

Mail Stop 4561

December 20, 2006

**Via U.S. Mail and Fax (212) 606-7107**

Mr. William S. Sheridan  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
Sotheby's Holdings, Inc.  
1334 York Ave.  
New York, NY 10021

RE: **Sotheby's Holdings, Inc.**  
**Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005**  
**Filed March 16, 2006**  
**File No. 1-09750**

Dear Mr. Sheridan:

We have reviewed the above referenced filing and have the following comments. Where indicated, we think you should revise address these comments in future filings. If you disagree, we will consider your explanation as to why our comment is inapplicable or a future revision is unnecessary. Please be as detailed as necessary in your explanation. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure. After reviewing this information, we may raise additional comments.

Please understand that the purpose of our review process is to assist you in your compliance with the applicable disclosure requirements and to enhance the overall disclosure in your filing. We look forward to working with you in these respects. We welcome any questions you may have about our comments or on any other aspect of our review. Feel free to call us at the telephone numbers listed at the end of this letter.

**Exhibits 31.1 and 31.2**

1. In future filings, when identifying the individual at the beginning of the certification, please do not include the title of the certifying individual.
2. In future filings please ensure that your certifications follow the exact form presented in Item 601 of Regulation S-K. For example, it is inappropriate to replace the word "registrant" with "Company", nor should you delete the words "(the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report)" from paragraph 4(d) or "(or persons performing the equivalent functions)" from the introductory language in paragraph 5.

Mr. William S. Sheridan  
Sotheby's Holdings, Inc.  
December 20, 2006  
Page 2

\* \* \* \*

Please respond to these comments within 10 business days or tell us when you will provide us with a response. Please furnish a letter that keys your responses to our comments.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes all information required under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that they have provided all information investors require for an informed investment decision. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

In connection with responding to our comments, please provide, in writing, a statement from the company acknowledging that

- the company is responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing;
- staff comments or changes to disclosure in response to staff comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

In addition, please be advised that the Division of Enforcement has access to all information you provide to the staff of the Division of Corporation Finance in our review of your filing or in response to our comments on your filing.

You may contact William Demarest, Staff Accountant, at (202) 551-3432 or me at (202) 551-3486 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Daniel L. Gordon  
Branch Chief