

THE DISTILLERS

*One of One*

**ULTRA-RARE WHISKY LOTS ANNOUNCED AS SOTHEBY'S AND THE  
DISTILLERS' CHARITY LAUNCH THE REMARKABLE  
DISTILLERS *ONE OF ONE* AUCTION**

**Over 40 extraordinary whiskies and experiences will soon be available  
at the first *One of One* Auction,  
the proceeds of which will support disadvantaged young people in Scotland**

The first Distillers '*One of One*' Auction to take place near Edinburgh on 3 December 2021



**LONDON, 5 October 2021** – Earlier this summer, The Distillers' Charity and Sotheby's announced a six-year partnership to host three biennial auctions of ultra-rare and unique Scotch whiskies and experiences under the name "The Distillers *One of One*". The first Distillers *One of One* auction – comprising one-off, never-to-be-repeated lots specially created and donated by companies from across the Scotch Whisky industry – will take place on Friday 3 December 2021. The exceptional lots are now being revealed for the first time and will range in estimates from around £1,500 upwards to £500,000, all to be offered without reserve. Each lot has been carefully selected to showcase the excellence in craftsmanship, innovation and value of Scotch Whisky.

For the most serious collectors seeking an opportunity to own a piece of liquid history, some truly astonishing releases have been made available. Of particular note, as the highest valued lot of the auction, with an estimate of £350,000-£500,000, is a Talisker Cask of Distinction 1978. Casks of Distinction are selected on account of their outstanding quality, and this is the first ever to be offered at auction, paired with a cask-end that has been turned into an original work of art by Turner Prize nominee Callum Innes. After further ageing in the cask for up to five more years, the whisky will be housed in very special bottles and wooden presentation boxes, featuring the cask-end artwork of Callum Innes; another first for Casks of Distinction.

William Grant & Sons is providing three lots from Glenfiddich, The Balvenie and Ladyburn, all exceeding fifty years of age. Glenfiddich's exceptional offering comprises four unique decanters – created especially for the auction

and housed in a bespoke presentation case – from the 1950s: 1955, 1957, 1958 and 1959. The estimate for this ultra-rare collector's piece is £220,000-350,000.

Beam Suntory are generously offering two lots, one from Bowmore, the other from Glen Garioch.

The Bowmore Onyx is an exceptionally rare and unique 51 Year Old single malt presented in a hand carved, bespoke black glass vessel, inspired by the terroir of the island home of Islay. Matured in a refill hogshead barrel from 1970, this whisky is bottled at 47% ABV, and is the first ever 51 Year Old released by Bowmore Distillery (estimate £100,000-180,000).

The Glen Garioch Cask lot features two full casks of whisky: the first, a 31-year-old cask from 1990; the second, an en primeur cask distilled in 2021 (estimate £100,000-150,000). The last time that Glen Garioch was distilled using direct fire on the stills was 31 years ago. The practice of direct firing is now being reintroduced and this will be the very first cask from the newly fired stills, making this a unique lot of historical significance.

Scotland's Oldest Working Distillery, The Glenturret, is providing an exclusive Lalique decanter bottling containing a unique Single Malt whisky selected from 1987 Sherry casks created by Master Blender, Bob Dalgarno. To house this precious liquid, Lalique have created a spectacular *One of One* hand-blown decanter in green crystal; the rarest that is made. Included in this lot (estimate £15,000-25,000) is an invitation to The Glenturret Distillery to enjoy a sensational gastronomic experience, led by Head Chef, Mark Donald at the newly opened Lalique Restaurant.

On offer from Gordon & MacPhail, the 126-year-old family business, is an unforgettable, bespoke visit to Elgin in Scotland. The lucky recipient will not only tour the historical warehouses but also sample from a selection of maturing Single Malt casks from the 1940s and 1950s. After choosing their favourite of the casks, one bottle of the whisky it contains will be filled into a unique decanter, with a second bottle provided for drinking. This once in a lifetime experience carries an estimate of £80,000-160,000.

The Distillers' Charity is the philanthropic arm of The Worshipful Company of Distillers. Proceeds from The Distillers' *One of One* auction will benefit The Youth Action Fund, which has been created by The Distillers' Charity focusing on supporting disadvantaged young people in Scotland, transforming their life chances and empowering them to create positive change in their lives and communities. Working with charity partners who offer education and training programmes, the fund will provide young people with opportunities to develop life skills, discover their values and be work-ready.

**Jonathan Driver, Master of The Worshipful Company of Distillers**, said: *"The generosity the Scotch Whisky industry has shown in coming together to create these truly unique lots available for this landmark sale has been humbling. Countless young people will benefit for years to come, thanks to the results of the auction. It is a testament to the spirit of the people who work within both the family-owned businesses, and global companies that have contributed to this momentous occasion. We cannot thank enough all those who have come on board with us and Sotheby's to help realise our mission, and to all the collectors who will be taking part on the day".*

**Jonny Fowle, Sotheby's Spirits Specialist**, said: *"This landmark sale, compiling such significant donations from so many world-renowned brands, shows the strength of community spirit in the Scotch Whisky industry. To bring this*

*number of exceptional whiskies to auction, from unique bottles to rare casks offers, and all for a good cause, is reason enough to raise a glass to everyone involved.”*

A full list of the lots available at [The Distillers One of One](#) is available on request.

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##### **About Sotheby's Wine**

Established in 1744, Sotheby's is the world's premier destination for art and luxury. Sotheby's promotes access, connoisseurship and preservation of fine art and rare objects through auctions and buy-now channels including private sales, e-commerce and retail. Our trusted global marketplace is supported by an industry-leading technology platform and a network of specialists spanning 40 countries and 50 categories, which include Contemporary Art, Modern and Impressionist Art, Old Masters, Chinese Works of Art, Jewelry, Watches, Wine and Spirits, and Interiors, among many others.

Sotheby's Wine's annual worldwide auction sales of wine and spirits totaled an outstanding \$92 million in 2020, with over 15,000 lots sold across 41 sales – a nearly 50% increase in the number of auctions held in 2019. Over \$60 million of wine and spirits were sold to online bidders in 2020 versus \$28 million in 2019, with 85% of all lots offered finding online buyers. Demonstrating continued strength in Asia, Sotheby's led the market in the region for the third consecutive year, with over 70% of the total bid amount in all Wine and Spirits sales attributed to collectors in Asia.

Sotheby's Wine's has had the privilege of auctioning numerous record-breaking wines and spirits in recent years, with 2020 alone witnessing new world auction records for any bottle of Japanese whisky, any bottle of whisky produced by the Dalmore Distillery, as well as any bottle of Cognac. Sotheby's Wine currently holds the world records for any whisky collection ever sold at auction, any private wine collection ever sold at auction, the most expensive bottle of wine ever sold at auction and the most expensive bottle of spirits ever sold at auction.

In addition to auction, Sotheby's Wine launched a retail business in 2010. With a retail store located in Sotheby's New York headquarters and e-commerce at [www.sothebyswine.com](http://www.sothebyswine.com), Sotheby's Wine offers a carefully curated selection of wines from the world's most prestigious producers and important regions. Expertly assembled by our experienced specialists, the selection is built upon lasting relationships with winemakers from across the globe, with bottles that are ready for immediate consumption, in addition to investment-worthy wines from highly sought-after vintages. A second retail location opened in Sotheby's Hong Kong galleries in 2014.

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

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### **About The Distillers' *One of One***

Launched in 2021, the Distillers' *One of One* is a biennial series of auctions of Scottish whisky in aid of disadvantaged young people in Scotland. Led by The Distiller's Charity, the philanthropic arm of The Worshipful Company of Distillers, and in partnership with Sotheby's, the Scotch Whisky industry has gathered together to support philanthropy. Participating distilleries are donating ultra-rare whisky and experiences for sale at auction aiming to raise in excess of £1 million during the initial 3 December 2021 auction.

In order to help transform the life chances of young people in Scotland post pandemic, The Distillers' Charity has created the Youth Action Fund. The proceeds from the Distillers' *One of One* auction will be disbursed from the fund to a number of charities that focus on empowering Scotland's young adults to create positive change in their lives and communities. Sotheby's will also donate a portion of their buyer's premium from the auction to The Distillers' Charity.

### **About The Worshipful Company of Distillers**

The Worshipful Company of Distillers (The Distillers) is an historic City Livery Company with a proud history and 21<sup>st</sup> century relevance. Established originally, to monitor and regulate commercial distilleries within a 21-mile radius of The City of London, The Distillers have changed with the times. Still at the heart of the distilling industry the focus is now very much on philanthropy and fellowship.

Today, the principal activity is to support relevant charitable causes, underpinned by giving back amongst the Livery, recognising the value of time and talent as well as money. Beyond this philanthropic scope, The Distillers is at the heart of the spirits industry, by inspiring the craft, understanding and enjoyment of distilled products through industry championship and fellowship.

From its formation as a corporation by Royal Charter in 1638, The Distillers were raised to the status of Livery Company in 1672, the 350th anniversary of this is in 2022. There are 110 Livery Companies in The City of London who play an active role in the life of The City.

### **About The Distillers' Charity**

The Distillers' Charity (registered no. 1193683) is the philanthropic arm of The Worshipful Company of Distillers. The Charity's vision is to make a difference especially to young people, and those within the distilled spirits trade, helping them to reach their full potential, improve their life chances and make a positive contribution to their communities. Distillers' Charity mission is manifested through three distinctive grant-making areas:

*Vocational Training & Education:* to provide educational and development support to new and recent entrants to the UK spirits trade, encouraging high standards of distilling practice and service.

*Livery & City giving:* to fulfill our wider civic duties as a Livery, supporting the Lord Mayor's Appeal, the Master's charity and other good causes aligned with our vision.

*Youth Action Fund:* created by The Distillers' Charity to use proceeds from The Distillers *One of One* auctions to support young people in Scotland, especially from disadvantaged backgrounds, to reach their potential and make a positive contribution to their communities.

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