

# Oceana Hosts “*Love for the Oceans*” at Christie’s

Photos by: Helen Macchina Photography



Anthony Tutoni and Bettina Alonso



Cecile Abeille, May Skinner, Jim Simon and CeCe Coffin



Robert Keller, Mark Schwarz and Corey Finjar



Inna Nagibina and Peter Tcherepnine



Rodney Hilton and Sarah Beth Schrage



Virginia Rodriguez and Chad Soares



Fernanda Kellogg and Andy Sharpless

Oceana, the largest international organization focused solely on protecting the world’s oceans, recently hosted a reception and exclusive preview of Christie’s New York maritime art exhibit. Featured items included oil paintings, watercolors, prints, antique ship fittings, carvings, figureheads, instruments, models and ephemera. Silent auction items were also donated by Abaco Beach Resort & Boat Harbour, Martha Stewart, Tiffany & Co., TOUS® and West 57th Street by Hilton Club.

All proceeds from this high-class event, sponsored by Blue Fish Estate Bottled Wines, benefited the marine conservation efforts of Oceana. Attendees received a private tour of Christie’s maritime art exhibit and had the opportunity to learn more about the significance and history of each auction item, some dating as far back as the mid 18th century. Oceana CEO, Andrew Sharpless, also made a special presentation on Oceana’s critical work to protect the oceans for future generations.

“Everyone who attended our gathering at Christie’s helped Oceana’s efforts to bring our oceans back to the bountiful glory represented in some of the featured works of art,” said Sharpless.

Oceana’s work is becoming increasingly important as scientists now predict that our seafood supply could collapse before the middle of the century if excessive catches of ocean species continue at current rates.

A report by an international team of marine scientists, published in the journal *Science* (November 3rd, 2006), found that catches of 29 percent of wild populations of seafood have already dropped to less than 10 percent of their historic maximum.

To reverse the declining health of the world’s oceans, Oceana’s team of marine scientists, economists, lawyers and advocates focus on specific and concrete policy changes. Oceana’s campaigns seek to protect essential ocean habitat such as corals from destruction by bottom trawling; reduce the accidental killing of marine wildlife as bycatch from industrial scale commercial fishing; reduce fish contamination from mercury pollution; and eliminate government subsidies that promote over-fishing. To support Oceana’s efforts, visit [www.Oceana.org/support](http://www.Oceana.org/support).

Christie’s New York leads the international market for maritime collectibles and is the only major U.S. auction house to handle this category. To learn more about Christie’s maritime collection, visit: [www.Christies.com](http://www.Christies.com).