
MICHAAN'S AUCTIONS

Auctioneers & Appraisers

PRE SALE PRESS RELEASE!

Press Office Contact!
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Auction:
Estate Auction
Featuring fine art, decorative arts, Asian art and jewelry
February 7

Previews:
January 31- February 1 & 6
and by appointment

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

Michaan's February Estate Auction to be Held on Saturday the 7th *February 2015 kicks off Michaan's new Saturday auction date*

Over 130 jewelry department lots will include high-end fashion items in the February auction collection. Of the grouping are 5 lots of designer and vintage handbags, including maker names such as Gucci and Jay Herbert. Designers such as Gucci, Hermes, Chanel, Tiffany and Yves St. Laurent will be represented in 14 lots of silk scarves, along with assorted Louis Vuitton and Fendi items available for the couture collector. However, a beautiful serpent motif timepiece is spotlighted as lot 102 in the sale at an estimate of \$600-900. The coiling snake wristwatch is fashioned as a hinged bangle, comprised of 18 karat yellow gold. The upper half of the body features white gold detail, with a small domed case just to the left of the ruby-eyed serpent head. The case is delicately adorned with three rubies interspaced by carvings of stars, finished by a single diamond in the center. When lifted, the dome reveals a watch face in working order, marked "RAMEX, ANCRE 17 JEWELS, ANTIMAGNETIC, SWISS." The consignor purchased the piece in a Parisian flea market in the 1980s, with the wristwatch likely to be from the late 1940s to early 1950s. During this period, cocktail rings were all the rage. Wearing a standard wristwatch tended to clash with the overall elegance of the desired look. Therefore, concealed timepieces such as this serpent wristwatch were more heavily manufactured, as they were more complimentary to the glamour inspired by the cocktail ring.

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Two notable woodblock print artists are highlighted in a singular lot in February's Asian offerings (lot 169, \$600-800). Woodblocks by Pieter Irwin Brown are represented in "Bei Hai, Peking" as well as in "Nan Hei, Peking." Also professionally known as Pieter van Oort, the European illustrator is credited with influencing the shin hanga movement of the 1930s. Book and print dealer P.D. Perkins once commented on Brown's distinctive style, stating, "...the strength of his prints lies, perhaps, in his elimination of non-essentials." This dedication to simplicity led to success for the artist, with his works featured in several exhibits in China and Japan, as well as at the Los Angeles County Museum in 1946. Accompanying the Brown pieces in the sale lot will be two small Utagawa Hiroshige landscape prints. Also known as Ando Hiroshige, he is recognized as the second of two great masters of the landscape art form, after Hokusai. Revered as "the artist of rain, snow and mist," Hiroshige's catalog contains a classic display of beautifully crisp and vibrant images.

Among the fine art portion of the sale are works of varied mediums. An oil painting by Russian artist Alexander Kanchik titled "Playing Cards" is found in lot 229 at an estimate of \$1,000-1,500. At a conservative price point is an endearing image engraved by B. Hall titled "New York Street Urchins" at an estimate of \$300-500 (lot 253). A pair of ink and watercolor works by Nikolai Petrovich Glushenko (lot 227, \$1,500-1,800) will be offered alongside two highlighted lithographs from Robys at auction as well. Born in 1916 in a town known as Cherbourg in the Lower Normandy of France, Robys is primarily known as a poster artist and creator of humorous drawings. His lively and oft times energetic poster subjects seem to further come to life with the use of bold and saturated colors. His visuals are further enhanced by stylized, dominant lettering, in which the subject can come to interact with. One such example is found in lot 225 at an estimate of \$1,600-2,000. "Bitter Secrestat, le plus ancien des apertitifs a la gentiane" is a circa 1935 image depicting a bar hand pouring the spirit into glasses perched upon the poster lettering. Bitter Secrestat was a gentiane-based aperitif that was once targeted at former absinthe drinkers following its ban. "Kina Lillet, au vin blanc de la gironde" is yet another celebration of a spirit, but this time from 1937 and printed by Affiches Stentor in Paris. In this poster, a woman bursts forth from a group of golden grapes as she holds the liquor in her outstretched hands. Kina Lillet was introduced in 1895 as an aperitif and tonic and quickly became known as "the aperitif of Bordeaux." The Kina Lillet image will likewise be sold in February, as lot 224 at an auction estimate of \$1,200-1,600.

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Both delightful and highly collectible is a private San Anselmo collection of over seventy hand blown glass paperweights, grouped into 18 lots in Michaan's February estate sale. The assortment encompasses a wide variety of renditions, including but not limited to, animal, novelty, foliage and floral motifs, with Scottish miniatures, marine imagery and abstract pieces also present from the collection. Of particular interest prior to Valentine's Day may be lot 346, a grouping of five heart paperweights accompanied by a putto by St. Clair (\$300-400). Represented makers include Charles and David Kaziun, Baccarat, Lundberg Studios, Orient & Flume, Nourot and Murano, with an estimate range starting at a low of \$300 up to a high of \$800.

The illustrated auction catalog will be posted online at www.michaans.com when it becomes available. Previews for the February Estate Auction will be held on January 30th to February 1st and on the day of sale, Saturday, February 7, 2015. 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.

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