



THE ORIENTAL CERAMIC SOCIETY OF HONG KONG LIMITED

SOTHEBY'S SPRING AUCTION 2010 PREVIEW “CHINESE CERAMICS AND WORKS OF ART 2010 SPRING SALE” WITH NICOLAS CHOW

Date: Saturday, 3 April 2010
Venue: Meet at entrance to Hall 5
HK Convention and Exhibition Centre (New Wing),
1 Expo Drive, Wanchai, Hong Kong
Time: 9 a.m. sharp
Cost: Members Free, Guests \$100 per head

One of the highlights of this sale is a Qing dynasty ceremonial pearl necklace made out of fresh water pearls from the Manchu homeland. It is both a sign of Manchu pride as well as a symbol of Imperial power. Court necklaces consisted of 108 beads, with a bead of a different colour or material, called the *photou* (Buddha's head), placed between groups of 27. The necklace matches one depicted in the formal portrait of Emperor Yongzheng and it is believed to be the same one. Another highlight is an imperially inscribed *Taishanghuangdi* (Emperor Emeritus) white jade *yubi* seal, mark and period of Qianlong and dated to the *bingchen* year. The seal is very unusual in its circular form and is the only one from the *Taishanghuangdi* series. It is made of a circular white jade that has a russet skin and a fine lustrous colour. The preview will also include an imperially inscribed bamboo-veneer *ruyi* sceptre, Qianlong period. This exceptional *ruyi* sceptre is said to rank among the finest sceptres produced for the personal enjoyment of the Qianlong Emperor and well exemplifies the bamboo-veneer technique. Included also is a boxwood imperial '*lingzhi*' *ruyi* sceptre, mark and period of Yongzheng. With its simple and 'raw' appearance, the sceptre illustrates the naturalism much favoured by the Yongzheng Emperor.

Apart from Qing dynasty art, there is also a Ming dynasty bronze dancing Buddhist deity, mark and period of Xuande (1426-1435), and a Yuan dynasty blue and white *qilin* and phoenix jar.

Nicolas Chow is the International Head of Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art, orchestrating auctions with a focus on ceramics and works of art from the Ming and Qing dynasties. Mr. Chow joined Sotheby's in 1999 and has been responsible for leading the Chinese art market across the Asia Pacific region since 2003, while maintaining strong relationships with important collectors and dealers around the globe. In 2006/07 he took over global oversight for the Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art departments.

Mr. Chow is the key figure behind many successful theme sales focusing on Imperial works of art and has brought to the market landmark collections such as the recent Legacies of Imperial Power – Qianlong Imperial Seals from The Estate of Emile Guimet (October 2008), Masterpieces of Chinese Precious Metal Work – Ming and Qing Imperial Gold (April 2008), Important Chinese Art From the Collection of a Parisian Connoisseur (April 2007), and Visions of Enlightenment - The Speelman Collection of Important Early Ming Buddhist Bronzes (October 2006).

Please complete the form below and return it to the OCS Office to reserve a place or reserve online by emailing ocs@orientalceramics.org.hk.

REPLY SLIP

Sotheby's Preview with Nicolas Chow, Saturday, 3 April 2010 at 9 a.m. sharp.

Yes, I would like to join the Pre-Auction Tour on Saturday, 3 April 2010. Please reserve for

- Members _____ places.
- Guests _____ places at HK\$100 each.

Name: _____ Mr/Mrs/Ms/Prof. Member: Yes/No
Tel: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Please make your cheque payable to "The Oriental Ceramic Society of Hong Kong Limited" and post it to the OCS at GPO Box 6202, Central, Hong Kong. For enquiries, please email or leave a voice mail message via the OCS Office on Tel: +852 2527 0696

*The event will be cancelled or postponed to a later date if Typhoon Signal no.8 or above is hoisted or if Black Rainstorm Warning is in force **one hour** before the event.*