
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
April 11

Previews:
April 4 -5 & 10
and by appointment

Location:
Michaan's Auctions
2751 Todd Street
Alameda, CA 94501

April Auction Property Charms with Whimsy and Prominence

Shining brilliantly amongst April's multi-stone jewelry offerings is a classic Tiffany & Co. solitaire diamond ring at an estimate of \$7,000-9,000 (lot 126). The round brilliant-cut diamond of an approximate weight of 1.40 carats is simply set in a polished platinum band mounting. The original Tiffany & Co. box, certification and folder also accompany the piece at auction. Tiffany's storied legacy is closely tied to its exceptional diamonds. Founder Charles Lewis Tiffany's passion for the most beautiful diamonds in the world led to his moniker of "The King of Diamonds." This legacy has undoubtedly carried on, showing its strength during this year's awards season. Whether it was Golden Globe winner Amy Adams (multiple pieces including Metro), Julia Roberts at the Screen Actors Guild Awards (Masterpieces collection), nominated actress Reese Witherspoon at the EE British Academy Film Awards (Metro/Lucida) or Emma Stone wearing striking diamond encrusted 1940s inspired cuffs at the 87th Academy Awards (Blue Book collection), Tiffany diamonds continue to dazzle on the most prestigious of red carpets.

The Asian Department will present over 80 lots at auction, highlighted by a 20th century decorative grouping perfect for the ushering in of spring (lot 216, \$2,000-3,000). Of the two gilt-silver containers is a cylindrical tea caddy of a fine mesh overlay

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with numerous applied decorative motifs. Curling filigree tendrils and Chinese characters surround dainty enamelwork of a largely blue and green color scheme. An encircling jadeite bangle as well as coral and turquoise cabochons completes the piece. Also in the lot is a wonderfully decorated lidded, globular form container. This vessel is also of a fine metal mesh body, but this time flourishing with applied decorations of canary birds perched upon blooming cherry blossom branches. Similarly hued flowering branches surround the scene, with coral and turquoise cabochons delightfully dotting the lid. The enamelwork on this piece is exceptionally painted, with the flowers and foliage in softly graduating colors, juxtaposed by the vibrant yellow and green tones painted upon the birds.

Many substantial artists from a range of genres will be represented in the April sale. Offerings are seen from the likes of Paul Cezanne, Alexandre Renoir, Toulouse Lautrec, Victor Vasarely and Carl Sammons. However, an ethereal Mary Louise Snowden (b. 1952) highlights the sale with a bronze titled "Meteorite" (lot 321, \$2,000-3,000). The sculpture and black marble base measures approximately 50 inches in height by 12 inches in depth, as well as in width at the widest point. All of the depicted figures bear a silver toned varnish, with a central male nude stretched vertically in the middle. The figure appears to have morphed from a swirling, naturalistic environment of a moss green patina. Three additional hanging figures flank him, with their flaccid bodies hanging upside down around him. The original sculpture holds an artist signature and stamp denoting "4/100" upon the back of the scene. Snowden's artistic roots run deep, as she is the daughter of renowned sculptor George Holburn Snowden, N.A. When her father won the Prix de Rome of 1926, he received thirty-eight sculpting tools that once belonged to none other than Auguste Rodin, in which she inherited upon her father's death. She once said, "I'm not the product of an art school, but of a life immersed in art." At the age of four she would watch her father sculpt and by the age of nine, she began working in clay alongside him. She has received both national and international awards and acclaim, with her work seen publically in the Main Altar of the \$200 million downtown Los Angeles Cathedral as well as in a group of sculpted angels on display at Los Angeles' Cathedral's Visitors Center.

April's most prestigious clock is found a Chinese export mother-of-pearl inlaid double fusee bracket timepiece with charming automaton figure (lot 568, \$7,000-9,000). Sitting on bulbous brass feet, this beautifully handcrafted clock bears many ornate design schemes. Five pinecone finials top a darkly finished hardwood body, generously inlaid with branching mother-of-pearl vines. Also quite lovely is a carved crest of a fanning peacock motif that bears inlay fashioned as likeminded feathers. The clock face is housed behind a windowed door, whose look is kept simple in classic black Roman numerals. The clock face is then surrounded by four applied brass floral

MICHAAN'S AUCTIONS

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appliqués, topped by a delightful hand painted scene of various birds in a natural environment. A small figurine of an Asian scholar, who comes to life when the clock strikes 12:00, cleverly parts this scene. The clock is accompanied by a revolving mother-of-pearl inlaid stand as well as an original key. The clock's measurements are approximately 28 ½ inches in height by 14 inches in width, with a depth of approximately 8 inches at the widest point.

The illustrated auction catalog will be posted online at www.michaans.com when it becomes available. Previews for the April Estate Auction will be held on the 4th, 5th, 10th and on the day of sale, Saturday, April 11, 2015. 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 www.michaans.com.