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AUCTION OF EXCEPTIONAL WINES AND WINE EXPERIENCES BENEFITTING THE CITÉ DU VIN, BORDEAUX'S WINE MUSEUM, RAISES OVER £300,000 / €350,000 / \$380,000

Proceeds from the Unprecedented 100%-Sold Sale
– For which Sotheby's and the Cité du Vin Joined Forces –
Will Help to Develop the Cité du Vin's 2020 Cultural Programme



Credit: Mamie Boude / Cité du Vin / X-TU architects

LONDON / BORDEAUX, 28 November 2019 – An auction of exceptional wines and wine experiences has raised over £300,000 / €350,000 / \$380,000 for the Cité du Vin, Bordeaux's wine museum. The unprecedented sale – for which Sotheby's joined forces with the Cité du Vin – has raised funds to help develop the Cité du Vin's 2020 cultural programme, in support of the museum's mission to protect, celebrate and share wine's heritage with as wide an audience as possible. The 10-day online auction of 42 lots closed on Friday 22 November 2019 during a gala dinner in Hong Kong, hosted by Jeannie Cho Lee, MW, with the support of Peter Lam, President of the Hong Kong Tourism Board, during which an additional three lots were presented for sale in a live auction. By the time the evening ended, all 45 lots had been snapped up by buyers from Hong Kong to California.

Each winery and property featured in *Wine and Dine Experiences | Benefiting the Cité du Vin | Bordeaux* generously donated individual lots to the Cité du Vin, which in turn offered them for sale. The magnanimous hospitality of the winemakers, from some of the most world-famous properties around the world, included tours of private châteaux and overnight stays, exclusive dinners at châteaux and Michelin star restaurants, and a stunning selection of wines in a variety of formats, rare and special cuvées, and horizontal and vertical tastings.

Jamie Ritchie, Chairman, Sotheby's Wine, said: *"We are delighted to support the Cité du Vin for this very special sale, which saw bids coming in from all over the world from wine lovers eager to secure the opportunity to make the trip of their lifetimes. Ever since it opened, the Cité du Vin has brought a renewed energy to Bordeaux and the proceeds raised will play a vital role in sustaining that energy as it continues to focus the world's attention on the cultures and civilisations of millennia of wine history. With these unique experiences, the lucky winning bidders can now look forward to receiving the legendary hospitality of the extraordinary people behind the wines and gaining a unique perspective on the myriad elements that go into the making of them."*

Sylvie Cazes, President of the Foundation for the Culture and Civilizations of Wine – Cité du Vin, said: *"We are very pleased with the great success of this auction and we warmly thank all the wine estates and donors of these prestigious lots, as well as the Sotheby's Wine team which supported this auction and made it possible. This great result will allow the Foundation to carry out new cultural projects in 2020, such as the programming of special exhibitions like *Drinking with the Gods* (April 2020), and to go even further in its mission of safeguarding, protecting and passing on the cultural and universal heritage of wine to the widest audience."*

About Sotheby's Wine

Sotheby's Wine's annual worldwide sales reached an important new milestone in 2018, with sales significantly exceeding US\$100 million in a single year – for further details, please click [here](#). Sotheby's Wine auctions reached \$65 million worldwide in the first half of 2019, up 23% over the same period in 2018 and the highest spring season total since Sotheby's Wine auctions began in 1970. In Spring 2019, Sotheby's set a world record for any series of wine sales when a four-day series of auctions in Hong Kong brought a combined total of HK\$273.1m / US\$34.8m. A record for a private wine collection sold at auction was also set when the three-day sale of *Transcendent Wines* realised a total of HK\$233.6m / US\$29.8m.

About Sotheby's

Sotheby's has been uniting collectors with world-class works of art since 1744. Sotheby's became the first international auction house when it expanded from London to New York (1955), the first to conduct sales in Hong Kong (1973), India (1992) and France (2001), and the first international fine art auction house in China (2012). Today, Sotheby's has a global network of 80 offices in 40 countries and presents auctions in 10 different salesrooms, including New York, London, Hong Kong and Paris. Sotheby's offers collectors the resources of *Sotheby's Financial Services*, the world's only full-service art financing company, as well as the collection, artist, estate & foundation advisory services of its subsidiary, *Art Agency, Partners*. Sotheby's also presents private sale opportunities in more than 70 categories, including S|2, the gallery arm of Sotheby's Global Fine Art Division, and three retail businesses: Sotheby's Wine, Sotheby's Diamonds, and Sotheby's Home, the online marketplace for interior design.

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**Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium and are net of any fees paid to the purchaser where the purchaser provided an irrevocable bid.*

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About the Cité du Vin:

Located in Bordeaux, the Cité du Vin is a new generation cultural centre, unique in the world, where wine is presented in its cultural, civilizational, heritage and universal dimensions. A cultural facility, a tourist site and a place of life and outings for Bordeaux residents, the Cité du Vin showcases vineyards from around the world through a permanent tour, temporary exhibitions, wine culture workshops and numerous events. Managed and developed by the Foundation for Wine Culture and Civilisations, the Cité du Vin is accessible to the greatest possible number and is open to all. A spectacular journey around the world, across the ages, in all cultures! Opening hours & prices: lacityduvin.com

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