

July 2010 Lewes Auction Newsletter

View from the Rostrum

by Aaron Dean

At the end of each sale, it is always interesting to look at the figures and compare the auction results with previous sales. This time, it was encouraging to note that the average price per lot achieved was the highest for over two years - a positive indication that we are climbing out recession it is to be hoped.

Certain fields such as jewellery, appear to be particularly strong. The price of gold bullion may be at an all-time high, but the sale of an 18ct gold necklace for £12,000 - double its scrap value - underlines the strength of the auction market for gold currently too, even if boosted by being by Marina B, a fashionable contemporary designer.

Looking ahead to our next auction in September, our sale of Antiquarian and First Edition books will include the Library from The Chanter's House, Ottery St. Mary in Devon, the ancestral home of Samuel Taylor Coleridge. The library comprises over 200 works from the 15th century onwards, with estimates ranging from £100-1,000.

Also, following the success of the first edition George Orwell in our March book sale (which sold for £86,000!) we are keen to include more rare first editions. We are especially keen to track down any first editions of 'Brighton Rock' by Graham Greene. Do get in touch if you have one!



Above: A Cartier special commission diamond set 18ct gold Santos wrist watch.

Sold for £6,000

Left: Stanhope Alexander Forbes RA (1875-1947), oil on canvas, The Duck Pond, signed, 23 x 19in.

Sold for £21,500

Sales Report

July 2010



A rare late 16th century Swiss gilt brass tower table clock.
Sold for £13,000



A pair of Martin Bros. Martinware baluster vases, inscribed mark and dated 1909, 11.25ins.
Sold for £7,000



A mid 19th century violin by George Craske.
Sold for £2,000



Above: Thomas Wakeman (1812-78), pair of water-colours, Views of Brighton. 19.5 x 27in.
Sold for £5,000

Right: A Doulton figure, 'Spooks', 7ins.
Sold for £5,200



A Regency painted faux bamboo sofa, w.5ft 10ins.
Sold for £3,400



A Hannah Barlow for Doulton Lambeth ice pail, dated 1880, 8ins.
Sold for £1,800



A William & Mary oyster veneered walnut chest, W. 3ft 1ins,
Sold for £4,400



Marina B, 18ct gold Atomo necklace and earrings.
Sold for £12,000



Left: A Crimea medal, to
T. Herbert, 4th Light Dragoons.
Sold for £7,000

Right: A 19th century
Turkish pierced silver
garniture stamped
exclusively with the
Tughra mark of the Sultan,
tallest 7.75in, 35 oz.
Sold for £3,600



Sir Jacob Epstein (1880-1959), bronze maquette,
Bowater House group, 15in.
Sold for £6,000



Alfred de Breanski Snr. (1852-1928), pair of oils on canvas,
Loch Lomond & Loch Katrine, signed, 12 x 14in.
Sold for £25,000

Preview of our next sale



A pair of Yabu Meizen plates.
Estimate: £3,000-5,000 each



A George Jones majolica dish and cover.
Estimate: £1,500-2,000



A marble bust of a lady.
Estimate: £800-1,200



Cuvier (Baron), The Class Insecta, two vols, complete with 140 plates, Clarke and Bedford, London, Whittaker, 1832.
Estimate: £200-300

Next Fine Art & Antiques Auction: 8th & 9th September
Entry Deadline: 18th August;
Viewing: 3rd, 4th & 6th September
Tunbridge Wells Enquiries: 01982 619670
email: tunbridge.wells@gorrings.co.uk