

CHRISTIE'S

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NOBLE COLLECTIONS AT CHRISTIE'S LONDON

30 SEPTEMBER & 1 OCTOBER 2014



London - The sales of *European Noble and Private Collections* at Christie's King Street and South Kensington salerooms on 30 September and 1 October 2014 bring together a remarkable variety of continental works of art with an emphasis on noble and private provenance. The selection of over 700 lots, including paintings, furniture, clocks, sculpture, tapestries, glass, arms and armour, carpets, silver and European and Asian porcelain and works of art, date from the medieval period to the 20th century and reflect the broad and cosmopolitan collecting of Europe's aristocracy, offering a fascinating voyage through their changing tastes across generations. Among the many highlights, the most valuable lot is a magnificent monogrammed French flintlock sporting rifle which belonged to Jerome-Napoleon Bonaparte (1784-1860), King of Westphalia and the youngest brother of Emperor Napoleon, by Nicolas Noël Boutet, Directeur Artiste, Versailles, *circa* 1799-1803 (estimate: £250,000-350,000). With estimates ranging from £400 to £350,000, these sales provide a wealth of opportunities for new and established collectors, interior designers and enthusiasts around the world.

The auctions comprise property from Royal, Princely, Noble and Private European Families, including *Property from descendants of the Barons Nathaniel and Albert von Rothschild*, *Property from the descendants of Daniel Grand d'Hauteville* (1761-181), from *Château d'Hauteville, Vevey, Switzerland* (illustrated above); *Property of a descendant of Emperor Wilhelm II* (1859-1941) of Germany, King of Prussia; *Property from the Royal House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha: the Empire ormolu table service from King Louis Philippe of France*; *Property of the Earl of Radnor, Longford Castle, Wiltshire*; and *Property of a descendant of Ernst Ludwig Graf zu Rantzau* (1869-1930). Works from two properties are to be sold for charity: *The Barbara Piasecka Johnson Collection, proceeds to benefit the Barbara Johnson Foundation* and a *Dutch Collection to benefit the Hartstichting and the Dutch Cancer Society*.

European Noble and Private Collections Part I, 30 September 2014

Arms and Armour



Leading the array of fine arms and armour being offered from private collections is *The Flintlock Sporting Rifle of Jerome-Napoleon, King of Westphalia* (estimate: £250,000-350,000, *illustrated left*). Bearing the monogram of the King (*detail illustrated below*), this magnificent French Flintlock sporting rifle by Nicolas Noël Boutet, Directeur Artiste, Versailles, *circa* 1799-1803, is offered from the *Property of a German Collector*. Emperor Napoleon created the Kingdom of Westphalia in 1807 from former Prussian and Hanoverian possessions between the rivers Weser and Elbe, and the greater part of electoral Hesse with the capital established at Kassel, and placed his brother Jerome on the throne. Examples of Boutet's work for Napoleon and his brothers survive in national collections around the world with the largest concentration at the Musée de l'Armée in Paris.



Furniture & Works of Art



A Louis XV ormolu-mounted kingwood and parquetry bombé commode by Mathieu Criaerd, from the mid-18th century, is among the *Property from the descendants of Daniel Grand d'Hauteville (1761-181), from Château d'Hauteville, Vevey, Switzerland* (estimate: £80,000-120,000, *illustrated left*). With its sophisticated diamond pattern parquetry and jewel-like scrolled mounts, this commode is a beautiful example of the work of the celebrated *ébéniste* Mathieu Criaerd.

Almost exclusively supplied through the *marchand-mercier* Thomas-Joachim Hébert, Criaerd delivered a number of masterpieces to the French Royal family. He is probably most famous for the lacquered commode executed in blue and white *vernis Martin* and mounted in silvered bronze, which Hébert delivered in 1742 for the bedroom of Louis XV's mistress, Madame de Mailly, at the château of Choisy, now in the Louvre.

Property from the Royal House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha [lots 183-200] presents the opportunity to acquire *the Empire ormolu five-section table service from King Louis Philippe of France*, which is attributed to Pierre-Philippe Thomire, Paris, *circa* 1810-1815 (estimate: £15,000-25,000, *illustrated right*).



A comparable smaller *surtout-de-table* was previously in the collection of Lucien Bonaparte, and is now in the collection of the Musée Marmottan, Paris. A charming silver-mounted enamelled Humpen and a contemporary cover, 1654, possibly Franconia, which depicts the Treaty of Westphalia that in 1648 brought an end to the Thirty Years' War, is offered from the *Property of a descendant of Ernst Ludwig Graf zu Rantzau (1869-1930)* (estimate: £5,000-8,000, *illustrated left*).



Ceramics



The rich offering of ceramics is led by a *Louis XV ormolu-mounted Meissen model of a Jay, circa 1740*, naturalistically rendered by J.J. Kändler and among the *Property from descendants of the Barons Nathaniel and Albert von Rothschild* [lots 113-139, 376-377 + 488-519] (estimate: £30,000-50,000, *illustrated left*). Examples of Chinese export from European collections include a near pair of Chinese *famille verte* trumpet-necked massive vases, Kangxi Period, which is among *Property from a Private Belgium Collection* (estimate: £15,000-25,000, *illustrated right*) and a Chinese *famille verte* armorial 'province' dish, Kangxi Period, *circa 1720* (estimate: £3,000-4,000, *illustrated right*) which is among *Property from a Dutch Collection to benefit the Hartstichting and the Dutch Cancer Society* (lots 57, 140-154, 366-374, 550-622).



Silver



A German silver soup-tureen and cover, mark of Gottfried Bartermann, Augsburg, 1761-1763, is offered among the *Property from descendants of the Barons Nathaniel and Albert von Rothschild* (estimate: £30,000-50,000, *illustrated left*). It is part of the 'Jagdservice' or Hunting Service, the centrepiece of which is thought to have been presented by Kurfurst Karl Theodors von Pfalz (1724-1799) to the Bishop of Lille. A tureen, cover and stand from the service are in the collection of the Baerisches Nationalmuseum, Munich. In a study on Augsburg goldsmiths, by Helmut Selig, the *Jagdservice* is noted to be a masterpiece due to its superior design and execution; its charming design emblematic of the playful character of the Rococo. From the *Property of a Descendant of Emperor Wilhelm II (1859-1941) of Germany, King of Prussia* comes a set of twenty-four German silver dinner-plates with the mark of Gebrüder Friedländer, Berlin, 800 standard (estimate: £15,000-25,000, *illustrated right*).



Musical Instruments



The Viola da Gamba from The Earl of Radnor, Longford Castle, Wiltshire provides a very rare opportunity to acquire an important English Bass Viol, *circa 1691*, by Barak Norman who is widely recognised to be one of the best known makers of Viols in England during the seventeenth and eighteenth century. It is thought to have been commissioned by Sir Edward Bouverie, in 1691, and thence by descent to The Earl of Radnor (estimate: £15,000-25,000, *detail illustrated left*).

Paintings and Drawings



Continuing Christie's offering from *The Barbara Piasecka Johnson Collection, Proceeds to Benefit the Barbara Johnson Foundation*, further works include a painting of *Saint Francis in Ecstasy* by Sebastiano Ricci (1659-1734) £25,000-35,000, *illustrated left*) and a drawing of *The Madonna and Child Adored By Saints Jerome and Catherine of Alexandria* by Giovanni Battista Tiepolo (1696-1770) (estimate: £20,000-30,000, *illustrated right*).



Tapestries



Fine tapestries from the 16th century to the 18th century range from a Louis XV biblical tapestry, Gobelins, dated 1759, after the design by Jean-François de Troy, by Pierre-François Cozette which is offered from *The Property of a Lady* (estimate: £20,000-30,000, *illustrated left*), to a Flemish Armorial tapestry after David Teniers the Younger, probably by Jacques (or Jacob I) van der

Borcht, Brussels, late 17th century (estimate: £15,000-25,000, *illustrated right*).



European Noble and Private Collections Part II, South Kensington - 1 October 2014









Property from the descendants of the Barons Nathaniel and Albert von Rothschild
A monogram canvas cabin trunk and a monogram canvas Alzer suitcase Louis Vuitton, *circa* 1960. The monogram 'C de R' is that of Baroness Clarice de Rothschild, née Sebag-Montefiore, who married Alphonse de Rothschild (1878-1942) in 1912.
Estimate: £1,500-2,000



Property from the descendants of the Barons Nathaniel and Albert von Rothschild
A silk and metal-thread 'Polonaise' rug Isfahan, Central Persia, first quarter 17th century
Estimate: £10,000-15,000



Property from a Private Belgian Collection
A late Louis XVI ormolu striking mantel clock by Lepaute, Paris, *circa* 1775
Estimate: £5,000-8,000

		
<p><i>The Barbara Piasecka Johnson Collection, Proceeds to Benefit the Barbara Johnson Foundation</i> Central Italian School, 15th century, Two wings from a portable altarpiece: Saint Dominic and the Archangel Gabriel; and Saint Francis and the Annunciate Virgin oil on panel, shaped Estimate: £6,000-8,000</p>	<p><i>Property from a Private German Collection</i> A continental Fayence polychrome flask, 18th century or later modelled as a double-headed eagle, inscribed <i>FLAMMAS EXTINGUIT</i> Estimate: £1,000-1,500</p>	<p><i>Property from a Dutch Collection</i> Johann Friedrich August Tischbein (1750-1812), <i>Portrait of a gentleman</i>, signed and dated 'F. Tischbein. p. / 1779' (lower left) oil on canvas, oval Estimate: £5,000-8,000</p>
		
<p><i>Property from the descendants of Daniel Grand d'Hauteville</i> A set of twelve caricatures: Studies of d'Hauteville and friends in theatrical costume, inscribed 'Theatre d'Hauteville', 'Les Bourgeois de qualité ou la fete de village' with the name of the character depicted pen and ink and watercolour Estimate: £800-1,200</p>	<p><i>Property from the descendants of Daniel Grand d'Hauteville</i> Two ash and polychrome decorated presentation oars: one Trinity College, Cambridge University dated 1894, the other Eton College dated 1932 Estimate: £800-1,200</p>	<p><i>Fine Arms & Armour from Private Collections</i> A highland dress outfit including percussion dress pistols, a basket-hilt sword for an Officer of the Royal Scots, and a Dirk and Skean Dhu, the pistols signed g. bell, 33 Queen Street, Glasgow, circa 1870 Estimate: £4,000-6,000</p>

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