

CHRISTIE'S

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CHRISTIE'S AUCTION OF THE CONNOISSEUR'S EYE TO OFFER GLEAMING EXAMPLES OF EUROPEAN DECORATIVE ARTS



Left: Mona Ackerman's Fifth Avenue Salon, designed by Peter Marino

Top Right: A Pair of Patinated Bronze And Ormolu Eight-Light Chandeliers, 20th Century. \$30,000-50,000 | *From the Collection of Mona Ackerman*

Bottom Right: A Nicholas I Brass-Mounted Ebonized Pearwood, Birch, Mahogany and Amaranth Side Table, circa 1830. \$70,000-100,000 | *From the Collection of Mona Ackerman*

New York – On 20 May, Christie's is pleased to present the sale of **The Connoisseur's Eye**, which includes nearly 300 examples of 17th, 18th and 19th century European furniture, works of art, porcelain, and carpets and encompasses a particularly rich group of lacquer and japanned furniture. The auction is highlighted by several exceptional collections including the Estate of Harold Shaw, The Collection of Tom and Ruth Jones, The Estate of Eric Martin Wunsch and The Collection of Mona Ackerman. The selection from the Collection of Mona Ackerman features an impressive range of continental furniture from her sensational Fifth Avenue apartment, designed by Peter Marino to reflect St. Petersburg's Winter and Summer Palaces – *pictured above*.

Carpets

The selection of rugs and carpets includes a late 19th Century Sultanabad Carpet from Central Persia, (\$30,000-50,000) and a late 19th century Lori Pambak rug from the southwest Caucasus (\$20,000-30,000) – *pictured right*. Lori Pambak rugs are among the most beloved and sought-after weavings from the Caucasus, highly regarded by both scholars and collectors. This example has great clarity of design, with excellent proportions, bold drawing and rich color.



Furniture



A Set of Nine George II Mahogany Dining Chairs, circa 1740, attributed to the cabinet maker William Bradshaw were likely commissioned for Rousham House, Oxfordshire, which is one of the few largely intact commissions by the renowned Georgian architect and designer William Kent (1685-1748) (\$40,000-60,000). The nine Rousham chairs, along with the later copies - *pictured right*, dining table and sideboard (lots 127-130) were purchased in London during the summer of 1929 by Celia Tobin Clark as part of the furnishings for her new residence, House-on Hill, in Hillsborough California decorated by David Adler – *pictured left*. Adler continues to influence later generations, as this dining room for House-on-Hill, was virtually recreated down to the Chinese wallpaper by the San Francisco decorator Michael Taylor for the present owner.



The sale comprises a strong selection of furniture from the estate of Harold Shaw, the talent manager to legendary artists including Vladimir Horowitz and the soprano Jessye Norman. Mr. Shaw's sense of culture and refinement was reflected in his magnificent home filled with 18th century English furniture, a place to entertain his artistic circle in one of New York's prized addresses, the Apthorp. The focus of the collection was early 18th century walnut purchased from top London and New York dealers from the 1960's through the 1980's. Highlighting the collection is a pair of George I Walnut Armchairs, circa 1725 (estimate: \$20,000-30,000).

Ceramics



Among the auction's top lots is a Meissen Porcelain Armorial Tureen and Cover from the 'Swan Service', circa 1737-1741 (\$80,000-120,000) – *pictured right*, made for Count Brühl (1700-1763), the Prime Minister of Saxony and director of the Meissen factory from 1733-1763. Brühl commissioned the service in 1737 on the occasion of his marriage to Maria Anna Franziska von Kolowrat-Krakowska. The molded decoration of water birds in a naturalistic setting within a shell border was carried out by J.J. Kändler with the assistance of J.F. Eberlein. It would appear to be the largest service produced in the 18th century, and its original complement is estimated to have been between 2,200 and 2,400 pieces.



Another standout is the Vincennes Porcelain Bleu Céleste Shaped-Square Dish, which was one of only four made for the First Louis XV Service (Comptoir Carré), and delivered in three parts between June and December 1754 and in December 1755. It is identifiable as from this first service through a combination of the date letter forming its mark, the distinctive mottled turquoise ground color known as bleu céleste, and the gilding pattern of imbricated disks issuing flower garlands surrounding the cartouches on the sides.

Additional Highlights Include



A Sultanabad Carpet
Central Persia, Late 19th Century
\$30,000-50,000



A William And Mary Scarlet, Gilt And Silver-Japaned Secrétaire-On-Chest, Circa 1690
\$40,000-60,000



A Late Louis XV Ormolu-Mounted Mahogany Console
Circa 1768
\$100,000-150,000



A Life-Sized Carved Porphyry Skull
Italian, Possibly 17th Century
\$8,000-12,000



A Böttger Stoneware Black-Glazed Bowl
Circa 1710-1715, The Decoration Almost Certainly From The Workshop Of Martin Schnell, Dresden
\$20,000-30,000



An Italian Pietra Dura And Specimen Marble Table Top
In The Manner Of Cosimo Fanzago (1591-1678), Naples,
Second Half 17th Century
\$100,000-150,000

About Christie's

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Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 12 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Mumbai. 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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