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Photographer and photobook author Richard Avedon at work.
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Auction Guide

Contents • Autumn 2017 • www.finebooksmagazine.com

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View From the Top
Aerial map of pre-fire Chicago one of many rare finds at Leslie Hindman Auctioneer’s September sale.

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New Auction House
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Forum Auctions may be young, but its expert team achieves strong results.

FineBooksMagazine.com/store
Historical significance, this area was where many people fleeing the disaster sought refuge in the aftermath of the fire.

In addition to its value as a contemporary depiction of pre-fire Chicago, this map is also exceedingly rare. "There are only four known copies of this particular view of Chicago, and three of those copies are in institutional collec-

50,000. Hause said this is a "very nice" copy.

The map's large size could have played a factor in its rarity, as large paper items are hard to preserve. Measuring at 1,175 mm x 2,060 mm, the map was printed on four separate sheets.

As the only known copy of this pre-fire view of Chicago in private hands the auction presents a rare oppor-

Design: Leslie Hindman Auctioneers
In the auction world, Doyle is known as a house presenting a wide range of anti-quarian items within its two major book sales each year. Previous sales have contained every kind of rarity, from a Babylonian cylinder to more traditional books. At this year’s Rare Books, Autographs, and Maps sale at Doyle on November 7, collectors will find a wide range of items, with pieces from many fields and in many price ranges.

Several letters will be auctioned, including an autograph letter in French by the Marquis de Sade, dated March 12, 1793 and estimated at $4,000–6,000. At the time the four-page letter was written, Sade’s name had appeared on a list solely because he had fled the Revolution and wanted to prove an American publisher could do just as well and printed it unknowingly to Caétan and without his authorization.

Robert Thornton’s New Illustration of the Sexual System of Carolus von Linnæus Comprehending the Temple of Flora, or Garden of Nature, the large folio first edition printed by Thomas Bensley between 1799-1807, is to be auctioned and is estimated at $60,000–80,000. This is one of the greatest of all English floral color plate books and is one of the greatest plate books of all time, period,” Ripley-Duggan said. “It is an unusually complete copy with two additional plates not usually found in addition to the twenty-eight requisite plates.”

These items represent a small sample of what Doyle’s November sale will have to offer. With such a range of printed and written materials, there will be many that will be prime additions to any collection.

Typescript leaf of James Joyce’s Ulysses (1919-1922), consisting of page twenty-three from the printer’s typescript manuscript for Chapter Twelve of Ulysses, printed in London by Chatto and Windus in 1879, featuring six additional unnumbered plates ($50,000–80,000). This is one of the greatest of all English floral color plate books and is one of the greatest plate books of all time, period,” Ripley-Duggan said. “It is an unusually complete copy with two additional plates not usually found in addition to the twenty-eight requisite plates.”

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George Catlin’s North American Indian Portfolio (1845), printed by James Ackerman in New York, $100,000–120,000.

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The Age of Exploration

Bonhams’ Fine Books sale includes rare early texts centered on discovery.

From world travels to artistic innovation, the quest for new experiences and ideas has driven mankind for millennia. On September 26, the Bonhams Fine Books and Manuscripts sale will highlight the vast history of human discovery.

One incunabulum of note is a first edition of Bernhard von Breydenbach’s Peregrinatio in Terram Sanctam, illustrated by the Dutch artist Erhard Reuwich and printed in 1486. Breydenbach’s account of his pilgrimage to the Holy Land is the earliest printed first-hand travel account of the region with woodcut illustrations by Reuwich, who accompanied Breydenbach on his journey. Ian Ehling, the new director of the Bonhams Fine Books and Manuscripts department, called this work “one of the most beautiful and important early books to be printed.”

“IT is also the first book to be printed with folding plates,” Ehling said. “The views of Venice and Jerusalem, for instance, are large folding plates that were printed on multiple wood blocks and then pasted together. Because of the fragility of the folding plates this work is rarely found complete.”

Another significant item up for sale is the Basel 1494 edition of the De Insulis nuper in mari Indico repertis by Christopher Columbus. Ehling said: “This is the most important book in any Americana or Travel and Exploration collection.” Ehling said: “It is one of the earliest obtainable editions. We are offering the second illustrated edition which is of the greatest rarity. Only three other copies of this edition have been sold at auction in the past one hundred years. The only extant complete copy of this illustrated edition is in the collection of the New York Public Library.”

Also on offer is a Bonhams’ Fine Books & Manuscripts sale item. The 1525-29 edition of Underweysung der messung by Albrecht Dürer is one of the greatest rarities. Dürer and designed for press toward the end of his life. The works include a treatise on perspective and proportion in drawing, painting, architecture, and letter forms; a treatise on fortification; and a treatise on the proportion of the human body. The sammelband is bound in a contemporary German binding.

“Dürer studied for several years in Italy,” Ehling said. “This sammelband contains three of his major works that introduced the Northern European audience to the Italian Renaissance principles of perspective and proportion.”

These works encompass major moments in Western history and chronicle periods of vast change in human thought and achievement. Important both for the impact of their contents upon the world, as well as for their significance as early printed texts, these rare books make unique additions to any collection.

Bonhams @Auction

FINE BOOKS & MANUSCRIPTS
Featuring Exploration & Travel
Tuesday, September 26, 2017, 1pm
New York

INQUIRIES
+1 (212) 710 1308
books@bonhams.com

Bonhams@Auction

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Illustration Art
Draws Collectors

Why Swann Galleries launched its newest record-setting department.

From beloved children’s books to magazine covers, illustration art shapes the narrative and adds dimension to a story. While not new to auctions, it is only in recent years that the popularity of these works has soared. This shift led Swann Galleries, a house that specializes in rare and antiquarian books, to establish a separate Illustration Art department in 2012. The department deals exclusively with original works of art intended for publication, including book and magazine illustrations, advertising art, theater, costume, and film designs, cartoons, and comics.

Maurice Sendak

The department regularly establishes auction records for artists: new to the market and breaks existing records. These include $252,000 for Georges Lepape’s 1927 Vogue cover, Le Miroir, in September 2016, and Howard Chandler Christy’s original charcoal and pastel maquette for the iconic I Am an American, 1941, which was purchased for $162,000 in January 2016.

We have become well known for our popular New Yorker magazine section where we feature original cover art and cartoons by great names from the famed

What are some of the high-
lights of the department?

Last fall, we sold a redcow-ered illustration by Theodor Geisel, or Dr. Seuss, of Todd and Todd, which realized $125,700 in the same sale we sold a 1922 Harper’s Bazaar cover by Erte titled La Cage Impromptu for $245,000. We also offer new-to-mar-
ket cartoons by Charles Addams and unique works by Aubrey Beardsley, Ludwig Bemelmans, and

Illustration Art

What is most exciting about this category? Nearly every work is a little for a popular publication that it is not “serious” or techni-
cally sophisticated art, but so much can go into a first-class example. The light in a Berenice Abbot with over 1,000 signatures by notables, including Ernest Hemingway & George S. Patton, on 83 pieces of joined currency, 1940s.

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New Auction House Sets Records

Forum Auctions may be young, but its expert team achieves strong results.

Stephan Ludwig had an idea. The former CEO of Dreweatts and Bloomsbury Auctions, he envisioned an international auction house that provided a high level of customer experience that could carry that experience into online bidding and the digital space. Now, in less than two years, Forum Auctions has emerged, growing and even setting sales records.

Forum Auctions has three departments: Books, Old Master and Decorative Prints, and Modern and Contemporary Prints and Editions. The house also handles all manner of manuscript material, printed ephemera, maps, and photographs. Said Rupert Powell, deputy chairman and head of books at Forum, “Our company was born out of a desire to enhance much of what many of us had spent years establishing, but developing that further in terms of online bidding and customer experience.”

In founding this new auction house, Ludwig recruited many former colleagues with whom he had worked—specialists and support staff members who would create a cohesive team with a strong background in the auction world.

“I think I speak for all my colleagues when I say that we are rejuvenated and inspired by what Forum Auctions initially promised and, a year on, has already spectacularly delivered,” Powell said. “We are genuinely thrilled to be working together, and there is a fabulous team spirit. That positivity translates into exciting and interesting consignments, successful auctions, and satisfaction for both buyer and seller.”

Powell joined the Forum Auctions team in July 2016. Only two weeks later, the house’s first auction reached nearly a £2 million hammer total with a two-day sale featuring antiquarian books, modern literature, and maps.

Banksy’s print, *Girl with Balloon*, sold for £45,000 ($84,155) hammer on October 12, 2016—a world record auction price. Powell noted this was a “white-glove affair,” based on the nineteenth-century century tradition that when every lot sells, the auctioneer is presented with a pair of white gloves. In Modern Print auctions since, another sixty Banksy lots have sold, with a hammer total well over £1.25 million.

“Across the board we have achieved extraordinary results in a short period and established a position as the leading specialist auction house,” Powell said.

He attributes the house’s success to its focus on specific markets, strong specialist staff, and forward-thinking vision. Other keys to success at Forum are its blend of traditional and online selling with pre-sale viewing combined with Forum’s seasoned professionals that provide a unique market position. Because team members are also stakeholders in the business, they have a vested interest in its performance.

“We combine knowledge of subject with a passion for what we do,” Powell said. “And, most importantly, we are friendly and always happy to talk with customers about any aspect of our world, whether it’s buying or selling, discussing current prices or trends; undertaking valuations for sale, probate, or insurance; or even rare book or print world gossip. We believe that Forum Auctions is the optimum ‘one-stop shop’ for the buying and selling of rare books and works on paper.”

Peggy Caruthers lives in North Berwick and is the editor of custom content at Journalistic inc.

Forum Auctions

Welcoming Auction Entries

We are now welcoming consignments of Books, Manuscripts and other works on paper into our Autumn sales calendar. Our team of experts would be delighted to provide a free, confidential and no obligation valuation on your items.

Wednesday 27 September: Fine Books and Works on Paper
Thursday 12 October: The Edge Hall Library including Travel, Natural History, Literature and more
Thursday 16 November: Fine Books, Western Manuscripts and Works on Paper

Full auction calendar and further details: www.forumauctions.co.uk

Contact: Rupert Powell | r.powell@forumauctions.co.uk | +44 (0) 20 7871 2640
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