
MICHAAN'S AUCTIONS

Auctioneers & Appraisers

PRE SALE PRESS RELEASE!

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Auction:
Estate Auction
Featuring fine art, decorative arts, Asian art and jewelry
July 7 at 10am

Previews:
July 5 - 7

Location:
Michaan's Auctions
2751 Todd Street
Alameda, CA 94501
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July Brings August Gay Painting to Auction

*Jewelry features timepiece from celebrity jeweler Chris Aire,
Asian highlights classic Chinese inkstone, Decorations a statuesque Art Deco style
bronze*

Over 160 private collection and estate selections comprise the Fine Art Department's July offerings. Artworks are primarily from 19th and 20th century American and European artists, with oil paintings, watercolors, serigraphs, etchings and lithographs handsomely represented. Many international works make an appearance as well, with Indonesian, Brazilian, Moroccan, Spanish, Ukrainian, Turkish and Indian artists providing a diverse collection to bidders this month.

A sale highlight lies in August Gay's (1890-1949) "Mission San Luis Rey de Francia" (lot 576, \$8,000-12,000). His signature use of a bright color palette brings life to the image, while conveying his innate sense of color. Gay was born in Rabou, France and immigrated to Alameda, California as a young boy. Gay helped form the painting group the "Society of Six." The band of painters were active in the Bay Area and shared an appreciation of Fauvist color sensibilities. Shortly after his death, Gay began to receive national recognition for his work. His pieces have been exhibited at the San Francisco Art Association, the Beaux Arts Gallery and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

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A Chris Aire timepiece highlights over 125 jewelry lots in July, including but not limited to, gemstones, jades, pearls and Native American pieces. Aire is largely known as a custom jeweler and exotic watch maker to some of the most prominent names in popular American culture. His clients include hip hop mogul Jay Z and singers Rihanna and Celine Dion, as well as rapper 50 Cent. His jewelry pieces have been worn by A-list celebrities such as Angelina Jolie, Muhammad Ali, Halle Berry, Will Smith and Ellen DeGeneres. The timepiece for auction is a blackened steel chronograph wristwatch, fashioned in Aire's signature opulent style. Signed 'Aire' (lot 526, \$4,000-6,000).

Highlighting approximately 100 lots of Asian artworks, decorative items, textiles, books and scholar's objects is a classic inkstone from the 19th century. The piece is traditionally shaped, decorated by carved ruyi clouds, lingzhi fungus and a single bat to symbolize longevity. The decorative carvings help form the well, an instrumental component in the production of the ink. An ink stick was ground upon the main platform of the inkstone, while fresh water was kept in the small area designated as the well. As the water was combined with the tiny soot particles fresh ink was made, with its intensity controlled by the user. This quintessential inkstone will be sold as lot 329 at an auction estimate of \$300-500.

The Furniture and Decorative Arts Department features diverse collections to bid on in the July sale. Silver lots include makers such as Gorham, Georg Jensen, Royal Danish, Tuttle and Wallace. Bronze sculpture and figures take many forms, including an offering of a pair of bronze birds from Moignez and Pautrout. A unique collection of literature includes the complete works of William Shakespeare, an international library of famous literature, a group of Norwegian history books and novels and reports of the Washington committees of the House of Representatives circa 1855.

A statuesque Art Deco style bronze nude is highlighted amongst decorative items in the sale (lot 774). The maiden depicted strikes an artful, elegant pose as she leans upon one knee while raising a small sphere in the palm of her right hand. The young beauty holds a sideward gaze and serene smile, with her wavy hair adorned by an ornate headdress. The bronze is affixed to a green marble base that measures approximately 8 1/2 inches in width by 15 1/2 inches in length. At its tallest point the entire piece measures approximately 23 1/2 inches in height. The featured bronze will be offered in the July estate sale at an auction estimate of \$800-1,200.

The illustrated auction catalog will be available for review at www.michaans.com. Previews open at Michaan's Auctions on July 5th and continue to the 7th, the day of sale. For general information please call (510) 740-0220 ext. 0 or e-mail info@michaans.com. Michaan's Auctions is located at 2751 Todd Street, Alameda, CA 94501.

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About Michaan's Auctions

Michaan's Auctions is a leading full service auction house on the West Coast. Specializing in the appraisals and sale of antiques and fine art, Michaan's has specialists in the fields of Furniture and Decorative Arts, Modern, Contemporary Art, European and American Paintings and Prints, Jewelry and Asian Works of Art.

Established in 2002, Michaan's Auctions holds up to thirty sales each year attracting a broad base of buyers and consignors from all over the world. With one of the largest facilities in Northern California and the Bay Area's lowest buyers premium Michaan's offers buyers and sellers the opportunity to preview and bid on many unique and desirable property. Some of these pieces realized world record prices. In 2005 A.D.M. Cooper's oil painting, Three Graces 1915, sold for a record \$21,060 and an Eduard Gaertner oil, German City Street Scene 1831, sold for \$266,000.

Michaan's has built its reputation on its ability to accept single items, groups or entire estates with its "no risk consignment policy" free of hidden fees and charges. Michaan's specialists are dedicated to staying current on the latest issues and developments in the market and are committed to providing personalized and professional attention throughout the entire auction process.

For a full listing of upcoming auctions or to view a complete catalog, please visit www.michaans.com.