

Michaan's Auctions  
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**PRE-SALE PRESS RELEASE**

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Auction:  
Estate Auction  
Sunday, January 3, 2010, 12pm

Preview:  
January 1 - 3

Location:  
Alameda, CA

**UNUSUAL DESIGNER BROOCH 1 OF MANY GEMS AT MICHAANS**

ALAMEDA, Calif. – An Ed Weiner gold pendant brooch adorned with gemstones is one of the most unusual and colorful pieces in Michaan's Auctions monthly estates auction on Jan. 3 beginning at noon Pacific. Live Auctioneers will provide Internet live bidding.

A native New Yorker, Wiener began his career in artists' circles in post-Bauhaus Provincetown, Mass., and Greenwich Village, in the early days of the Abstract Expressionist movement of the late 1940s. The two movements were joined in his jewelry designs.

Weiner was largely self-taught and learned to make jewelry with common tools most often used by plumbers and carpenters.

The New York Times reported that Wiener worked largely in silver until the late 1950s when he branched out into new settings in gold and precious jewels, moving, as one critic put it, from craft into art. Over the years he had studios on 53rd Street and on Fifth Avenue and continued to work at his Fifth Avenue gallery, by appointment, until his death in July 1991 at the age of 73.

Among his clients were Louise Nevelson, the sculptor, and Martha Graham, the dancer.

"His jewelry of the period has unusual clarity in contrast to the baroque exuberance and surrealistic fantasy of some of his contemporaries," wrote Dr. Milton W. Brown, an art historian.

The Weiner brooch in Michaan's auction is 18K yellow gold and features seven rectangular-cut tourmalines, four rectangular-cut garnets, one rectangular citrine, one cushion-cut peridot, two emerald-cut amethysts and one emerald-cut blue topaz. It measures 1.88 inches by 1.76 inches. The estimate is \$4,500-\$6,000.

A sampling of the fine art in sale is a lithograph titled Head of a Man by Nathan Oliveira (American, b. 1928. It is signed and dated: "N Oliveira 57" and numbered "1/10." The estimate is \$450-\$650. An oil on canvas still life by Emile Siervert Weinberg (California, 1882-1958) of a large metal bowl and two pieces of fruit has a \$500-\$700 estimate.

Coins will include a lot of three U.S. Morgan silver dollars: 1895S-O, 1892-S XF, and 1893-P (estimate: \$600-\$900).

Heading the toys is a scarce Hubley American airplane. The cast-iron aircraft is 24 inches long and carries a \$1,000-\$1,500 estimate.

A Pablo Picasso Madoura Edition art pottery pitcher, 11 5/8 inches high, has a \$4,000-\$5,000 estimate. It is numbered "40/500" and dated "9.1.69."

Ceramics include a 10-piece set of light blue Wedgwood jasperware miniatures. The coffeepot, rhw largest piece, stands less than 3 inches high. The grouping has a \$200-\$300 estimate.

Chinese antiques include a 19th-century finely carved soapstone mountain scene with three scholars standing on a bridge. The mushroom-shaped mountain (estimate: \$400-\$600) is only 4 1/2 inches high.

Furniture includes a Classical Revival flame mahogany drop-leaf pedestal table with lion paw feet (estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500). It measures 30 inches high by 40 inches wide by 53 1/2 inches long, fully extended.

The January Estate Catalog will be available for review online at [www.michaans.com](http://www.michaans.com). Bid live, leave absentee bid, phone bid or online via Live Auctioneers.com.

### **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. Some of

Michaan's specialty departments include Furniture and Decorative Arts, Modern, Contemporary, European and American Paintings and Prints, Books and Manuscripts, Jewelry, Asian Works of Art and Ethnographic Art.

Established in 2002, Michaan's Auctions holds up to thirty sales each year that attract a broad base of buyers and consignors from all over the World. With one of the largest facilities in Northern California and the bay areas lowest buyers premium Michaan's offers buyers and sellers the ability to preview and bid on many unique and desirable pieces. Some of these pieces garnered world record prices. In 2005, a world record price was achieved for an A.D.M Cooper, The Three Graces 1915, sold at auction for \$21,060 as well as a Eduard Gaertner, German City Street Scene 1831, sold at auction for \$266,000.

Michaan's has built its reputation on it's ability to accept single items, groups or entire estates with the "no risk consignment policy", a policy that sets them apart from other auction houses. Michaan's team of 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.