
MICHAAN'S AUCTIONS

Auctioneers & Appraisers

PRE SALE PRESS RELEASE!

Press Office Contact!
Talesa Santos
(510) 740-0220 x 116

Auction:
Estate Auction
Featuring fine art, decorative arts, Asian art and jewelry
January 4

Previews:
January 2 - 4
and by appointment

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

Queen Elizabeth "Approved" Jewelry Suite Highlights Michaan's Premiere Auction of 2015

Additional features include huanghuali element Asian abacus, Robert Kipness's "Vista" and "Love Apple" Americana quilt

A one-of-a-kind jewelry suite holding quite a regal story highlights January's gemstone offerings. The sapphire, diamond and 18 karat white gold ring and earrings were custom made for the consignor's mother, a socialite and one time member of the United States diplomatic core. After her jewelry designs were brought to light by Laykins Jewelers in the late 1940s/early 1950s, she wore the suite to an event that was also attended by Queen Elizabeth. As the Queen shook her hand, she glanced at the medallion-like cocktail ring upon her finger and humorously inquired if those were her crown jewels. The unique ring broke the ice between the two, making it the conversation piece of the moment. The ring, appearing almost as a jewel encrusted shield, holds sapphires of a total approximate weight of 20.25 carats (lot 095, \$1,800-2,000) and the earrings, of a straight line design, carry an approximate total sapphire weight of 20.00 carats (lot 096, \$1,500-2,000).

Many noteworthy lots will be available to the bidding public from the Asian Department in the categories of decorative items, textiles and porcelains. An unusual find is seen in a mixed metal lion plaque necklace, playfully decorated by hanging beads (including coral) and various decorative charms (lot 187, \$500-700). Also quite

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charming is a realistically fashioned, articulated copper Japanese crayfish (lot 174, \$1,500-2,000) and a pair of rosewood panels with mother-of-pearl inlay decoration that stand approximately 70 ¼ inches in height by 10 inches in width (lot 162, \$800-1,200). However, a classic abacus with a custom made twist highlights the department's sale at an estimate of \$300-500 (lot 204). The Chinese calculator features eleven columns of circular huanghuali counting beads, in a naturally beautiful, purple hued tone. The abacus was then converted into a desktop accessory, held by a framed rosewood stand of custom proportions.

European and American artworks in the January 2015 estate auction bear many collectible pieces of a monochromatic nature. Popular western artist and San Leandro, California native Edward Borein (1872-1945) will be represented in three grayscale etchings in the sale. "Mission San Antonio du Padua" (lot 262, \$1,000-1,500), "Buckskin and Feathers" (lot 263, \$1,500-2,500) and "Little Bucking Horse" (lot 264, \$800-1,200) offer a trio of western images in the January sale. Borein, who was known to travel among Indian tribes, was also friends with Charles Russell, Will Rogers and Theodore Roosevelt. Painter and printmaker Robert Kipness (b. 1931) provides yet another representation of a monochromatic depiction in his oil painting titled "Vista" (lot 277, \$4,000-6,000). Recognized for his vistas that incorporate both natural and architectural elements, Kipness's meticulous technique of specific, controlled strokes creates soft filtered, stylized images. Featured in over two hundred solo shows, an exhibition of his work was selected to reopen the New Orleans Museum of Art in 2006. He has also been represented in the permanent New York collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art to name a few. "Vista" has an approximate sight measurement of approximately 34 by 40 inches and comes complete with a certificate of authenticity from Merrill Chase Galleries.

Assorted textiles will present many lots of quality to bidders as well. Rugs and carpets will be made available in 14 lots, with estimates ranging from a low of \$200 to a high of \$1,500. Of note from the selection are a Khotan rug of a burnt orange ground (lot 363, \$800-1,200) and a vibrant, multicolored Bakhtiari rug measuring approximately 4 feet 11 inches by 6 feet 10 inches (lot 366, \$600-800). Three highly collectible, early American quilts displaying beautiful handicraft work are also anticipated to peak interest. From a private estate collection is a delightful cotton appliqué "Love Apple" quilt, to be sold at an estimate of \$500-700 (lot 429). The piece was made in 1861 by the consignor's paternal grandmother in Mt. Auburn, Indiana at the tender age of fourteen. A spray of ten love apples is stitched upon each side, running lengthwise upon the quilt. Each love apple is fashioned as a bulbous, crowned, yellow and red fruit, perched upon sage and green colored stems and leaves. A simple red border encases the applied, blossoming love apples, all set upon a background of repeating, quilted wreath forms. The piece measures approximately 74 inches in width by 91 ½ inches in length and will be accompanied at auction by a circa 1848 "Rose of Sharon" quilt (lot

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430, \$500-700) and a Hawaiian quilt to be sold as lot 431 (\$500-800). These pieces serve as a wonderful glimpse into the history of quilting in the United States, providing a slice of “apple pie” Americana from a bygone time.

The illustrated auction catalog will be posted online at www.michaans.com when it becomes available. Previews for the January Estate Auction will be held on January 2nd to January 4th, 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 www.michaans.com.