

Patek Philippe & Co. 18k Yellow Gold Pocket Watch.

It was not long ago that every adult would be expected to carry a pocket watch with them at every hour of the day. The invention of personal time keeping devices quickly made the science of timekeeping essential to the functioning of the modern world, and there is perhaps no company more influential in this sphere than Patek Philippe & Co. Michaan's Auctions is proud to offer a **Patek Philippe & Co.**

18k Yellow Gold Pocket Watch

(\$2/3,000) in our February Gallery Auction, held on Friday, February 16th.

This golden pocket watch features two distinct sets of markers, the hour markers are positioned on the interior of the clockface's circumference in bold

black serifs, while minutes are marked every 5 on the exterior in red. There is a subdial to track seconds, it is placed at the bottom of the hour face. Unlike some other models, the pendant, crown, and bow are positioned on the 3 o'clock marking, with the case's hinge located at the 9 o'clock position. The case and bezel are beautifully constructed from 18k yellow gold and are in excellent



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condition. The same can be said of the pendant, crown, and bow, which are beautifully crafted and feature fine details.

Pocket watches were first developed in the 1500s and remained the most popular form of personal timekeeping device until the rise of the trench watch and later the wristwatch following World War I. Early models appeared in Italy and Germany, where they quickly established themselves as status symbols of the aristocratic class. These earliest watches were spring-driven, large, and imprecise (often gaining over an hour a day) until the development of new watch movements in the early 1800s significantly increased pocket watches' accuracy. These improvements were further advanced by the American Watch Company who in 1857 produced the first pocket watch made with interchangeable parts,

dramatically reducing prices and making the watch accessible to the growing middle class.

This democratization of the pocket watch led by the American manufacturing industry led Swiss manufacturers to rethink their approach. Instead of competing with Americans on price, they chose to compete on accuracy, luxury, and prestige. It was at this turning point that Patek Philippe & Co. was founded.

Patek Philippe, one of the world's most prestigious watch manufacturers, began operation over 185 years ago in 1839. Named for its founders, Antoni Patek and Adrien Philippe, it is Switzerland's last family-owned independent watch manufacturer and is currently owned by the Stern family. The company quickly rose to prominence, selling a diamond embellished pendant watch for Queen

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Victoria in 1851, and the first Swiss wristwatch to the Hungarian Countess Koscowicz in 1868. Since these auspicious beginnings, the reputation of Patek Philippe has only grown. Today, the company has manufactured nine of the ten most expensive watches ever sold at auction and held the title for the most watch complications (33) until 2015. The brand remains a relevant marker of wealth, luxury, and prestige, with its products frequently being seen on celebrities, businessmen, and other prominent people the world over.

Patek Philippe & Co. 18k Yellow Gold Pocket Watch
(\$2/3,000) will be offered at Michaan's Auctions February Gallery Auction on

Friday, February 16th, which features fine diamonds in excellent condition in addition to notable examples from the Fine Art and Asian Art departments. The auction is led by the jewelry department, which will be offering an unmounted pear-cut 2.45 carats colorless diamond and an unmounted pear-cut 2.96 carats colorless diamond. Also included in the sale is a lithograph by Grant Wood, an Arnaldo Pomodoro hanging sculpture, and a jade insert table screen.

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