
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
Saturday October 8

Previews:
October 1, 2, 7 and day of sale and by appointment

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

Midcentury Modern Masters and Meiji Period Cloisonné **October Sale Also Features a Fine Collection of Art Nouveau Jewel Boxes**

Rare opportunities in collecting will be presented at Michaan's monthly Estate Sale on [Saturday, October 8](#). Iconic Modernist works and Asian art treasures are featured, as well as fine jewelry and great finds for collectors of Dutch Masters, schoolgirl samplers, 1940s classic comics, cast iron banks, and much more.

Groundbreaking pioneers of 20th century art and design --- Josef Albers, Hans Wegner and Eero Saarinen --- are among the creators of the sale's fine art and furniture highlights. Their profound, enduring influence can be seen in the current widespread popularity of Modernist style. Original works by these masters create great excitement at auction in an ever-increasing pool of collectors. Especially noteworthy is the much-loved lounge chair known as Papa Bear, which looks as fresh in today's interiors as it did when Wegner, the preeminent Danish Modern chair designer, introduced it at the midpoint of the 20th century. The Papa Bear armchair's impeccable design pedigree is matched only by its deep comfort; these qualities make it one of the most highly coveted vintage modern furniture

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pieces. The armchair and its matching ottoman (\$7,000-9,000) are upholstered in blue wool and were produced in the 1950's by A.P. Stolen; the manufacturer's round metal control tag is intact. Another Modern highlight of October's auction is a signature work by renowned colorist Albers. His silkscreen, "Homage to the Square: I-Sb," (lot 269, \$1,500-2,000) came to Michaan's from the collection of a former General Counsel, Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Also offered in the [October 8th](#) sale is Rembrandt's "Christ Driving the Moneychangers from the Temple," a drypoint etching produced posthumously (lot 291, \$2,000-3,000). The 17th century plate was preceded by the artist's well-known oil painting of the same subject, and Rembrandt's peerless mastery of light and shadow remains undiminished in the transition to ink on paper. The allegorical power of the scene depicted is enhanced by layer upon layer of chaotic, earthy detail. There is panic even in the eyes of the market animals, as man and beast scramble to flee Christ's rage. The work perfectly captures the Dutch Master's gift for finding divine inspiration in the fine details of daily life.

Works of museum caliber also appear in the October sale of Asian Art. Specialist Harry Huang will offer an exquisite Japanese cloisonné vase by Hattori Tadasaburo, the esteemed enamelist whose pieces are in the collections of the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Hermitage. The vase (lot 199, \$500-700) is decorated with naturalistic poppies sprawling almost playfully across a brilliant blue ground. It exemplifies the artistic energy of the Meiji period, when Japanese artisans confronted Western influences, resulting in a spirited tension that shaped some of Japan's most avidly collected works of art. "Michaan's will continue to serve the market's healthy appetite for high-quality collectible Asian objects through the end of 2016 and beyond," says Huang, "building on the momentum generated by our sales this year."

As always, objects of desire are plentiful in Michaan's jewelry department. "It's hard to find a more resilient trend in fine jewelry than jadeite jade accented by diamonds," notes Michaan's gemologist Elise Coronado. The October auction includes these highly prized gemstones together in a navette-shaped ring of green jade, completed by diamonds set in 18k white gold. Another highlight is the agate, turquoise and 14k gold figa --- a carved amulet in the shape of a fist --- traditionally a protective charm, now in vogue worn as a pendant necklace. An excellent Zuni jewelry suite of silver and turquoise will also attract collectors with its timeless beauty and spiritual resonance.

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Fine jewelry will be complemented at the October auction by an extensive collection of romantic Art Nouveau jewelry boxes. The cast metal boxes vary in size and shape, but all showcase the sensuous decoration characteristic of the Art Nouveau period. The collection is divided into more than twenty lots of flora and fauna, fair ladies and winsome cherubs, miniature bombe chests and beloved American landmarks. All are highly detailed, with gilt, bronze, silver or copper finishes.

The illustrated auction catalog will be posted online, when available, at www.michaans.com. Property offered in the [October 8](#) Estate Sale can be previewed in the gallery on the previous Saturday and [Sunday, October 1](#) and [2](#); [on Friday, October 7](#); and on the day of the sale. For general information please call [\(510\) 740-0220 ext. 0](tel:(510)740-0220) or e-mail info@michaans.com. Michaan's Auctions is located at [2751 Todd Street, Alameda, CA 94501](#).
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