



## 60-SECONDS WITH:

### THOMAS DUMONT KC KING'S COUNSEL RADCLIFFE CHAMBERS



- Q** Imagine you no longer have to work. How would you spend your weekdays?
- A** Have to work? Please! With a glass of elegant cava eating tapas with my wife at Pizarro at the Royal Academy. Or at Lords, for the First day of the Test match, with a couple of old friends.
- Q** What do you see as the most important thing about your job?
- A** Helping people to find solutions, and to maintain their faith in humanity (and lawyers).
- Q** What motivates you most about your work?
- A** The sheer fascination of human life: its drama, its truths and its lies.
- Q** What is one work related goal you would like to achieve in the next five years?
- A** Win my next case. You are only as good as your next case. My work goals involve my clients, not me.
- Q** What has been the best piece of advice you have been given in your career?
- A** Polish your shoes – before I advised three generals and two colonels.
- Q** What is the most significant trend in your practice today?
- A** Challenging trustees' decisions.
- Q** Who has been your biggest role model in the industry?
- A** I don't do role models – but Terry Etherton is the complete package: Commonwealth Games gold medalist, refused to compete in the Olympics over the Russian invasion of Afghanistan, consummate silk, excellent judge, and as the red tops said, openly gay.
- Q** What is one important skill that you think everyone should have?
- A** See things through another's eyes
- Q** What cause are you passionate about?
- A** Species extinction
- Q** Where has been your favorite holiday destination and why?
- A** The Lycian Coast. The ancient Greek ruins take your breath away, as does the view from the Yediburunlar Lighthouse. Go there!
- Q** What book do you recommend for everyone to read and why?
- A** Brensham Village, by John Moore. An elegy for an almost vanished England
- Q** Dead or alive, which famous person would you most like to have dinner with, and why?
- A** Thais of Athens. She was a lover of Alexander and inspiration for the party that resulted in Persepolis being burned to the ground. Wife of Ptolemy, so Queen of Egypt and ancestor of Cleopatra. Alexander "liked to keep Thais with him". Good enough recommendation.

