

OPERA AT SYON 2016

in aid of
Children with Cancer UK



Auction Guide

The Auction

Wednesday 22nd June 2016

LOT 1

One week's work experience at leading matrimonial and family law solicitors, Vardags

Kindly donated by Ayesha Vardag

"Britain's Top Divorce Lawyer" was Ayesha Vardag's billing by the Law Society, New York's Huffington Post and the English national press. She has been similarly hailed as one of the "star lawyers making London the divorce capital of the world" and "the Diva of Divorce" and was voted "Woman of the Year" in the NatWest Everywoman awards. Vardags, her leading firm of hand-picked family and private client lawyers, was this year the only law firm to make the Sunday Times Fast Track 100 list of Britains' fastest growing companies.

With a team described by the legal press as "sheer intellect", the firm's work runs the gamut of serious high-net-worth domestic and cross-jurisdictional work, making law (as in their landmark Supreme Court prenuptial agreement victory in Radmacher or the Miss Malaysia/Laura Ashley boss case *Chai v Khoo*) and acting in the leading family cases of the day, involving diverse society from crown princes to footballers and heiresses to entrepreneurs, regularly covered in the press.

Vardags is offering a one week internship at the firm for an aspiring lawyer, keen to gain the right experience for a stellar CV. The intern will gain an insight into the way a high-end legal practice is run and experience working life at the cutting edge of matrimonial and family law. Vardags offices overlook St Paul's on Old Bailey. The candidate, who must be at least 16 years old, may take up this offer on mutually convenient dates before 31st May 2017.



LOT 2

Host a dinner party at home for up to 10 guests, prepared by top chef Briony Lewton

Kindly donated by Briony Lewton

Host a bespoke dinner party that your friends will remember for years to come! Choose a menu in consultation with chef Briony Lewton, known for using the freshest ingredients to create dishes of the highest quality. The meal will include canapés and three courses. Briony's regular clients include royalty, celebrities and prime ministers. She has also been responsible for our Opera at Syon picnics for 15 years!



The prize may be taken up on a mutually convenient date before 31st May 2017 (excluding the month of December) at a London location (within the M25) or in Berkshire. The cost of food is not included in the prize and should be settled directly with Briony Lewton at the time the prize is taken up.

LOT 3

A weeks fishing on the Don

Kindly donated by The Lord and The Lady Forbes

One week's fishing for two rods on the Castle Forbes water of the River Don in Aberdeenshire, Scotland. The prize includes bed and breakfast for two at Castle Forbes; dinner can be arranged at an extra cost. Dates are to be agreed with the owners and taken up before 31st May 2017. (The season for salmon fishing on the Don is from 11th February to 31st October; the trout fishing season is during the months of April to September). www.castle-forbes.com



LOT 4

Three days' work experience with Esther Eyre

Kindly donated by Esther Eyre

Esther Eyre has been designing contemporary, classic jewellery for over 20 years. Her designs are both beautiful and unusual and her pieces have been worn not only by members of the Royal Family, but also by celebrities such as Tilda Swinton and Drew Barrymore. An expert in period jewellery, Esther has worked on films including Shakespeare in Love and was commissioned to make an exquisite necklace for Gwyneth Paltrow.

This year Esther provided a number of pieces for Oscar nominees including Benjamin Cleary & Hollywood celebrity journalist Carly Steel.

Spend three days with Esther, gaining an insight into how a small jewellery workshop operates. The student will learn the rudiments of goldsmithing and will make something to take away. Any materials used such as metal or beads or pearls must be paid for by the student. The prize must be taken up on three consecutive days before 1st June 2017, subject to Esther's availability. The prize may not be re-auctioned. esthereyre.com



LOT 5

A boardroom lunch for 10 people at Christie's international headquarters in St James's

Kindly donated by Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, has sold fine art, furniture, jewellery and wine since James Christie conducted the first sale in London in 1766. Since then Christie's has continued to provide the perfect backdrop for the world's finest collections and greatest works of art



before their auction. Christie's moved headquarters in 1823 to 8 King Street, St. James's - still its global headquarters today. The lunch will be based on a set menu, served between 12.45pm and 3.00pm, to be arranged on a mutually convenient Monday to Friday before 31st December 2016. Also included is a behind the scenes tour of the sale on view, subject to availability on the chosen date.

LOT 6

One week at Casale Vardag, Molise, Southern Italy

Kindly donated by Ayesha Vardag

A collection of rural stone houses around a central, main house, sleeping 20 in total, each house with open fires, various comfortably furnished sitting, drawing and dining rooms, mostly en-suite bathrooms; all set around a 14 metre heated pool overlooking the property's vineyards, olive groves and truffle oaks in an unspoilt valley.



The hamlet is in the largely undiscovered rural province of Molise, a small region between Abruzzo and Puglia, with flowers, lakes and wild ponies on the UNESCO protected mountains, a buzzy little village up the mountain, delicious farm and woods-produced food in agro-turismo restaurants all around this leading truffle region. There is someone locally to help and advise, and maid service can be additionally arranged.

The property is perfect for family and friends, for a business conference with a private feel, or, using fewer of the houses, an intimate stay for a couple or one family. Rome and Naples are day trips (2hrs 15mins and 1hr 45mins respectively). It is set up for barbecues, table football, table tennis and dining outside, drinking the local Tintiglia and looking over the valley at sunset. This is a private home and not usually let to the public.



The week can be taken up on mutually convenient dates before 1st September 2017.

LOT 7

A reportage style family photo shoot with photographer, Katy McDonnell

Kindly donated by McKay Williamson, the premier creative agency for families

Having shot for Mini Boden, Crew clothing and Gap kids, Katy is one of the top children's fashion photographers in Europe, with clients in London and Paris. This is a rare opportunity to work with one of the best, spending two to three hours with Katy. Two prints and two Italian pewter frames are included in the prize.



The family can include up to two adults and four children. Katy will travel within a 20 mile radius of the studio in W10. Anything additional, more time, people or travel, may incur a fee. The shoot must be booked within three months and taken up by 31st May 2017. After the shoot, the images will be available to view, by appointment, at the McKay Williamson studio in W10. You are under no obligation to purchase further products, but should you wish to, we have a range of creative ideas. The prize is not redeemable for cash or images in connection with other projects. Previous winning bidders of this prize are not eligible.

LOT 8

A pair of cufflinks

Kindly donated by Latifa Kosta

Two Roman bronze coins from the 5th century, finely mounted with 0.81cts of extra white diamonds and set in 18K white gold, in an exclusive design by Nada Le Cavalier for Nourbel & Le Cavalier.



LOT 9

Bonbons earrings with matching ring

Kindly donated by Latifa Kosta

A pair of bright colored stone earrings consisting of four round cut, purple and green amethysts, with a total weight of 41.67cts, as well as two fresh water pearls, mounted in 18K yellow gold. This comes with a bright coloured, round cut amethyst (12.75cts) mounted in an 18K yellow gold ring. Both exclusively designed by Nada Le Cavalier for Nourbel & Cavalier.



DONATION

Help fund a brighter future for children with brain tumours

Brain tumours kill more children than any other cancer, accounting for a third of all childhood cancer deaths.

Their effects are devastating, even for those children who survive – with the tumour and the aggressive treatments causing permanent, life-limiting damage.

Your donation towards our Brain Tumour Initiative will help to ensure we have funds to support ALL of the projects recommended by our assessment panel and children like Blake.

Please help by making a donation:

• A **GOLD** donation of £500 • A **SILVER** donation of £300 • A **BRONZE** donation of £150

See the inside back cover for Blake's story and further information.



Blake

The Auction

Thursday 23rd June 2016

LOT 1

One week's work experience at leading matrimonial and family law solicitors, Vardags

Kindly donated by Ayesha Vardag

"Britain's Top Divorce Lawyer" was Ayesha Vardag's billing by the Law Society, New York's Huffington Post and the English national press. She has been similarly hailed as one of the "star lawyers making London the divorce capital of the world" and "the Diva of Divorce" and was voted "Woman of the Year" in the NatWest Everywoman awards. Vardags, her leading firm of hand-picked family and private client lawyers, was this year the only law firm to make the Sunday Times Fast Track 100 list of Britains' fastest growing companies. With a team described by the legal press as "sheer intellect", the firm's work runs the gamut of serious high-net-worth domestic and cross-jurisdictional work, making law (as in their landmark Supreme Court prenuptial agreement victory in Radmacher or the Miss Malaysia/Laura Ashley boss case *Chai v Khoo*) and acting in the leading family cases of the day, involving diverse society from crown princes to footballers and heiresses to entrepreneurs, regularly covered in the press.

Vardags is offering a one week internship at the firm for an aspiring lawyer, keen to gain the right experience for a stellar CV. The intern will gain an insight into the way a high-end legal practice is run and experience working life at the cutting edge of matrimonial and family law. Vardags offices overlook St Paul's on Old Bailey. The candidate, who must be at least 16 years old, may take up this offer on mutually convenient dates before 31st May 2017.

LOT 2

A hand finished etching (limited edition) by Christina Mamakos

Kindly donated by Christina Mamakos

Christina Mamakos received her MA from the Ruskin School of Fine Art at Oxford University, and her BA from Harvard University. She is currently an AHRC TECHNE funded PhD Researcher in Painting at the Royal College of Art, London. She has exhibited internationally and her work can be found in many public collections including the Royal Bank of Scotland (Pireaus GR), Deutsche Bank (Dubai UAE) and the Vorres Museum of Modern Art (Athens GR). Her research and work draw on the role and place of scientific inquiry in relation to art to explore ideas of consciousness and specifically our relationship to perception. More information can be found at her website www.mamakos.com. Our print is a mono print 30x30cm, matted and framed 50x50cm.



LOT 3

One week at Casale Vardag, Molise, Southern Italy

Kindly donated by Ayesha Vardag

A collection of rural stone houses around a central, main house, sleeping 20 in total, each house with open fires, various comfortably furnished sitting, drawing and dining rooms, mostly en-suite bathrooms; all set around a 14 metre heated pool overlooking the property's vineyards, olive groves and truffle oaks in an unspoilt valley.



The hamlet is in the largely undiscovered rural province of Molise, a small region between Abruzzo and Puglia, with flowers, lakes and wild ponies on the UNESCO protected mountains, a buzzy little village up the mountain, delicious farm and woods-produced food in agro-turismo restaurants all around this leading truffle region. There is someone locally to help and advise, and maid service can be additionally arranged.



The property is perfect for family and friends, for a business conference with a private feel, or, using fewer of the houses, an intimate stay for a couple or one family. Rome and Naples are day trips (2hrs 15mins and 1hr 45mins respectively). It is set up for barbecues, table football, table tennis and dining outside, drinking the local Tintiglia and looking over the valley at sunset. This is a private home and not usually let to the public. The week can be taken up on mutually convenient dates before 1st September 2017.

LOT 4

A five night stay for six people at Metsi Lodge, South Africa

Kindly donated by Mrs Marc Pereira

A five night stay for six people in the Waterberg Mountains, Northern Province, South Africa. The reserve is at 1,600m and malaria free. The fully-staffed lodge lies within a privately owned 100,000 acre game reserve, where all the Big Five (rhino, lion, buffalo, elephant and leopard) and many other types of game are to be seen. You will be looked after by a full-time, qualified Game Ranger and have sole use of a viewing vehicle. All meals are included; drinks will be passed on at cost. Dates are to be arranged with the owner, subject to availability, before 1st December 2017. Christmas and New Year holiday periods are strictly excluded from the prize. For further information on the lodge, visit www.metsilodge.com



LOT 5

A weekend for two at Churburg Castle in Italy

Kindly donated by The Count and The Countess Trapp

Spend a special weekend for two amongst the breathtaking mountain scenery of the Alto Adige in northern Italy, as guests of Count and Countess Trapp, in their 13th century medieval fortress. One of the mightiest and best preserved castles in the South Tyrol, the CHURBURG, which has been in the family for seven centuries, has been extensively enlarged over the years. During the second half of the 16th Century it was transformed into a rich Renaissance residence. Steeped in history, there are family portraits, tapestries, friezes and carvings at every turn. Visitors find an impressive Renaissance courtyard surrounded by arcades and the world's largest and most important private armoury, including the oldest suit of armour in existence today. The prize is a weekend (Friday noon until Sunday evening or Monday morning) as guests of Count Johannes and Countess Cecily Trapp



von Matsch. All drinks and meals are included. The weekend should be taken by mutual convenience, before the end of October 2016. www.churburg.com

LOT 6

A pair of cufflinks

Kindly donated by Latifa Kosta

Two Roman bronze coins from the 5th century, finely mounted with 1.05cts of sapphires in 18K white gold, in an exclusive design by Nada Le Cavalier for Nourbel & Le Cavalier.



LOT 7

Bonbons earrings with matching ring

Kindly donated by Latifa Kosta

A pair of bright colored stone earrings consisting of round cut blue topaze, purple and green amethysts with a total weight of 48.23cts, as well as two fresh water pearls mounted in 18K yellow gold. The ring features a bright colored round cut blue topaze (21.25cts) mounted in an 18K yellow gold ring. Both exclusively designed by Nada Le Cavalier for Nourbel & Cavalier.



LOT 8

A personal tour of Syon House for up to 22 people, with dinner in the private dining room

Kindly donated by Lady Julia Craig Harvey, by kind permission of His Grace The Duke of Northumberland

Syon House is the London home of the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland and has been for over 400 years, the last surviving ducal residence complete with its country estate in Greater London. It is a wonderful home, steeped in history, with fantastic paintings and furniture, and perhaps the finest Robert Adam interior in the country. Over the years, members of the Royal Family and numerous heads of state have been entertained in the private dining room and drawing room, surrounded by family portraits by artists including Gainsborough, Gilbert Stuart and Reynolds.

The tour will take approximately one to one and a half hours and will be led by Lady Julia Craig Harvey, sister of the current Duke of Northumberland, who grew up at Syon House and Alnwick Castle, the family home in Northumberland. It will include parts of the house not normally open to the public.

The date is to be agreed, subject to availability before the end of May 2017; normal hire conditions apply and Friday and Saturday evenings are excluded. Catering costs are payable in addition and directly to the caterer chosen from the list of those approved by Syon House. www.syonpark.co.uk



LOT 9

A masterclass in pastel portrait painting, for two people, with Basia Hamilton

Kindly donated by Basia Hamilton

Basia Hamilton's sitters include His Holiness Pope John Paul II, HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, HRH Princess Royal, HRH The Duke of Kent, HRH Prince Michael of Kent, HRH The Maharaja of Jodhpur, Margaux Hemingway, Buzz Aldrin and many others who together constitute 'the Hall of Fame' in her gallery. Art Critic Brian Sewell said: "...Hamilton is well within the swagger tradition of portraiture, her panache and bravura conjuring recollections of de Laszlo and Kennington..." Her work can be seen on her website www.basiahamilton.com

Basia Hamilton has kindly offered a morning or afternoon masterclass for two people, lasting



approximately three hours, at her studio in South Kensington. She will help to develop the observational and compositional skills required to paint a good likeness portrait and still life orchid in pastels. This should be taken up on a mutually convenient date by 30th June 2017.



25 Years

OPERA AT SYON

in aid of Children with Cancer UK

DONATION

Help fund a brighter future for children with brain tumours

Brain tumours kill more children than any other cancer, accounting for a third of all childhood cancer deaths.

Their effects are devastating, even for those children who survive – with the tumour and the aggressive treatments causing permanent, life-limiting damage.

A historic lack of investment in brain tumour research has hampered progress. To address this and increase the pace of progress, we launched our Brain Tumour Initiative in 2014. We have already awarded funding for four major new collaborative projects around the UK. Later this year we will award a further round of grants, this time focused specifically on the difficult issue of getting drugs into the brain, and to the tumour. This is one of the greatest barriers to successful treatment.

Your donation towards our Brain Tumour Initiative will help to ensure we have funds to support ALL of the projects recommended by our assessment panel, projects that will make a very real difference in the fight against childhood brain tumours. Please help by making a donation:

- A **GOLD** donation of £500
- A **SILVER** donation of £300
- A **BRONZE** donation of £150

Those contributing to this appeal will be offered the opportunity to visit one of the brain tumour projects at a date to be confirmed.



Blake

Blake was diagnosed with the brain tumour medulloblastoma when he was three years old. Since then he has been through brain surgery, high-dose chemo and radiotherapy and his disease has now been stable for a year and a half.

He has coped with so much and is fighting with everything he's got but unfortunately his doctors are not optimistic for the longer-term and his type of cancer is predicted to return aggressively. Mum Llian is more optimistic: *"Blake is the most amazingly strong, beautiful little boy, and he will beat this!"*

**If you would like to contribute to the work of the charity, please complete one of our donation forms and give it to a member of staff, or send it to:
Opera at Syon 2016, Children with Cancer UK,
51 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JQ**

Alternatively, to make a donation or for further information on the charity, please contact the Events team on:

T: 020 7404 0808

E: events@childrenwithcancer.org.uk

W: childrenwithcancer.org.uk





25 Years

OPERA AT SYON

in aid of Children with Cancer UK

Children with Cancer UK

51 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JQ

T: **020 7404 0808**

E: events@childrenwithcancer.org.uk

W: childrenwithcancer.org.uk

Children with Cancer UK. Registered Charity No. 298405.

A company limited by guarantee. Registered in England No. 4960054.

Registered office: 51 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JQ

