
MICHAAN'S AUCTIONS

Auctioneers & Appraisers

PRE SALE PRESS RELEASE!

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Auction:

Asian Decorative Arts
April 7, 2014, 10am

Previews:

April 4 – 6 and by appointment

Location:

Michaan's Auctions
2751 Todd Street
Alameda, CA 94501
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Michaan's Spring Season Ushers in Asian Decorative Arts Auction

Michaan's April 7, 2014 Asian Decorative Arts Auction presents a comprehensive representation of works, including but not limited to, Chinese paintings, jade and hardstone carvings, silk textiles, cloisonné enamel wares and highly decorative ceramics. Approximately 300 lots will be offered from both private and public collection sources, providing exciting bidding opportunities from a range of collector worthy genres.

Over 30 fine painting lots will be sold, primarily from Chinese artists. The lot selection includes calligraphy, fan paintings, hanging scrolls and album collections. Wang Yachen's (1894-1983) "Birds and Prunus" highlights this section of the sale at an estimate of \$1,500-2,000. The ink and color on paper work is executed in quite a large format at 36 x 23 1/4 inches and is dated to 1963. The artwork was acquired directly from the artist shortly after completion and it has continually remained within the same private family collection. The piece beautifully reflects Yachen's ability to adapt to his subject matter, both in reflecting it as well as capturing its essence. A trio of birds amongst new prunus blossoms is softly and tenderly painted, communicating the fresh and gentle arrival of spring. Wang Yachen held posts as the Dean of Studies at Xinhua Art School and was President at Xinhua Normal School of Fine Art. He also formed an art collective known as the "Silent Society" in 1963 in Shanghai along with artists such as Xu Beihong, Yan Wenliang and Zhu Qizhan. Two additional lots by Wang Yachen will also be made available to bidders in the sale.

Fine silk textiles are highlighted by a brocade purple ground dragon motif robe crafted for

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nobility. The late Qing dynasty robe remains in lovely condition with its original materials intact. The piece depicts a lively scene of nine five-clawed golden dragons in pursuit of flaming pearls amongst colored, swirling clouds. Auspicious Buddhist and Taoist symbols are woven throughout the robe, with eight symbols depicted from each religion. Crashing waves and a multicolored lishui border complete the skirt of the hand loomed robe, to be offered at an estimate of \$2,000-3,000. A similar robe was presented in 2013 in Michaan's October Asian Decorative Arts Auction. Featured as a robe trio grouped in a singular lot, the pieces commanded a price realized of \$8,850 (lot 2174, \$500-700).

Strong overseas interest will undoubtedly be found for an amber and jadeite bead court necklace in the sale. The 19th century necklace consists of one hundred and twelve round amber beads interspersed by three larger jadeite beads. Historically, these pieces were worn by nobility for use in Buddhist prayer. Worn by both prince and princess alike, the court necklace's material denoted rank and stature. The beads were fashioned in jadeite, porcelain, ivory, amber and pearl, with amber ranking high and white pearl understood as the pinnacle. The amber and jadeite bead court necklace will be offered at an auction estimate of \$2,000-3,000.

The illustrated auction catalog will be posted online at www.michaans.com when it becomes available. Previews open at Michaan's Auctions on April the 4th until 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.

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

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