

For Immediate Release

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**SOPRANOS COSTUMES LEAD CHRISTIE'S
POP CULTURE AUCTION**

**James Gandolfini's Personal Collection Of Costumes Worn During Filming of
The Sopranos Will Benefit Wounded Warrior Project**

**Pop Culture
25 June 2008**

New York – Christie's *Pop Culture* auction on June 25 in New York will be highlighted by a collection of costumes from the critically acclaimed and Emmy-award-winning HBO drama series, *The Sopranos*. James Gandolfini will sell his personal costume wardrobe worn as the series star, Tony Soprano, to benefit Wounded Warrior Project, a non-profit organization whose mission is to honor and empower wounded warriors. Among the twenty-four lots of Tony Soprano costumes are complete costumes of suits with shoes, leisure shirts, bathrobes, track suits, and bloody costumes, with estimates starting at \$500. The sale will also include a selection of men's costumes from *The Sopranos* worn by various characters such as Junior Soprano, Paulie Walnuts, Christopher Moltisanti and A.J. Soprano.

"Wounded Warrior Project is thankful for James Gandolfini's commitment to our organization," stated Wounded Warrior Project Executive Director and Founder, John Melia. "His public support and generous donation gives a world-wide voice to the severely wounded men and women WWP assists. Our motto is 'The Greatest Casualty is Being Forgotten' and with Mr. Gandolfini's support, we will ensure that doesn't happen."

Tony Soprano Wardrobe

Hailed by critics as a landmark series, *The Sopranos* riveted audiences for six seasons and drew an international base of dedicated fans. The cast's wardrobe played a significant part in establishing the look and tone of the series, and no small detail was overlooked, down to the actors' socks. The series costume designer, Juliet Polska, earned two Emmy nominations and a Costume Designers Guild award.

Many of the lots are accompanied with the original production tags attached and all of the lots include a letter of authenticity by James Gandolfini. Highlights among the Tony Soprano wardrobe recall the character's most recognizable styles, as demonstrated by the short sleeve button down blue shirt worn in the opening credits of every show (estimate: \$2,000-3,000). A tan cotton bathrobe with lavender trim and an embroidered letter 'S' on the breast pocket, which was worn in the pilot episode when Tony is fetching the morning paper and feeding ducks in the pool (estimate: \$1,000-1,500). A signature costume worn in numerous episodes throughout the entire series run is a striped short robe by Guy Laroche, a white tank top, light blue striped boxers, and a pair of leather Bostonian scuffs (estimate: \$1,000-1,500).



A complete costume worn in the episode "Rat Pack" (season 5, episode 2) and displayed at an exhibition of "Outstanding Art of Television Costume Design" at The Academy of Television Arts & Sciences and the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, consists of a multicolored geometric Burma Bibas short sleeve shirt, a white athletic tank top, dark brown pleated Slates pants, Gold Toe Socks, and a pair of Allen Edmonds brown loafers (estimate: \$800-1,200). A bloody costume worn in a pivotal scene during "Members Only" (season 6, episode 1), when Uncle Junior shoots Tony in a fit of dementia, comprises of a white Jockey tank top, a black and beige short sleeve polo shirt by George Foreman, and black pants by Zanella (estimate: \$2,000-3,000).



Various Characters Wardrobe

Approximately 37 men's costumes from other lead characters in *The Sopranos* are available from The Golden Closet. They include costumes worn by characters Junior Soprano, Paulie Walnuts, Christopher Moltisanti, A.J. Soprano, Bobby Baccalà, Burt Gervasi, Johnny Sack and others. From the character Junior Soprano is a plaid cap by Bert Pulitzer (estimate: \$300-500), and a black wool overcoat (estimate: \$500-700). Several costumes worn by the character Paulie Walnuts are offered, including a navy double breasted two-piece suit by Marcello Toscani and white Jos A. Bank shirt, a short sleeve Tuscan knit shirt and tan Sansabelt pants, and two complete track suits (each estimate: \$500-700).

Auction: *Pop Culture*

Wednesday, June 25, 2008

Viewing: Christie's 20 Rockefeller Galleries

Friday - Tuesday, June 20 - 24

About Wounded Warrior Project

Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to honor and empower wounded warriors. WWP seeks to assist those men and women of our armed forces who have been severely injured during the conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other locations around the world. Many of the injuries are traumatic brain injuries (TBI), amputations and burns that will retire these brave warriors from military service.

From the battlefield to their bedside, WWP is there to meet the needs of our wounded heroes by:

- Raising awareness and enlisting the public's aid for the needs of severely injured service men and women
- Helping them aid and assist each other
- Providing unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs

For more information, please call WWP at 877-TEAM-WWP (832-6997) or 904-296-7350 or visit woundedwarriorproject.org.

About Christie's

Christie's is the world's leading art business with global auction sales in 2007 that totaled £3.1 billion/\$6.3 billion. This marks the highest total in company and in art auction history. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's conducted the greatest auctions of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, and today remains a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 600 sales 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 \$80 million. Christie's has 85 offices in 43 countries and 14 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Tel Aviv, Dubai and Hong Kong. Most recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in emerging and new markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

*Estimates do not include buyer's premium

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Images available on request

Visit Christie's Web site at www.christies.com

More information about Christie's sale of PopCulture can be found on www.christies.com. All lots from the sale can be viewed online along with full catalogue descriptions on Lotfinder®, which also allows clients to leave absentee bids. www.christies.com provides information on more than 80 sale categories, buying and selling at auction, complete auction results, and Christie's international auction calendar.