	Bangkok
21 st – 22 nd Mar	Singapore
25 th – 26 th Mar	Taipei