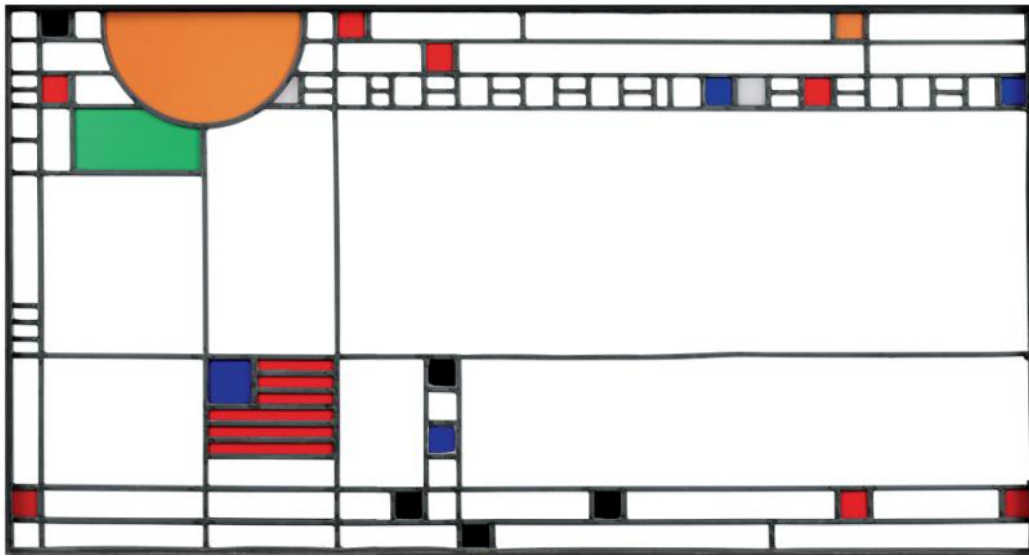


CHRISTIE'S

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CHRISTIE'S SALES OF 20TH CENTURY DECORATIVE ART & DESIGN PRESENT A LINEUP OF RARE AND EXQUISITE WORKS THIS DECEMBER



New York - Following the sale of *The Steven A. Greenberg Collection*, Christie's will hold its *Important 20th Century Decorative Art & Design Including Magnificent Tiffany* sale on December 14. With over 140 lots, the sale will showcase the entire range of 20th Century Decorative Arts, from Tiffany Studios, French Art Deco, Bauhaus, and American Design to the Modernist and Contemporary movements, with superlative examples from each category. The sale is expected to realize in excess of \$6 million.

Private Collections

The sale features several remarkable collections included in the sale; among them is *An Important Private Collection of Masterpieces by Alberto Giacometti for Jean-Michel Frank*. Highlighting this selection is *A Unique and Important Console and Bas-Relief, 1939* (estimate: \$800,000 - 1,200,000) – *pictured right*. When positioned in the environment of Frank's own creations, which were often sculpted from materials that included leather, marble, vellum, ivory, hammered iron or oak, Giacometti's sculptures achieved the presence of mystical totems. Conceived as part of the decorative scheme for a dining room, the present console dissolves the distinctions between the fine and the decorative arts, and recalls those conceived several months earlier for Nelson Rockefeller. Of rounded form, and each with massive shelf supported on vigorously-modelled serpentine uprights, this console, as with Giacometti's sculptures, invokes an imagination stimulated by the relics of forgotten civilizations - Egyptian, Cycladic, Chaldean, or of ancient Etruscan or Roman coins.





The sale will also include 13 lots from *A Private Collection of Jean Mayodon Ceramics*. One of the foremost French Art Deco ceramicists, Jean Mayodon was initially trained as an interior decorator and painter but by the age of twenty had turned to ceramics. His work is distinguished by the richness of its striking colors, its pervasive gold crackling and the exquisite quality of the painterly figurative illustrations of his nudes and stylized animals. This striking collection includes a stunning rich orange/red vase encircled by muscular male figures and a centaur in black - clearly invoking the black figure vases of Ancient Greece, this vase is encompassed in a lot of *Two Vases, 1949 and circa 1940* (estimate: \$12,000-18,000) – pictured left.

French Art Deco

The French Art Deco section of the sale is led by *A Unique And Important Reclining Armchair, circa 1928* by Jean Dunand (estimate: \$500,000-700,000) – pictured right. Exhibited in the boudoir at the Salon des Artistes Décorateurs and at the Galerie Georges Petit in 1930, this unique reclining armchair marks a fruitful period of production for Jean Dunand. In addition to showing the present chair at these two exhibitions, Dunand received a commission in 1929 from the French government for a vestibule as part of the main room of the Exposition Coloniale beginning in May 1931. In preparation for this, Dunand exhibited the interior he developed for the occasion at the Salon des Artistes Décorateurs in 1930. To supplement the exhibited vestibule, Dunand added a second room, a boudoir. It was in this boudoir that the present reclining chair was exhibited for the first time. With inset metal ashtray, this reclining chair perfectly marries form and function as one's eye is drawn to the tortoiseshell inspired red lacquer.



Magnificent Tiffany

Leading the Magnificent Tiffany selection is *A Rare and Early Chandelier, circa 1895* (estimate: \$300,000-500,000) – pictured left. With faceted cabochons and rippled geometric glass tiles, this Byzantine inspired chandelier perfectly complements the colorful mosaic interior the piece was designed to adorn. Commissioned in 1891 by the First Presbyterian Church in Buffalo, New York, the Tiffany Glass and Decorating Company, later renamed Tiffany Studios, completed work on the piece and had it installed by 1895. This chandelier is not only one of the largest pieces by Louis Comfort Tiffany to come to auction, but also one of the earliest. For Tiffany, the early 1890s marked a period of experimentation in glass making and collaboration with various chemists as the designer worked on not only this chandelier, but also on several stained glass windows for this Buffalo, New York church.

American Design

Leading the American Design section is *An Important Window From The Avery Coonley Playhouse, circa 1912* by Frank Lloyd Wright (estimate: \$200,000-300,000) pictured at the top of page 1. Widely considered Frank Lloyd Wright's masterpiece in glass, the Avery Coonley Playhouse windows, with their buoyant circles and patriotic flags, stand out for their distinct composition and vibrant color. For the bright red, green, blue, orange and black glass windows - colors he had not used before - Wright was inspired by a passing parade, complete with confetti, balloons and American flags.

Wright designed the playhouse for one of his wealthiest clients, Avery Coonley and his wife Queenie Ferrie Coonley. The present window, when facing the front of the main room, was located in the center of the left wall clerestory and boasts one of the American flags, a motif not present in all the windows. The Coonley Playhouse windows have all been removed and replaced with replicas. Several of the originals can be found in museum collections including the Museum of Modern Art, New York, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York and the Art Institute, Chicago.



Also highlighting the American section, is Judy Kensley McKie's *Ibis Demilune' Console Table, 2004* (estimate: \$20,000-30,000) – pictured left. McKie is a premiere figure in the American studio furniture movement, recognized for the evocative animal forms that she incorporates within much of her work. In the introduction to Jonathan Binzen's 2006 interview with the artist, he noted that: "Her furniture has an immediacy, power and playfulness that captivates children and adults, crowds and critics. McKie's genius for animal sculpture is grafted to an unbending commitment to comfort and function." McKie's work has been featured in major survey exhibitions at institutions that Museum of Arts and Design in New York, the Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, all of which hold examples of her work in their collections.

Contemporary Design

The Contemporary Design selection includes *An Important 'Big Easy' Chair, 1989* by Ron Arad (estimate: \$60,000-80,000) – pictured right. *Big Easy*, arguably the most important of Ron Arad's *Volume* series works, symbolizes Arad's important shift into the exploration of sculptural form. It is widely considered an icon, not only of Arad's influential career, but also of contemporary studio design. Similar in proportion and surface to the example held in the permanent collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the present example features a finely textured patina with rough welded 'piping', and extremely dynamic curvilinear planes. This example is one of the earliest produced by Arad's London studio, One Off, Ltd.. It has been exhibited widely and stands as one of the most important works of Ron Arad's career.



Claude Lalanne Jewelry

Concluding the sale will be seven exquisite examples of jewelry by Claude Lalanne, with estimates that range from \$1,200 to 8,000. The present lots capture the whimsical nature that defines the work of Claude, and her Husband François-Xavier Lalanne. Among the pieces are necklaces and bracelets that incorporate Claude Lalanne's most striking motifs: botanical, bouche (*mouth*) and ruban (*tape*), Claude Lalanne's *A 'Bouche' Bracelet, circa 1972* (estimate: \$5,000-8,000), is pictured right.

Bauhaus

Designed at the Bauhaus by Marianne Brandt in 1924, this *Unique And Important Tea Infuser, 1924* (estimate: \$300,000-500,000) – pictured right, is an extremely rare - if not unique - hand-crafted precursor to her now-iconic MT 49 infuser, variations of which are now retained in the collections of the British Museum, London, the Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and the Bauhaus-Archiv, Berlin. The present infuser was recently exhibited



at the major retrospective, Bauhaus: Art as Life, 3 May - 12 August, Barbican Art Gallery, London. The present infuser, perhaps the very first of Brandt's investigations into the form, offers an intriguing insight into the processes that guided one of the period's most influential designers, and endures as an important expression of the parallel worlds of craft and industry that defined the Bauhaus.

Additional Highlights



Emile-Jacques Ruhlmann
A Desk And Chair, Circa 1930
Estimate: \$250,000 - 350,000



Armand Albert Rateau
A Bed, Circa 1921
Estimate: \$100,000 - 150,000



Jean Dunand
A Set Of Four Nesting Tables, Circa 1925
Estimate: \$350,000-550,000



Marcel Coard (1889-1975)
A Commode, Circa 1935
Estimate: \$ 80,000 - 120,000



Thomas Molesworth
A Pair Of Armchairs, Circa 1950
Estimate: \$10,000-15,000



Paul Dupre-Lafon
A Low Table, 1940s
Estimate: \$120,000 - 180,000



A Selection of Maurice Marinot Glass from a New England Collection (Lots 67-72)
A Bottle With Stopper, Circa 1925
Estimate: \$12,000-18,000



Jean Dunand and François-Louis Schmied
A Panel, Circa 1926
Estimate: \$50,000 - 80,000



Tiffany Studios
An Important Floriform Vase, Circa 1900
Estimate: \$120,000 - 180,000



Finn Juhl (1912-1989)
A 'Chieftain' Armchair, Circa 1949
Estimate: \$40,000-60,000



Jean Royere
A Console Table, Circa 1948
Estimate: \$25,000-35,000



Jean Royere
A 'Perou' Dining Table, Circa 1954
Estimate: \$20,000-30,000



Tiffany Studios
A 'Turtleback Tile' Floor Lamp, Circa 1910
Estimate: 75,000 - 90,000



Harry Bertoia
A 'Willow' Sculpture, Circa 1972
Estimate: \$20,000-30,000



Alessandro Mendini
'Poltrona Di Proust', 1981
Estimate: \$50,000 - 70,000



Ettore Sottsass
Two Tondos, Circa 1958
Estimate: \$10,000-15,000

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2012 that totaled £2.2 billion/\$3.5 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's has since conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 450 auctions annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$100 million. Christie's also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War and Contemporary, Impressionist and Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales totaled £413.4 million/ \$661.5 million in the first half of 2012, an increase of 53% on the previous year.

Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, and Hong Kong. More recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and do not reflect costs, financing fees or application of buyer's or seller's credits.*

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