

CHRISTIE'S

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IMPORTANT AMERICANA

LIVE AUCTION: 18-19 January 2024



THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM, SOLD TO BENEFIT THE ACQUISITION FUND

GILBERT STUART (1755-1828)

George Washington (Vaughn type)

29 x 23 ¾ in.

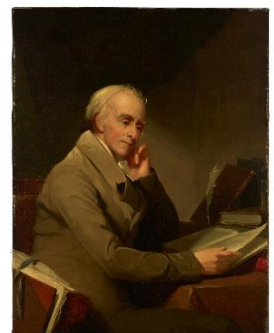
Oil on canvas

Painted 1795

Estimate: \$1,500,000-2,500,000

New York – Christie's is pleased to announce its annual sale of **Important Americana**, taking place live over two days at Christie's Rockefeller Center on 18 and 19 January 2024. Important Americana is the cornerstone of Americana Week, which includes live sales of **Fine Printed and Manuscript Americana** on 17 January and **19th Century American & Western Art** on the morning of 18 January. As always, Important Americana will feature a wide range of American fine art, furniture, folk art, and silver, as well as Chinese Export Porcelain and American ceramics.

1. FOUNDING FATHERS: Leading the sale is a rare lifetime depiction of George Washington by the first President's greatest portraitist, Gilbert Stuart, from the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. This magisterial picture is one of the most significant of the artist's renditions based on Washington's first sitting with Stuart in 1795. Named after one of the early owners, these Vaughan-type portraits show the sitter facing to the right and of the fourteen known to survive today, only four are in private hands. The example being offered in January was among the earliest of this group and was owned in England by the Philips family, Manchester-area textile merchants who had supported the American cause during the Revolution. In addition to the magnificent Vaughan type portrait, the auction includes a significant group of works depicting other Founding Fathers, including pieces from direct descendants of Benjamin Franklin and powerful images of Washington by Rembrandt Peale.



THOMAS SULLY (1783-1872) AND
JANE COOPER SULLY (1807-1877),
AFTER DAVID MARTIN
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
Later inscribed 1834 TS from a Portret
of / Franklin in Peales / Museum Phila /
COPP FROM OLD CANVAS (on
reverse)
oil on canvas
51 x 44 in.
Painted in 1834
Estimate: \$100,000-200,000

REMBRANDT PEALE (1778-1860)
GEORGE WASHINGTON
signed Rembrandt Peale. (lower
left), together with an autograph letter
signed Rembrandt Peale to Enoch
Dean, Philadelphia, 24 December 1852
oil on canvas
36 x 29 1/4 in.
Painted circa 1852
Estimate: \$300,000-500,000

REMBRANDT PEALE (1778-1860)
AFTER JEAN-ANTOINE HOUDON
(1741-1828)
SKETCH FOR GEORGE
WASHINGTON, COLOSSAL PROFILE
AFTER HOUDON
signed, dated and inscribed Rembrandt
Peale. 1855. / from Houdon Bust
of [erased] / Washington 1783.
graphite on paper
8 3/8 x 6 5/8 in.
Executed in 1855
Estimate: \$20,000-40,000

THOMAS SULLY (1783-1872)
DR. BENJAMIN RUSH
initialed and dated TS 1813 (lower left)
oil on canvas
44 1/4 x 34 1/4 in.
Painted in 1813
Estimate: \$100,000-300,000

2. FOLK PAINTINGS: The sale includes major works by some of the most renowned artists in the field. An intimate portrait of a mother and child by the first known Black American professional portraitist, Joshua Johnson, which has remained in the family of the sitters to date; a group of works from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. Martin S. Himeles, Sr., of Pikesville, Maryland that includes an ethereal Ammi Phillips portrait and a signed William Prior portrait of a sister and brother. An overmantel by Winthrop Chandler, which remained in a tavern in Leominster, Massachusetts until the 1980s, is an extremely early example of landscape painting in America.



JOSHUA JOHNSON (C.1763-
AFTER 1824)
MRS. MARTHA (HALL) DORSEY
AND MARY ANN DORSEY
oil on canvas
26 x 25 in.
Painted circa 1804-05
Estimate: \$100,000-200,000



WILLIAM MATTHEW PRIOR (1806-1873)
PORTRAIT OF A GIRL IN A PINK
DRESS AND HER BROTHER
signed, inscribed and dated Painted By /
W.M. Prior. East Boston / 1852 (on
reverse)
oil on paperboard
19 3/4 x 24 in.
Painted in 1852
Estimate: \$50,000-80,000



WINTHROP CHANDLER (1747-1790)
THE KENDALL TAVERN OVERMANTEL
oil on panel
29 x 41 1/4 in.
Painted circa 1785
Estimate: \$100,000-150,000



AMMI PHILLIPS (1788-1865)
MRS. RUTH (HAYNES)
PALMER
oil on canvas
36 x 30 in.
Painted circa 1818
Estimate: \$200,000-300,000

3. FOLK SCULPTURE: Leading this section of the sale are pieces in extraordinary condition from a private collection, including a rare Figure of a Racetrack Tout largely retaining its original painted surface and a large, stylized peacock feather church banner weathervane discovered on a church in Orono, Maine. Other sculptural gems include an "Index" horse weathervane of impressive scale and condition.



A STYLIZED PEACOCK FEATHER SHEET-IRON,
ZINC AND GLASS CHURCH BANNER
WEATHERVANE
USE UPDATED CAPTION
74 3/4 in. long
Estimate: \$60,000-90,000



A CARVED AND PAINTED TRADE FIGURE
DEPICTING A RACETRACK TOUT
PROBABLY NEW YORK CITY OR CHICAGO, CIRCA
1880
on original trapezoidal base
76 in. high, 20 in wide, 18 1/2 in. deep
Estimate: \$300,000-500,000



A MOLDED COPPER AND ZINC HORSE "INDEX"
WEATHERVANE
ATTRIBUTED TO J. HOWARD AND CO., WEST
BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS, CIRCA 1760
23 1/2 in. high, 30 in. long, 2 3/4 in. deep
Estimate: \$10,000-20,000

4. FURNITURE: Highlights include two important chairs that reveal the skill and range of master carver John Pollard: the Deshler side chair and the Dickinson side chair from the Wunsch Collection. Other significant works include a rare and exceptional "Lighthouse" shelf clock (also from the Wunsch Collection) and a Paint-Grained Chest-of-Drawers with sophisticated grain painting that remains in remarkable original condition.



A CLASSICAL MAHOGANY VENEERED AND ORMOLU MOUNTED "LIGHTHOUSE" TIMEPIECE SHELF CLOCK
THE DIAL SIGNED BY SIMON WILLARD (1753-1848), ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS, CIRCA 1825
the white enamel dial inscribed *SIMON WILLARD'S / PATENT*
29 in. high (including dome)
Estimate: \$60,000-90,000



THE DESHLER FAMILY CHIPPENDALE CARVED MAHOGANY SIDE CHAIR
THE CARVING ATTRIBUTED TO JOHN POLLARD (1740-1787), PHILADELPHIA, CIRCA 1769
38½ in. high
Estimate: \$100,000-150,000



THE JOHN DICKINSON CHIPPENDALE CARVED MAHOGANY SIDE CHAIR
THE CARVING ATTRIBUTED TO JOHN POLLARD (1740-1787), PHILADELPHIA, CIRCA 1770
marked *VII* on inside of rear rail, the seat frame marked *V*
37½ in. high
Estimate: \$60,000-90,000



A FEDERAL PAINT-GRAINED BASSWOOD CHEST-OF-DRAWERS
SOUTH SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT, CIRCA 1825
with original painted decoration
42.1/4 in. high, 42.1/2 in. wide, 18 in. deep
Estimate: \$100,000-150,000

SILVER: A strong selection of around 100 lots, with pieces from four important single-owner collections: Colonial silver from the Wunsch family; small gold items like mourning jewelry (including another Myer Myers ring) from the Manney family; 40 lots from the Orange Blossom Collection – the subject of a highly successful sale this past spring – including Tiffany, Whiting and more; and the colonial tankard collection of the late Mr. and Mrs. Bowen Blair of Lake Forest, IL.



PROPERTY FROM THE WUNSCH COLLECTION
AN AMERICAN SILVER SMALL TWO-HANDLED BRANDYWINE BOWL
MARK OF HENRICUS BOELEN II, NEW YORK, CIRCA 1720
6 1/2 in. (16.5 cm.) long, over handles
3 oz. 16 dwt. (118 gr.)
Estimate \$15,000-\$25,000



PROPERTY FROM THE ORANGE BLOSSOM COLLECTION
AN AMERICAN SILVER THREE-HANDLED CUP
MARK OF TIFFANY & CO., NEW YORK, CIRCA 1898
9 1/2 in. (24.1 cm.) high
76 oz. 18 dwt. (2,392 gr.)
Estimate \$3,000-\$5,000



PROPERTY FROM THE COLLECTION OF GLORIA MANNEY
AN AMERICAN GOLD AND ENAMEL MOURNING RING
MARK OF MYER MYERS, NEW YORK, CIRCA 1768
7/8 in. (2.2 cm.) diameter
2 dwt. (3 gr.) gross weight
Estimate \$3,000-\$5,000



PROPERTY FROM THE ESTATE OF JOAN AND BOWEN BLAIR, LAKE FOREST, ILLINOIS
AN AMERICAN SILVER TANKARD
MARK OF JACOB TEN EYCK, ALBANY, NEW YORK, CIRCA 1725
7 in. 17.8 cm.) high
36 oz. 6 dwt. (1,129 gr.)
Estimate \$30,000-\$50,000

CHINESE EXPORT PORCELAIN AND AMERICAN CERAMICS: The selection is led by a group of 40 items from the Estate of Marvin Davidson and includes a very rare pair of dragon-carp tureens and stands, a figure group of Europeans formerly in the famed Mottahedeh collection, an 'erotic' pedicure group, and armorial wares, including a plate from the Okeover service. Other highlights include a beautifully enameled pair of court ladies and European subject wares, encompassing everything from plates with scenes from Don Quixote to barber's basins and 'hunting' punchbowls.



PROPERTY FROM THE ESTATE OF MARVIN DAVIDSON
A CHINESE EXPORT PORCELAIN 'PEDICURE' EROTIC FIGURE GROUP
QIANLONG PERIOD (1736-1795)
8 1/4 in. (21 cm.) wide
Estimate: \$8,000-12,000



PROPERTY FROM THE ESTATE OF MARVIN DAVIDSON
A CHINESE EXPORT PORCELAIN 'ENGLISH MARKET' ARMORIAL SOUP-PLATE FROM THE LEAKE OKEOVER SERVICE
QIANLONG PERIOD (1739-1743)
8 7/8 in. (23.5 cm.) diameter
Estimate: \$7,000-10,000



PROPERTY FROM THE ESTATE OF MARVIN DAVIDSON
A PAIR OF CHINESE EXPORT PORCELAIN DRAGONCARP TUREENS, COVERS AND STANDS
QIANLONG PERIOD (1735-1796)
9 1/4 in. (23.5 cm.) long
Estimate: \$40,000-60,000

Images for press use available [HERE](#).

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