

CHRISTIE'S PRESENTS IMPORTANT CHINESE SNUFF BOTTLES FROM A DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN COLLECTION



A Very Rare *Famille Rose* Enamelled Double-Gourd-Shaped Glass Snuff Bottle

Qianlong Mark And Period

Estimates: HK\$4,000,000-5,000,000 /

US\$500,000-625,000



A Very Rare Enamelled Double-Gourd-Shaped Porcelain Snuff Bottle

Qianlong Mark And Period

Estimates: HK\$2,400,000-3,500,000 /

US\$300,000-437,500



A Very Rare *Famille Rose* Enamelled Double-Gourd-Shaped Glass Snuff Bottle

Qianlong Mark And Period

Estimates: HK\$4,000,000-5,000,000 /

US\$500,000-625,000

HONG KONG – Christie's will offer a collection of fine and rare snuff bottles from a private American collection for auction this October. This collection of 37 bottles represents some of the most exquisite gem-like miniatures of their type.

Snuff bottles are small containers for ground tobacco, one of the most popular exotic stimulants for the Chinese elite in the 18th and 19th centuries. Once a portable vanity item, these bottles were made in a wide array of materials and decorative techniques, such as jade carving, glassware, enamel ware, ceramics, lacquer ware and bamboo.

Highlights in this collection include delicately enamelled glass bottles (*illustrated above*). Perfecting these bottles required great mastery in the control of the different melting temperatures of the glass body and those of the painted enamels. A lack of skills would have resulted these bottles to collapse in the kilns. These miniature forms demonstrate the highest level of expertise that was achieved in the imperial workshops during the 18th century.

'Immersing myself in this bottle, who says that the day and night is long?'
– Yongzheng Emperor

ADDITIONAL AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS



An Exquisite And Very Rare Painted Enamel Snuff Bottle

Qianlong Mark And Period

Estimates: HK\$2,400,000-3,500,000 /
US\$300,000-437,500



A Finely Enamelled 'Egrets And Lotus' Glass Snuff Bottle

Qianlong Mark And Period

Estimates: HK\$2,400,000-3,500,000 /
US\$300,000-437,500



A Rare And Finely Enamelled Copper Snuff Bottle

Qianlong Mark And Period

Estimates: HK\$240,000-350,000 /
US\$30,000-43,750



A Superb Black And White Jade Snuff Bottle

Qing Dynasty, 18th/19th Century

Estimates: HK\$2,000,000-3,000,000 /
US\$250,000-375,000



A Rare And Finely Enamelled *Guyue Xuan* Blue Glass Snuff Bottle

Qing Dynasty, 18th Century

Estimates: HK\$500,000-700,000 /
US\$62,500-87,500



A Carved Cameo Agate Snuff Bottle

Qianlong Mark And Period

Estimates: HK\$350,000-550,000 /

US\$43,750-68,750



A Fine And Very Rare White Jade Eggplant-Form Snuff Bottle With Integral Stopper

Qing Dynasty, 18th Century

Estimates: HK\$600,000-900,000 /
US\$75,000-112,500



IMPORTANT CHINESE SNUFF BOTTLES FROM A DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN COLLECTION

EXHIBITION PERIOD

Date: 4 to 7 October

AUCTION

Date: 7 October (Tuesday)

Venue: The James Christie Room, 22/F Alexandra House, 18 Chater Road, Central, Hong Kong

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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 2014 that totaled £2.69 / \$4.47 billion, making it the highest half year total in Christie's history. 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 around 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 & Contemporary, Impressionist & Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales in the first half of 2014 totalled £498.9 million (\$828.2 million).

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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