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# MICHAAN'S AUCTIONS

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Auctioneers & Appraisers

## PRE SALE PRESS RELEASE!

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Auction:  
Estate Auction  
Featuring fine art, decorative arts and jewelry  
Sunday October 6, 10am

Previews:  
October 4 - 6

Location:  
Michaan's Auctions  
2751 Todd Street  
Alameda, CA 94501  
[www.michaans.com](http://www.michaans.com)  
[info@michaans.com](mailto:info@michaans.com)

### **Eclectic October Offerings at Michaan's**

*Erle Loran's "The Docks," decorative enamel portrait pocket watch, burl and redwood California studio dining table, musical German Christmas tree stand highlight October*

Works of fine art are seen from the 18th to 21st centuries, with a large portion of the sale selection by modern and contemporary artists. Lithographs are plentiful, accounting for 28 of the 167 auction lots, with a highlight seen in a Joan Miro titled "Sculpture, 1971" (lot 795, \$3,000-5,000). A respectable number of gelatin silver prints will also be sold, with 11 lots in the sale. Offered artists include Imogen Cunningham, Michael Kenna, Ron van Dongen, Roman Loranc, Ryuijie and Rolfe Horn. Rounding out the auction collections are 14 lots from California artists, including but not limited to, Robert Watson, Joshua Lawrence Meador, Helen Gapen Oehler and Erle Loran. Also of note are over 30 lots from corporate Bay Area office locations, providing a variety of artworks to bidders in the monthly sale.

A featured modern landscape oil painting in the sale is by Erle Loran (1905-1999) titled "The Docks" (lot 115, \$800-1,000). "The Docks" depicts a barren dockside of empty boats among still waters. Painted in 1937, the image conveys a hazy scene of a subdued palette, painted in the WPA style. Loran was a local art fixture in the Bay Area, becoming the leader of a group of painters known as the "Berkeley School." He was also the head of the Berkeley Art Department for approximately 30 years, with his painting students including Richard Diebenkorn and Sam Francis. Retiring in 1972, Loran died at the age of 93. His funeral service was held at

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the De Young Museum in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco in 1999. Loran's work has been held by the Smithsonian Institution, the Los Angeles County Museum and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

Michaan's Auctions Jewelry Department presents over 140 lots in its October sale. A unique collection of 16 mineral specimens will be sold alongside finished jewelry pieces, with examples of amethyst, calcite, quartz and agate. A varied selection of corals will also be made available to bidders as well as over 20 lots of jade including, but not limited to, earrings, pendants, brooches, rings and bracelets. Pieces from makers such as Movado, Tiffany & Company, Hector Aguilar and Cartier will also be amongst October's sale lots.

An interesting and collectible jewelry department offering is found in a decorative pocket watch, to be sold as lot 530. The watch face is simple and classic, finished with black Roman numeral hour markers and rose tone spade hands. The decorative artistry is quite apparent in the case, framed by numerous half pearls. It features a polychrome enamel portrait of a finely dressed maiden, whose cheerful outfit is topped by a multicolored, feathered bonnet. A cobalt blue sunburst background completes the watch case image of the lady, to be offered at an auction estimate of \$2,500-3,500.

An assortment of contemporary collectibles, artwork and furniture brings modern designs from names such as Milo Boughman and Charles and Ray Eames to auction in the October estate sale. A naturalistic burl and redwood California studio dining table highlights 20th century design lots as a piece of organic craftsmanship (lot 862, \$1,200-1,400). Simply finished in conditioning oil, the true beauty of the natural form burl table top shines through as characteristics inherent in the wood take center stage. The table top exhibits beautiful variations in wood grain, with rich, natural tones ranging from a deep chocolate brown to a light golden brown. Three additional slabs of redwood provide the foundation for the table top as the legs and support beam. The table remains in excellent, showroom quality condition, measuring approximately 99 inches in length, 50 inches in width and 29 inches in height.

October's period furniture lots encompass Italian, Renaissance Revival, Gothic Revival, Neoclassical, Arts & Crafts and Art Deco styles. Decorative and collectible pieces show great variety in the sale, with Russian icons, Tiffany plates, a Royal Doulton tea service and a plethora of vases amongst the auction lots. A collection of portrait miniatures is found in 8 lots, featuring military images as well as a painting of Napoleon. Miniatures in the Dutch and European taste are also present, along with frames inlaid with mother-of-pearl and bone. A large group of collectible pipes will also be available, with lots including pieces of Asian, Turkish, African, Tyrolean, Norwegian and American Indian origins. Additional lots in the collection include Japanese pipe accessories, vintage briar pipes, an erotic motif pipe and crocodile and claw motif pipes.

From an Orinda estate is a mechanical German Christmas tree stand with Regina music box and eleven player discs (lot 224, \$1,500-2,500). The stand is presented just in time for the holidays and remains in wonderful working condition. The music box features a carved floral decoration upon its top, in which a crank and tree stand arise from. The crank serves the musical function, while the tree, once screwed into the stand, spins continuously. The Regina

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Music Box Company was established in 1894 and in its heyday was regarded as America's finest music box maker. Considered a costly purchase at the time, their least expensive models in 1900 were around \$12, or about \$300 in present-day figures. Nonetheless, many households owned a Regina music box, with their production reaching in excess of 100,000 between 1892 and 1920. A small number of Regina music boxes have survived, with their elimination attributed to such events as World War I and World War II scrap metal drives.

The illustrated auction catalog will be available for review at [www.michaans.com](http://www.michaans.com). Previews open at Michaan's Auctions on October the 4th to the 6th, the day of sale. 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).