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# MICHAAN'S AUCTIONS

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Auctioneers & Appraisers

## PRE SALE PRESS RELEASE!

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

Auction:  
Estate Auction  
Featuring fine art, decorative arts, Asian art and jewelry  
March 7

Previews:  
February 28 – March 1  
and by appointment

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

### **“The Gospels of Henry the Lion” Roars Into March Auction**

*Additional March highlights include Art Deco brooch, Asian hand warmers, Raymond Han oil painting and authentic WWII Military ticker tape*

Over 100 multistone March jewelry lots will feature 9 containing sapphire elements. Numerous brooches and rings are amongst the sapphire picks, with complimentary accents such as diamonds and cultured pearls. The pieces range in estimations at a low of \$300 to a high of \$1,500, with a lone period sapphire offering highlighted as lot 108 (\$800-1,000). The Art Deco diamond, sapphire, platinum and 14 karat white gold brooch features a tapering, bar form body. A straight line of eleven square cut sapphires is sandwiched inbetween two rows of round cut diamonds. The bar form is then linked upon each end with a stylized, floral motif, openwork, diamond encrusted decoration. The brooch remains in beautifully pristine condition and comes complete with an original fitted, leather period box.

A highly collectible lot of four 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century metal hand warmers highlight over 50 Asian lots in March (lot 159, \$400-600). These hand warmers were crafted for the wealthy to use as personal, portable heaters. Often hidden under the long sleeves of fine robes as they were held, many of these hand warmers are decidedly decorative in their own right. Called “shou lu” in China, these convenient apparatuses glowed with lit coals whose heat became retained within the metal body. They were used for many centuries in both China and Japan and are now largely collected for decorative

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purposes. Their open work designs that served in both form and function continue to provide an artistic element that remains desirable to today's collector. The lot for sale contains three circular pieces and one rectangular example, with the largest measuring approximately 5 ½ inches in width.

From a private San Francisco estate collection is an oil painting by Raymond Han titled "Yannis Nude #2" at an estimate of \$4,000-6,000 (lot 242). The stark depiction of a seated male nude puts precedence upon the human form, as well as on a subtle display of emotion. The subject is seated in profile against a plain grey wall, as his pensive, side gaze faces toward the viewer. The cool toned, photorealist quality evident in the piece is a trademark of the artist, whose career has been dominated by minimalist still life paintings executed in the same vein. Museum, institute and gallery representation alike have displayed Han's works, with current representation of the artist held by The Jason McCoy Gallery in New York City. "Yannis Nude #2" measures approximately 48 x 40 inches in sight, to be sold in Michaan's estate auction of Saturday, March the 7<sup>th</sup>.

Michaan's Furniture & Decorative Arts Department will present numerous auction categories under its umbrella in the March sale. Décor, rugs, carpets, fine silver, ceramics, glassworks and ethnographic art pieces will all make an appearance at auction. However, one exceptional book highlights their portion of the sale as lot 438. "Das Evangelier Heinrichs de Lowen – The Gospels of Henry the Lion" stands as a beautiful example of master bound print work (\$5,000-7,000). This particular edition contains fifty illuminated manuscript pages, gorgeously rendered by hand in color as well as in applied gold leaf. Numerous page breaks contained in the novel bear full-page illustration, with many presented as whimsical religious imagery. The red leather bound edition is marked 573 out of 900, remaining in its original, complete state as well as in wonderfully crisp condition. The cover is handsomely finished by a substantial brass decoration depicting intertwining vines, with the book's storage made complete by a textile covered hard case. An original manuscript of "The Gospels of Henry the Lion" stands as one of the most expensive books ever sold at auction at £8,140,000 (a current USD conversion of approximately \$12,234,456). The record was held until 1994, achieved at Sotheby's London on December 6, 1983.

A one-of-a-kind, history-marking relic will also be offered at auction. The framed, two-piece World War II ticker tape from August 14, 1945 details the exact moment of Japan's surrender (lot 488, \$15,000-20,000). The first segment of the ticker tape describes the forthcoming surrender. The second then communicates the military events of the day, such as several small aircraft and medium bombers hitting the Japanese. The official closing statement announcing Japan's surrender immediately follows this. This ticker tape is especially rare and valued, as it precisely marks the exact moment in history when the official announcement of the defeat of the Japanese Empire was transmitted over military wire back to the United States. The radio code on the

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tape indicates the transmission came from the No. 303 Polish Fighter Squadron, one of sixteen Polish squadrons in the Royal Air Force at that time. The Dixon, CA relay station where the message was then received was one of four official military receiving channels. In this instance, the Dixon station was designated as the prime receiver for all Asian origin transmissions. This initial wire was then sent to various military stations and was the communication that was most likely how President Truman first learned of the surrender announcement. On the same day this announcement was made, more than one thousand Japanese soldiers stormed the Imperial Palace in an attempt to prevent the transmission.

The illustrated auction catalog will be posted online at [www.michaans.com](http://www.michaans.com) when it becomes available. Previews for the March Estate Auction will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup>, March 1<sup>st</sup>, March 6<sup>th</sup> and the day of sale, March 7, 2015. For general information please call (510) 740-0220 ext. 0 or e-mail [info@michaans.com](mailto: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](http://www.michaans.com).