

CHRISTIE'S

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CHRISTIE'S NEW YORK PRESENTS ***AN AMERICAN DYNASTY: THE CLARK FAMILY TREASURES*** SALE

[FULL SALE CATALOGUE NOW OPEN FOR BROWSING](#)

- **HIGHLY-ANTICIPATED JUNE 18 AUCTION FEATURES FINE ART, RARE BOOKS AND GILDED AGE FURNISHINGS FROM THE ESTATE OF AMERICAN HEIRESS HUGUETTE M. CLARK**
- **HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE THE “KREUTZER” STRADIVARI VIOLIN RECOVERED FROM A CLOSET IN THE CLARK FAMILY APARTMENT ON FIFTH AVENUE, ESTIMATED AT US\$7.5 – 10 MILLION**



NEW YORK - On the heels of Christie's *Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale* on May 6, at which paintings by Claude Monet and Pierre-Auguste Renoir from the Estate of Huguette M. Clark fetched US\$40.9 million, Christie's is pleased to unveil further offerings from its June 18 auction of *An American Dynasty: The Clark Family Treasures*. With 357 lots in total, the day-long auction will feature an impressive selection of American and 19th Century Art, important musical instruments, a veritable library of rare first-edition books, Gilded Age furnishings, and numerous decorative items owned by **Huguette Clark**, her mother **Anna**, and her father **Senator William A. Clark**. Christie's has been entrusted with the sale of the collection by the Honorable Ethel J. Griffin, New York County's Public Administrator, who oversees the estate. The proceeds from the auctions will benefit the Clark Estate and its goal of establishing a charitable foundation devoted to arts and culture.

As one of the most anticipated events of the spring auction season, the upcoming sale features numerous never before-seen treasures from the family collection that are emblematic of the Clark's refined lifestyle and their position among the wealthiest American families of the early 20th Century. Among the star fine art lots of the sale is **John Singer Sargent's** *Girl Fishing* (illustrated below; estimate: \$3 – 5 million) and **William Merritt Chase's** jewel-like *A Water Fountain in Prospect Park*, believed to have been a gift direct from the artist to W.A. Clark (illustrated below; estimate: \$500,000 – 700,000). Personal items include formal painted portraits of Senator Clark and Anna Clark, opera glasses used by Huguette and her mother Anna for attending the theater, a 328-piece American silver flatware service for entertaining, monogrammed dressing sets by **Cartier** and **Tiffany & Co.**, and a selection of early 20th century Cartier picture frames.



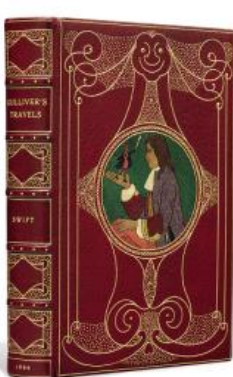

As part of the preview exhibition for the auction, Christie's will also unveil a selection of never-before-seen paintings by Huguette Clark, an accomplished artist in her own right. The sale features 17 full-size oil-on-canvas paintings by the copper mining heiress, including still-lives, cityscapes, and self-portraits created in the sunlit art studio she maintained in her Fifth Avenue apartment.

A truly exceptional feature of the Clark Family collection is the spectacular **Stradivari** violin known as “The Kreutzer”. Executed *circa* 1731, the instrument was named for Rodolphe Kreutzer (1766-1831), the great French violinist, who is perhaps best known as the dedicatee of Beethoven’s Violin Sonata No. 9, Opus 47, also known as the Kreutzer Sonata. Celebrated as a violin virtuoso, composer, and teacher, Kreutzer left behind a great body of work including nineteen violin concertos and forty operas. As a founding member of the Conservatoire de Paris, he set the standard for the French school of violin performance and his 42 *Études ou Caprices* remain the fundamental teaching tool for all violin performance to this day. Kreutzer owned and played his namesake Stradivari from about 1795 until his death in 1831, when he bequeathed it to his protégée, the violinist and teacher Joseph Lambert Massart. It later passed through important collections in France until its purchase in 1920 by W.A. and Anna Clark for their then-teenaged daughter Huguette Clark, who was already an accomplished student of both music and painting. The pleased parents heralded the purchase of the legendary Kreutzer with a telegram to Huguette from Paris reading “*Darling...bought you the most wonderful violin in the world*”.

The Kreutzer will be sold via a special sealed bid auction timed to run in parallel to Christie’s saleroom auction of the Collection, with bidding opening on Friday, June 6. For further details on the Kreutzer Stradivari and the bidding process, please visit www.christies.com/kreutzer. Full sale catalogue now available for browsing online at www.christies.com

Press preview: Friday, June 13 at 10am
Public exhibition: Saturday, June 14 through Tuesday, June 17, 10am – 5pm
Auction (live and online): Wednesday, June 18 at 10am
Christie’s, 20 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

 <p>A Violin Antonio Stradivari, Cremona, Italy, Circa 1731, Known As <i>The Kreutzer</i> Estimate: \$7.5-10 million To Be Sold Via Sealed Bid</p> <p>The Clark family has a long-standing history of collecting musical instruments, with a proclivity for rare works by Antonio Stradivari, in particular. In all, nine Stradivarius instruments can trace their provenance to the family at some point in history. W.A. Clark purchased two in his lifetime and, after his death, Anna and Huguette continued to acquire them, going so far as to reunite the four exceptional instruments that comprised the Paganini quartet, which Huguette would later donate to the Corcoran Gallery of Art. The Stradivarius violin to be offered in this sale (estimate: \$7.5-10 million) is a particularly fine example, which dates to circa 1731.</p>	 <p>A Mahogany and Brass Music Stand Late 19th/Early 20th Century Estimate: \$300-500</p>	 <p>Jonathan Swift <i>Travels into several remote Nations of the World by Lemuel Gulliver.</i> London: John C. Nimmo, 1886. Estimate: \$800-1,200</p> <p>presentation inscription on front flyleaf: “From William Andrews Clark, To his daughter Huguette with his dearest love, March 8th 1918.”</p>	 <p>A French Ormolu-Mounted Tulipwood, Sycamore, Amaranth and Fruitwood Marquetry and Parquetry Bureau a Cylindre By Maison Krieger, Paris, Late 19th Century Estimate: \$50,000-80,000 Much of the furniture purchased by Anna Clark for her bedroom at 907 Fifth Avenue was from the Paris firm Maison Krieger. The company produced and exhibited furniture in many styles, both copying and creating modern interpretations of 18th century and Empire designs.</p>
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John Singer Sargent
Girl Fishing
oil on canvas
Estimate: \$3,000,000-5,000,00



William Merritt Chase
A Water Fountain in Prospect Park
oil on panel, Painted circa 1886.
Estimate: \$500,000-700,000

Likely a gift from the artist to Senator William Andrews Clark



Percy Bryant Baker
Senator William Andrews Clark (1839-1925)
white marble
Estimate: \$1,500-2,500



W.A. Clark's Leather Porte Document
Early 20th Century
Estimate: \$500-800



Charles Dickens
A Tale of Two Cities
London: Chapman and Hall, 1859.
Estimate: \$20,000-30,000



A Pair of Chinese Blue and White Porcelain Bottle Vases
19th Century
Estimate: \$1,500-2,500
Applied paper label for William Andrews Clark Collection, No. 16.



Huguette Clark
Cereus, night blooming cactus
oil on canvas
Estimate: \$4,000-6,000



Huguette Clark
Grey Pagoda with Red Bridge & Cherry Blossoms
oil on canvas
Estimate: \$2,000-3,000



Lionel Walden (1861-1933)
Hawaiian Ocean with Waves Against the Rocks
oil on canvas
Estimate: \$30,000-50,000



A Pair of French Silvered-Metal and Mother-Of-Pearl Opera Glasses
By Lemaire Fabt, Paris, Late 19th/Early 20th Century
Estimate: \$300-500



A Flemish Historical Tapestry, late 16th Century, Attributed to Jan Van Tieghem, After Maerten Van Heemskerck
Depicting *Cyrus taking Astyages prisoner and reuniting Media and Persia* from *The Story of Cyrus the Great*
Estimate: \$40,000-60,000



Felix Lorient
A group of illustrations for Children's books
Estimate: \$5,000-10,000

A selection of lots exhibit Huguette Clark's fascination with the work of French illustrators. Andrée and her sister Huguette spent their early years growing up in Paris, France. It is likely that they would have first come into contact with such illustrations via the popular magazine *Le Semaine de Suzette* which was launched in 1905.



A Group of American Silver Table Wares
Marked for Gorham, 20th Century
Each marked 'Sterling' most with WAC monogram
Estimate: \$1,000-1,500

AN AMERICAN DYNASTY: THE CLARK FAMILY TREASURES



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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2013 that totaled £4.5 billion/ \$7.1 billion, making it the highest annual 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 totaled £760.5 million (\$1.19 billion) in 2013, an increase of 20% on the previous year.

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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Images available on request

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