

SOTHEBY'S TO HOLD VINTAGE MOTORCYCLE SALE -- THE FIRST IN NORTH AMERICA

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1999

--Sotheby's Chicago "shifts gears" on the traditional auction, offering vintage motorcycles and bicycles--

CHICAGO - Sotheby's Chicago Managing Director, Larry Sirolli, announced today that Sotheby's will host its first vintage motorcycle and bicycle sale on Monday, September 13, 1999 in Chicago at their premises at 215 West Ohio Street. The auction will feature antique and classic motorcycles, including vintage bicycles and related memorabilia.

Sirolli, who has been with Sotheby's for 18 years and recently accepted the position as Managing Director in Chicago, stated "This is big news for Sotheby's and Chicago. The Midwest has always been a haven for cyclists and we're responding to the market by presenting the sale here. Motorcycles are popular across the country, and the truth is that they've always symbolized the spirit of freedom. We hope to capture the interest of loyal diehard collectors, as well as inspire a new audience to join in the auction opportunities."

The cornerstone of the premier event will be the motorcycles from the prestigious collection of the late Frederick G. Wacker, Jr., a prominent Midwest collector, including a rare 1922 Ricardo Triumph 550 with black, gray and green paint (est. \$8,000-\$10,000), a rare 1950 Vincent 1000 Custom in excellent original condition (est. \$15,000-\$20,000), and a red and black 1924 Harley-Davidson JD in excellent condition (est. \$18,000-\$22,000). Another private collector has consigned a barn fresh 1931 Indian Chief with aluminum tanks (est. \$12,000-\$18,000).

In 1997 Leslie Hindman Auctioneers, now Sotheby's Chicago, conducted an extensive sale in Chicago of the Schwinn Family bicycles. Similar Victorian "High Wheels" and Schwinn classic bikes will be included in the September sale.

Buzz Walneck of Walneck's Classic Cycle Trader added, "This sale will open up the market to a whole new group of potential cyclists and buyers. This is very exciting." Harley-Davidson Motor Company historian Dr. Martin "Marty" Jack Rosenblum claims, "Classic and vintage motorcycles either have souls or help us determine the quality of ours."

Details surrounding the groundbreaking auction will be forthcoming. All inquiries regarding consignments or the sale should contact Larry Sirolli or Anne Harvey at Sotheby's at 312-396-9599.

Further Information Available

Exhibition: September 6, 1999 10am-5pm to September 12, 1999

Sale: Monday, September 13, 1999 at 11am