

# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | 11 APRIL 2013  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## CHRISTIE'S PRESENTS THE INAUGURAL NEW YORK SALE OF *THE OPULENT EYE* FEATURING THE EXQUISITE CRAFTSMANSHIP OF 19<sup>th</sup> CENTURY EUROPE



*A Fine and Large Roman Micromosaic Table, Third Quarter 19<sup>th</sup> Century*  
Estimate: \$150,000 – 250,000

**New York** - Christie's is pleased to present the sale of *The Opulent Eye* on April 18. Launched in 2011 at Christie's London and presented in New York for the first time, the sale will feature exquisitely-crafted 19<sup>th</sup> century European furniture, porcelain and decorative arts. Encompassing 350 lots, the sale is highlighted by over 60 lots from the *Estates of Dr. Milton and Marilyn Myers*, comprising treasured pieces by François Linke, Henry Dasson and Alfred Beurdeley. Further top lots include a collection of Meissen porcelain figures by the *Jugendstil* artist Paul Scheurich; two sumptuous Berlin vases by the Neo-Rococo artist Franz Aulich; and a life-size marble, titled 'Tres in Una' by Paul Richer, reputedly from the collection of William Randolph Hearst.

### Highlights include:

The sale is led by *a fine Roman micromosaic table* (estimate: \$150,000-250,000) – pictured above. This exceptionally tabletop epitomizes the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century fascination with the Antique. The Italian vistas represented here were favored time and again by visitors on the Grand Tour and such meticulously detailed scenes, retailed by Roman mosaic workshops, were prized as souvenirs of their travels abroad.

A palatial Napoleon III ormolu-mounted 'Boulle' marquetry bureau plat (estimate: \$120,000-180,000) - *pictured right*, is exceptional for its quality and craftsmanship. The luxurious effect of etched brass inlaid into exotic tortoiseshell has an enduring appeal and was first exploited as a technique by André-Charles Boulle in his work for the French Court during the reign of Louis XIV.



Extraordinary Berlin (K.P.M) porcelain is on offer including a **massive Berlin porcelain flower-encrusted vase and stand, circa 1880** (estimate \$60,000-80,000) - *pictured left*. This exquisite and impressive example features a life-sized female mask suspending pale-blue drapery swags, the sides applied in high-relief with rich bouquets. The design for this monumental vase is characteristic of Alexander Kipps, Artistic Director at the Manufactory (1858-1910). The exuberant flower modeling and *rocaille* scrolls are exemplar of the fresh Neo-Rococo fashion he introduced in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The sale is also highlighted by a **pair of ormolu-mounted Sèvres porcelain claret-ground vases ('Fuseau')**, dated 1822 (estimate: \$50,000-70,000) - *pictured right*. When Alexandre Brongniart became Director of the Manufacture de Sèvres in 1800, he introduced a series of new vase shapes based on Ancient forms. Among this series, the 'vase Fuseau' was a grand success. This pair of classic baluster vases is finely painted front and back by Pierre Riton with panels enclosing ribbon-tied neoclassical emblems.



### The Estates of Dr. Milton & Marilyn Myers, Hollywood, Florida

Dr. Milton Myer's unparalleled passion for the arts and robust collecting history is expressed in this extensive and highly regarded collection of 19<sup>th</sup> century furniture, sculpture and works of art.

Leading the collection is a **French ormolu mantel clock, by Henry Dasson, Paris, dated 1883**. With rays bursting forth from a portrait medallion of Louis XIV, this spectacular clock is based on an 18<sup>th</sup> century model dedicated to the memory of the Sun King (estimate: \$40,000-60,000) - *pictured right*. Created in 1754, the original was created by *fondeur* Edmé-Jean Gallien for Louis XV's bedroom at the Château de Fontainebleau.

## ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



A Monumental French Cast-Iron Group, 'Enfant A L'oiseau',  
After The Model By Hans Johann-Balthazar  
Keller Vom Steinbock, Cast By Val D'osne, Paris,  
Late 19th Century  
Estimate: \$40,000 – 60,000



A French Japonisme Gilt And Silvered  
Bronze And Onyx Crane-Form Gueridon  
Possibly Designed By Eugene Cornu And  
Executed By G. Viot & Cie., Paris,  
Circa 1860-1870  
Estimate: \$40,000 – 60,000



A Life-Size French White Marble Figural Group  
Entitled 'Tres In Una'  
By Paul Richer, Paris, Circa 1913  
Estimate: \$70,000 – 100,000



A Berlin (K.P.M.) Porcelain Rectangular Plaque,  
*The Dancing Lesson Of Our Grandmother*  
Late 19th/20th Century  
Estimate: \$50,000 - 70,000



A French Ormolu-Mounted Mahogany,  
Stained Fruitwood, Marquetry And  
Parquetry Commode  
Last Quarter 19th Century  
Estimate: \$30,000 – 50,000



A Berlin (K.P.M.) Porcelain Pâte-Sur-Pâte  
Solitaire  
Circa 1890, Signed for Hermann Thiele  
Estimate: \$15,000 – 20,000

**PRESS CONTACT:** Rebecca Riegelhaupt | +1 212 636 2680 | [rriegelhaupt@christies.com](mailto:rriegelhaupt@christies.com)  
Elizabeth Van Bergen | +1 212 636 2680 | [evanbergen@christies.com](mailto:evanbergen@christies.com)

**Please click here for the complete eCatalogue.**



Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2013 that totaled £3.92 billion/\$6.27 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 £631.3 million/\$1 billion in 2012, an increase of 26% on the same period last 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 in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and the Middle East, with successful sales, exhibitions and initiatives in Moscow, Baku, Beijing, Mumbai, Delhi, Jeddah, Abu Dhabi, Doha 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.*

###

*Images available on request*

Visit Christie's Website at [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com)

Complete catalogue available online at [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com) or via the Christie's iPhone app

**FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:**

