

CHRISTIE'S

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LALIQUE AN IMPORTANT PRIVATE COLLECTION LONDON, 30 APRIL



PERRUCHES VASE, NO. 876
Estimate: £20,000-25,000



MONTARGIS VASE, NO. 1022
Estimate: £35,000-45,000



ESCARGOT VASE, NO. 931
Estimate: £25,000-30,000

London – Christie's London is pleased to announce the single owner collection *Lalique: An Important Private Collection*, which will take place at Christie's King Street on 30 April. The calibre of this private collection bears testimony to the discerning eye of the collector, and is a fitting tribute to the extraordinary vision and creativity of the master glass-maker René Lalique, who continues to enthrall an international audience nearly seven decades after his death. Distinguished from previous collections which have appeared on the market in the last decades, this collection primarily focuses on large-scale vases in rare designs and a wide spectrum of colours. In addition to the jewel-like coloured works, there are a number of exquisite hand-crafted *cire perdue* vases and a selection of significant display items, such as *Oiseau De Feu*, which features a mythical firebird and is illuminated from below (estimate: £25,000-35,000 *illustrated right*). With estimates ranging from £2,500 to £150,000, the 84 lots are expected to realise in the region of £2 million.

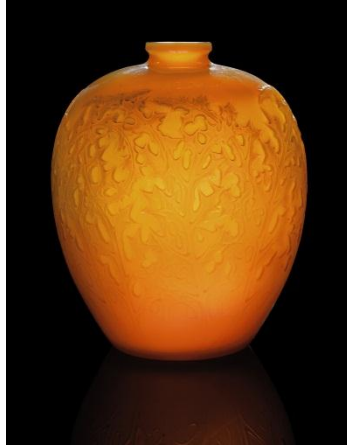
Christie's has been selling Lalique since 1971 and has offered more Lalique at auction than any other auction house internationally. In 2013, Christie's Lalique sale in London realised over £1.3 million, the highest total ever achieved.



MASTER OF ART DECO GLASS



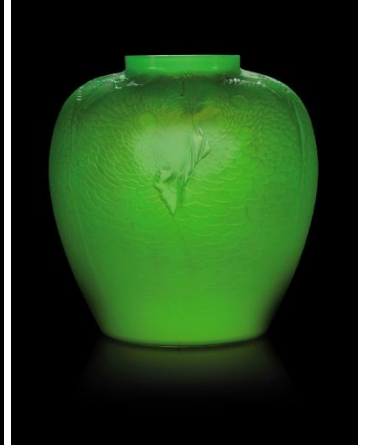
RONCES VASE, NO. 946
Estimate £6,000-8,000



ACANTHES VASE, NO. 902
Estimate: £10,000-15,000



SAUTERELLES VASE, NO. 888
Estimate £20,000-30,000



ALICANTE VASE, NO. 998
Estimate £30,000-40,000



Having explored and utilised the technical and artistic potential of glass as a medium, René Lalique's legacy is a luxury brand that is synonymous with both quality and artistry. In addition to the jewel-like vases, including those illustrated above, the sale includes three incredibly rare *cire perdue* vases exemplified by the lot *Frise branches d'épines cire perdue vase and cover, no. CP 201* (estimate: £80,000-120,000, *illustrated left*). The *cire perdue* or lost wax technique, more typically employed in the production of bronzes, is an ancient form for casting a unique piece, in which a wax model is covered in plaster. It is then heated and the liquid wax removed and replaced with molten glass. Once cooled, the plaster mould is destroyed, making each piece a unique expression of the master glassmaker's craft.

BRONZE AND GLASS



René Lalique designed only two rare vases with bronze handles, both of which feature in the sale. In the *Cluny* vase the bronze handles frame and support Medusa masks, before rising as serpents which bite the top rim (estimate: £100,000-150,000, *illustrated left*). By contrast, the *Senlis* vase, named after the medieval town in northern France, has elegant handles modelled as branches of fruiting foliage (estimate: £60,000 – 80,000, *illustrated right*). Both examples are exceptionally sought-after by private collectors given their high impact and exquisite summation of Art Deco style and flair.



FURTHER HIGHLIGHTS



Further highlights of the auction include the delicate *Enfant Statuette*, (estimate: £20,000-30,000, *illustrated left*). Formerly from the collection of Michel Lang, Chef de l'Atelier De Taille, Lalique Combs-la-Ville, the work was passed through the family by descent until it was purchased by the vendor.

Michel Lang was Chef de l'Atelier de Taille at Lalique's Combs-la-Ville glassworks until 1933 and he kept this piece on his desk. His son Michel Lang Jr also worked at Lalique from 1908 until 1974.



COURLIS VASE, NO. 1035
Estimate: £5,000-7,000



TOURBILLON VASE, NO. 973
Estimate: £15,000-20,000



BELLECOUR VASE, NO. 993
Estimate: £25,000-35,000

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