

# Waterfront Westport Estate Comes To Benefit Shop Auction

MOUNT KISCO, N.Y. — When John Edelman bought his Westport, Conn., waterfront home, it came with a collection of high-end design furniture and European antiques. Edelman, chief executive officer of Design Within Reach in Stamford, Conn. and his wife, Bonnie, favor the Mid-century Modern aesthetic. So they are donating the entire collection to the Benefit Shop Foundation, which will showcase it in its monthly Red Carpet auction on Wednesday, December 5, at 10 am.

The auction will include European furniture, period Regency pieces, George III antiques, tailored English antiques, French country, Asian decorative arts and bespoke pieces that came out of New York's famed D&D Design Center.

A portion of the proceeds from the auction will benefit the Edelmanns' favorite charitable organization, Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS (DIFFA) in New York City, as well as local organizations supported by the Benefit Shop Foundation.

"John and Bonnie Edelman have graciously donated more than 200 items to this sale from their home, encompassing a variety of fine periods and styles," said Pam Stone, owner and founder of the Benefit Shop Foundation. "We are grateful to them for their generosity and know that buyers will be thrilled to see these gorgeous antique and designer pieces coming to market, many for the first time in decades." Stone added that the auction will be the first in the firm's new, larger space at 185 Kisco Avenue, which is just around the corner from its former location but boasts an enviable 10,000 square feet of gallery space. The company's phone number remains the same — 914-864-0707.

"In ten years of business, we have grown to the point where our current space no longer adequately meets our needs," said Stone. "Our new facility is not



**This designer home was filled with high-end furnishings and striking antiques. The room-size rug and the chandelier here are among the items on offer.**

only much bigger but allows us to better design the interior space the way we want to, with one area for storage and another for staff, with ample room for previewing items and from which to conduct our auctions."

The best place to start when decorating a room is the floor. This auction offers several choices for buyers in the market for a new rug. Highlights of the waterfront Westport home include a Lavar collection Kerman room-size Oriental rug featuring an overall vine scroll and floral pattern on ivory ground, 13 feet, 10 inches by 19 feet (\$5/10,000); an Indian Amritsar room-size carpet in shades of blue and ivory, measuring 9 feet, 7 inches by 13 feet, 8 inches (\$3/6,000); and a Tabriz room-size carpet with overall vine scroll design on a blue ground, measuring 8 feet, 10 inches by 12 feet, 9 inches (\$2/4,000).

George III furniture is well-represented in the auction, led by a mahogany serving table, circa 1775, having leaf and fruit garlands decoration, part-fluted and reed-tapered square legs ending in spade feet, 36 by 81½ by 27 inches (\$3/6,000); and a mahogany and satinwood banded chest on chest, circa 1790, with a molded top, top section

canted corners with inlaid flutes, 77½ by 42 by 20 inches (\$1,5/3,000).

The grouping of English furniture continues with an English Regency rosewood center table with lion's feet base, circa 1825, and an antique linen press, late Eighteenth Century, having an upper case rounded molded top over paneled doors and carved twist columns on corners, 77 by 47 by 22 inches (\$1/2,000).

Designer offerings sourced from D&D Design Center include a set of ten dining side chairs in the Louis XVIII style, having barley twist legs and designer upholstery, 49 by 27 by 30 inches (\$1,5/3,000), and a Lorin Marsh dots oval mirror in the Art Deco style that is ringed with convex circular mirror dots in the border, 39 by 56 inches, which was originally bought from the Lorin Marsh showroom in the D&D building (\$1/3,000).

The auction runs from the floor up with the aforementioned carpets all the way up to the ceiling, featuring a 16-light tiered chandelier, a Saugatuck ceiling light fixture, Twentieth Century, 69 by 51 inches (\$600-\$1,200); a circa 1930 wrought iron, six-arm chandelier (\$400/800) and a wrought iron and crystal scroll nine-light



**A handmade Indian Amritsar room-size wool carpet measures 9 feet, 7 inches by 13 feet, 8 inches (\$3/6,000).**



**An antique George III mahogany serving table circa 1775 (\$3/6,000).**

chandelier, Twentieth Century (\$400/800).

Rounding out the auction are a Chinese bamboo and wood altar table with scrolled sides, detailed fretwork and lattice work, 37 by 83 by 16 inches (\$400/800), and an antique French dresser painted in pale gray and cream, late Nineteenth Century, 40 by 20 by 34½ inches (\$1/2,000).

The monthly Red Carpet sales feature choice collections of

antique, Midcentury Modern, brand furnishings, sterling china, crystal, jewelry and fine art. With a mission of "to donate, to discover and to do good," the foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and auction proceeds support community organizations. Consignors get a tax deduction, the buyer gets a great deal and local nonprofits get much-needed funds. For more information, 914-864-0707 or [www.thebenefitshop.org](http://www.thebenefitshop.org).

## The Morgan Acquires Drawings By Major Twentieth Century Southern African American Artists

NEW YORK CITY — The Morgan Library & Museum has announced that it is expanding its collection — one of the most important collections of drawings in the United States — to include 11 drawings by five major Twentieth Century African American artists from the South. Largely self-taught, these artists — Thornton Dial, Nellie Mae Rowe, Henry Speller, Luster Willis and Purvis Young — use drawing to express their personal and cultural identity, finding inspiration in their own lives as well as in common experiences and folk imagery. The Morgan acquired

the drawings through a gift-purchase agreement from the Souls Grown Deep Foundation, whose mission is to preserve and disseminate the works of African American artists from the Southern United States.

This acquisition supports the Morgan's goal to expand the scope and depth of its collection of modern and contemporary drawings by including works from the vernacular, non-academic traditions of the visual arts. It recognizes the important contribution made to the history of drawing by artists working outside the conventional channels and expands

the reflection on the role and significance of the medium of drawing as a vehicle to express a particular identity.

In addition, this acquisition encourages more in-depth study of the dialog between vernacular, non-academic traditions in the visual arts and the production of mainstream artists. Canonical Twentieth Century artists from Pablo Picasso and Jean Dubuffet, to Jasper Johns and Rosemarie Trockel found inspiration in the creations of the non-academically trained to infuse their work with a new energy.

Dr Maxwell L. Anderson, pres-

ident of the Souls Grown Deep Foundation said, "Our core mission is to advocate for artists of the African American South represented in our collection. We could not be happier to announce that the Morgan Library & Museum will now have significant holdings of these artists in their permanent collection. These acquisitions will broaden the exposure of drawings by these important American artists among audiences around the country and provide new opportunities for exhibition, research, and other partnerships."

These works also complement

objects in other collecting areas at the Morgan, notably African American folk songs in the printed music department, and African American poetry and first editions of Harlem Renaissance writers such as Langston Hughes, abundantly represented in the Carter Burden collection of modern American literature in the printed books department. The Morgan is planning to feature these new acquisitions in an exhibition in 2021.

The Morgan Library & Museum is at 225 Madison Avenue. For information, 212-685-0008 or [www.themorgan.org](http://www.themorgan.org).

## CHRISTMAS ANTIQUE SHOW

SAT., DEC. 1, 10 AM - 4 PM • SUN., DEC. 2, 11 AM - 3 PM

TURNPIKE ROAD SCHOOL • ROUTE 517, OLDWICK, NJ

3 mi north of Oldwick • GPS directions: 173 Old Turnpike Road, Califon, NJ 07830

*53 Exhibitors providing the finest country antiques, estate jewelry, vintage Christmas decorations, fine silver, period furniture, vintage linens, decorated stoneware & a grand variety of everything antique.*

Admission: \$8/person (\$7 w/ ad) Benefits: Tewksbury Hist Society  
Managed by: Bob Lutz 609-865-9846