

# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | NEW YORK | 5 JANUARY 2016 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## CHRISTIE'S AMERICANA WEEK 2016

- FOUR SIGNIFICANT PRIVATE COLLECTIONS OF CHINESE EXPORT ART
  - INAUGURAL AUCTION OF OUTSIDER ART
- IMPORTANT DISCOVERY OF THE EARLY-PAINTED "HADLEY" CHEST
- RARE QUEEN ANNE WALNUT COMPASS-SEAT ARMCHAIR FROM THE - PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART
- SUPERB PRIVATE COLLECTION FROM MR. AND MRS. MAX R. ZAITZ



Chinese Export Art  
Including The Sowell  
Collection

January 21 | 10am & 2pm

*Full [catalogue](#)*



Liberation Through  
Expression:  
Outsider and Vernacular Art

January 22 | 10am

*Full [catalogue](#)*



Important American  
Furniture,  
Folk Art, and Silver

January 22 | 10:30am

*Full [catalogue](#)  
Session I*



Philadelphia Splendor:  
The Collection of Mr. and  
Mrs. Max R. Zaitz

January 22 | 2pm

*Full [catalogue](#)*



Important American  
Furniture,  
Folk Art, and Silver

January 22 | 3:15pm

*Full [catalogue](#)  
Session II*

**New York** – Christie's is pleased to announce that *Americana Week 2016*, a series of auctions, viewings and events, will be held from January 16-22. The week of sales is comprised of **Chinese Export Art** on January 21, **Important American Furniture, Folk Art, and Silver** on January 22, **Philadelphia Splendor: The Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Max R. Zaitz** on January 22, and the inaugural sale of Outsider Art **Liberation Through Expression: Outsider and Vernacular Art** on January 22.

In all, Americana Week 2016 will offer over 500 lots and is expected to realize upwards of \$8 million. In conjunction with the sales, Christie's will also host a preview brunch with Stephen S. Lash, Chairman Emeritus, and John Hays, Deputy Chairman, on Sunday, January 17, in memory of Dean Failey, and the annual *Eric M. Wunsch Award for Excellence in the American Arts* on Wednesday, January 20, honoring Morrison H. Heckscher and Peter M. Kenny, recognized for their contributions to the expansion and modernization of the American Wing at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York and for their continued advancements of scholarship to the field of American Decorative Arts.

## IMPORTANT AMERICAN FURNITURE, FOLK ART, AND SILVER - JANUARY 22 | 10:30am

Christie's sale of **Important American Furniture, Folk Art, and Silver** will present 140 lots from the 17<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and is expected to realize in excess of \$3 million.

Leading the sale is The Extraordinary Joined Oak and Pine Polychrome "Hadley" Chest-with-drawers, Hadley Massachusetts, *circa* 1715 (illustrated right; Estimate on Request). Previously unrecorded, this early painted and polychrome-decorated "Hadley" Chest is just the fourth chest of its type to emerge. The façade explodes with an array of decorative details that are all the more remarkable for their nearly intact survival. The joinery and motifs are derived from the carved "Hadley" chest tradition of the upper Connecticut River Valley from the late 17<sup>th</sup> through early 18<sup>th</sup> century, while the unique decorative scheme shows the presence of new ideas during the period. The other three known are all in institutions and the chest offered here is the only one of the group of four that makes such extensive use of the lozenge design. Among collectors of Americana, this is an icon in the field and highly sought after object for its original paint.



Following the "Hadley" Chest in the sale is a William and Mary Mahogany and Maple Dressing Table, Philadelphia, 1700-1730 (illustrated left; Estimate: \$250,000-500,000). Highly elaborate and conceived with frenetic energy, the stretchers on this dressing table make it one of the most exciting Baroque furniture forms to survive from early America. The same unusual stretcher design is seen on two other dressing tables in the collections of the Chipstone Foundation and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Ownership of this dressing table is traced to the early twentieth century by Edward Corydon Wheeler, Jr. (1877-1954), a stock broker and antiques dealer living in Boston and later Weston, Massachusetts.

Also included in the sale is a Rare and Important Queen Anne Walnut Compass-Seat Armchair, Philadelphia, made *circa* 1755 (illustrated right; Estimate: \$500,000-800,000). A triumph of the curvilinear form, this armchair illustrates the mastery of movement and harmony achieved by mid-eighteenth century Philadelphia chair makers. This chair is being sold with the approval of the trustees of the Philadelphia Museum of Art to benefit acquisition funds. Part of a rare set of armchairs, the other known chairs from the set comprise two at Winterthur Museum, two in private collections with one of these currently on loan to The Metropolitan Museum of Art and a fifth illustrated in 1983, but whose whereabouts today is unknown.



## IMPORTANT AMERICAN SILVER - JANUARY 22 | 3:15pm

The afternoon session of the **Important American Furniture, Folk Art, and Silver** sale features significant American silver spanning 17<sup>th</sup> through early 20<sup>th</sup> century. From a beaker made by America's first silversmiths, John Hull and Robert Sanderson around 1670, to a Tiffany tureen designed by Elsa Peretti, the sale represents a full history of American design in silver. A Jeremiah Dummer platter and a Jacob Hurd sugar bowl display very fine baroque engraving, while a large cream jug by Elias Peltreure is a lively work in the rococo taste. The 19<sup>th</sup>-century silver in the auction runs the full gamut of the revival styles of that eclectic century, with a very strong selection of Tiffany works in the exotic styles of the aesthetic movement. Of particular note is a giant wine cooler in the Japanese taste and a rare silver lamp in the Islamic style. A collection of art nouveau works by Gorham in their celebrated "Martele" pattern is a particular highlight of the sale.

### SILVER HIGHLIGHTS



A MONUMENTAL SILVER TABLE LAMP  
MARK OF TIFFANY & CO., NEW YORK,  
1898-1902  
Estimate: \$50,000-80,000



A MONUMENTAL SILVER WINE COOLER  
MARK OF TIFFANY & CO., NEW YORK,  
CIRCA 1880  
Estimate: \$70,000-100,000



A FINE SILVER SUGAR BOWL AND  
COVER, MARK OF JACOB HURD,  
BOSTON, CIRCA 1740  
Estimate: \$25,000-35,000

The carefully curated *Philadelphia Splendor: The Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Max R. Zaitz* represents over 100 lots of the best of what was available to consumers in early America. As with many of their fellow collectors, Mr. and Mrs. Max R. Zaitz were inspired by their passion for America—the opportunity and success it allowed them. Beginning with the purchase of their Charles Steadman (1790-1868) designed home built in *circa* 1830 in Princeton, New Jersey, they collected patiently, zeroing in on objects that passed their high standards for quality and condition.

Highlights of the collection include Queen Anne through Federal furniture with remarkable surfaces made from Boston to Philadelphia, eagle adorned Chinese Export ceramics, silver and needlework, which once embellished every room of their household. For Mr. and Mrs. Max R. Zaitz, collecting Americana was a privilege and a way of celebrating this country. Upon entering the home, the visitor encountered a card table flanked by two side chairs from the renowned Deshler suite, three of the most stunning survivals of Rococo ornament from eighteenth-century America. It is their assemblage of these and several other masterworks from Philadelphia in particular that makes The Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Max R. Zaitz one of the most important to come to the marketplace in recent years.

#### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE COLLECTION OF MR. AND MRS. MAX R. ZAITZ



A POLYCHROME WOOL AND SILK CANVAS WORK CHIMNEY  
PIECE DEPICTING ADAM AND EVE  
SALEM OR ITS VICINITY, MASSACHUSETTS, 1760-1790  
15 in. high, 37 in. wide  
Estimate: \$50,000-100,000

Remarkable in its unique composition, this canvas work chimney piece is a rare and exuberant survival of colonial needlework in its most impressive form. Executed in traditional Salem long stitch, the work retains a vibrancy of color echoed in its inventive design.



THE DESHLER FAMILY CHIPPENDALE CARVED MAHOGANY  
CARD TABLE  
PROBABLY THE SHOP OF BENJAMIN RANDOLPH (1737-1791/2);  
THE CARVING ATTRIBUTED TO JOHN POLLARD (1740-1787),  
PHILADELPHIA, CIRCA 1769-1770  
Estimate: \$300,000-500,000

Gem-like in its crisp precision and virtually glistening as it cascades down the knees and across the front rail, the carved ornament on this card table comprises one of the greatest passages of American carving from the eighteenth century.



THE DESHLER FAMILY CHIPPENDALE CARVED  
MAHOGANY SIDE CHAIR  
PROBABLY THE SHOP OF BENJAMIN RANDOLPH  
(1737-1791/2); THE CARVING ATTRIBUTED TO JOHN  
POLLARD (1740-1787), PHILADELPHIA, CIRCA 1769-1770  
37 in. high  
Estimate: \$100,000-150,000

This chair is one of eight as well as a pair of card tables and an easy chair that comprise the known survivals of a suite of furniture made for the Deshler family of Philadelphia.



A FEDERAL INLAID CHERRYWOOD SWELL-FRONT  
CHEST-OF-DRAWERS  
MASSACHUSETTS OR VERMONT, 1800-1820  
appears to retain its original brasses  
36 in. high; 37 in. wide; 19 in. deep  
Estimate: \$20,000-40,000

Profusely decorated with floral escutcheons, fan inlays and a whimsical bird within a diamond cartouche, this swell-front cherry wood chest-of-drawers appears to be the work of an as-yet-unidentified craftsman familiar with the shops of both Nathan Lombard (1777-1847) and George Stedman (b. 1795).



Christie's hosts its inaugural various owner sale and first dedicated auction of Outsider Art in more than ten years—***Liberation Through Expression: Outsider and Vernacular Art***. This tightly curated sale of 50 lots includes works across various media—sculpture, painting, works-on-paper, and gelatin silver print photographs—from preeminent Outsider artists, including James Castle, Martin Ramirez, William Edmondson, and Bill Traylor. The sale includes several works by living artists, including Thornton Dial, George Widener, and Dan Miller. Nearly half the sale comes from the Marvill Collection, which contains superb examples of American Outsider Art and vernacular sculpture.

## OUTSIDER ART SALE HIGHLIGHTS

---



*William Edmondson (1874-1951)*  
*Boxer, circa 1936*  
*Limestone*  
*17 in. high, 7 1/4 in. wide, 9 1/4 in. deep*  
*Estimate: \$150,000-250,000*

An iconic masterwork by renowned African American artist William Edmondson (1874-1951), *Boxer* is an incredibly sophisticated object. Likely modeled after Joe Louis, it is one of the most important sculptures created in interwar America.



*Bill Traylor (1854-1949)*  
*Three Figures with Dog, Bird and Fountain, circa 1939-1942*  
*tempera and graphite on back of heavy card Dreams and Mounds candy poster*  
*12 1/4 x 6 3/4 in.*  
*Estimate: \$40,000-80,000*

After a lifetime on a plantation, former slave Bill Traylor (1854-1949) moved to Montgomery, Alabama. Crippled with rheumatism, he began to draw. This is one of Traylor's "exciting events," as it includes multiple figures and animals interacting on and around an abstracted structural element.



*PROPERTY FROM THE MARVILL COLLECTION*  
*William Hawkins (1895-1990)*  
*Yaekle Building, dated 1982*  
*signed WILLIAM.L.HAWKINS BON IN JULY 27 - 1895 and inscribed PAINT 1982*  
*MARCH 20 to 30*  
*enamel and glitter on thick paper*  
*44 x 52 1/4 in.*  
*Estimate: \$20,000-30,000*

This is one of approximately five large-scale enamel-on-paper works completed by William Hawkins. The artist rendered three variations of the Yaekle building, a Columbus, Ohio landmark, one of which is a promised gift to the Philadelphia Museum of Art.



*WORKS BY THORNTON DIAL FROM THE COLLECTION OF STEPHEN AND SUSAN PITKIN*  
*Thornton Dial (b. 1928)*  
*Hard Labor, 1998*  
*initialed TD upper right*  
*carpet roping, sheet metal, cut fabric, carpet, industrial modeling compound and paint on plywood*  
*48 in. high, 48 in. wide, 3 in. deep*  
*Estimate: \$20,000-40,000*

Hailing from Alabama, Thornton Dial had a career as a railroad welder before he turned to art. Throughout his practice, Dial has repurposed found materials. *Hard Labor* is a wash bucket surrounded by flowers and a fire; it speaks to women's work.

## CHINESE EXPORT ART FROM VARIOUS OWNERS – JANUARY 21 | 10am & 2pm

With nearly 250 lots of quality and rarity, the **Chinese Export Art** sale on January 21 features porcelain and paintings made for the China Trade. Four significant private collections highlight the sale including the renowned James E. Sowell Collection, The Collection of J. Jefferson and Anne Weiler Miller, The Betty Gertz 'Hatcher Cargo' Collection, and The Collection of Walter and Nancy Liedtke.

### CHINESE EXPORT SALE HIGHLIGHTS



**A MASSIVE BLUE AND WHITE FIVE PIECE GARNITURE  
KANGXI PERIOD (1662-1722)**

*Each piece lightly molded with rows of lotus petal-shaped panels decorated in an inky cobalt blue with court figures in landscape alternating with various flowering and potted plants, all between lotus scroll or cross-hatch borders, comprising a pair of beaker vases and three baluster jars and covers with large knobs in the form of seated Buddhist lions*

*25 in. (60.5 cm.) high (each baluster jar and cover), 20 in (51 cm.) high (each beaker vase)*  
*Estimate: \$70,000-100,000*



**AN ELEPHANT SAUCE TUREEN AND COVER AND TWO STANDS  
CIRCA 1785**

*The sleepy beast with a black and white puppy as knob, the stands depicting a seated elephant with a mahout, their undersides molded as leaves*

*9 in. (23 cm.) long (the stands)*  
*Estimate: \$50,000-70,000*



**A RARE MASSIVE SEATED HOUND 18TH CENTURY** *His coat in grey, his breast white, his collar with tassels and bell*

*21 in. (54 cm.) high*  
*Estimate: \$50,000-80,000*

### AMERICANA WEEK EVENTS:

Preview brunch with Stephen S. Lash, Chairman Emeritus, and John Hays, Deputy Chairman | Sunday, 17 January | 10:30am  
Eric M. Wunsch Award for Excellence in the American Arts | Wednesday, 20 January | 5:30-7:30pm

### AMERICANA WEEK SALE DATES:

Chinese Export Art | Thursday, 21 January 2016 | 10am & 2pm  
Liberation through Expression: Outsider and Vernacular Art | Friday, 22 January 2016 | 10am  
Important American Furniture, Folk Art, and Silver | Friday, 22 January 2016 | 10:30am & 3:15pm  
Philadelphia Splendor: The Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Max R. Zaitz | Friday, 22 January 2015 | 2pm  
Important American Furniture, Folk Art, and Silver | Friday, 22 January 2016 | 3:15pm

PRESS CONTACT: Jennifer Cuminale | +1 212 636 2680 | [jcuminale@christies.com](mailto:jcuminale@christies.com)  
Sara Fox | +1 212 636 2680 | [sfox@christies.com](mailto:sfox@christies.com)

### 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.*

###

Images available on request

FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:

