

Majolica, Designer Fur Chair To Star At Benefit Shop Foundation

MOUNT KISCO, N.Y. — Eye-catching and unusual items — from a majolica collection to a Francis Sultana fur chair — will highlight Benefit Shop Foundation's Red Carpet auction on Wednesday, May 8, at 10 am.

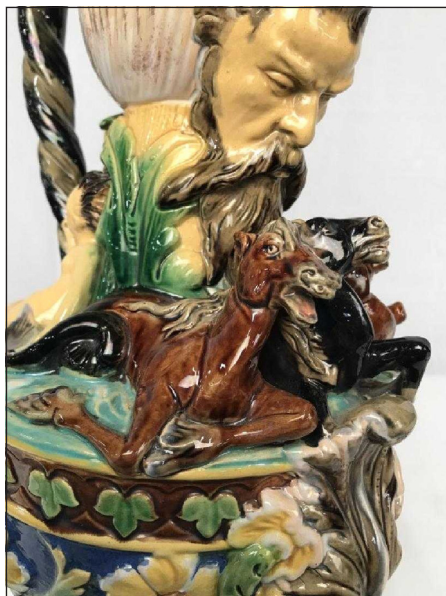
"Eclectic auctions are our specialty, and we always aim to have a range of fine items across the board, from fine art and midcentury furniture to jewelry and antiques, but we also manage to pull off a few surprises in each auction," said Pam Stone, owner and founder of the Benefit Shop Foundation. "The Sultana chair, known as the 'Green Yak' by its former owner, is a knockout piece, and we are quite pleased, too, with the majolica wares that came out of a single estate in Bedford, N.Y."

All donated by a supportive community member, the colorful majolica wares are all intricately designed and sublime examples of the genre. Highlights include a signed antique Medusa ceramic vase (\$400/800) in a trophy form having a jug handle with Medusa head medallions in relief, coiled snake forms around handles, butterflies, vines and more, richly glazed, dated 1874, 15 inches tall; and an early and signed ornate horse putti dragon vessel (\$400/800) with a bearded male in relief under ribbed spout, with three horse figurals under the beard with swirls, swags and geometric sand scroll work surrounded by putti and children, 19 inches tall.

Another statement piece of majolica is an early and signed Joseph Holdcroft majolica Daisy pitcher (\$200/400) that will vie for bidders' attention. This rich



A signed Medusa majolica trophy vase form (\$400/800), dated 1874, has Medusa head medallions in relief, coiled snake forms around handles, butterflies and vines.



An early and signed ornate horse putti dragon majolica vessel (\$400/800) is richly detailed with cupids and putti, horse figurals, swirl and scrolls, 19 inches tall.



Known affectionately as the "Green Yak" by its former owner is this Anita Kidassia armchair by Francis Sultana in dark blue-green fur, 33 by 36 by 38 inches wide (\$3/6,000).

cocoa-toned glazed piece with colorful vines and dogwoods stands 10½ inches tall.

Auctions also have a touch of the unexpected, and a highlight here is the aforementioned Anita Kidassia armchair by Francis Sultana in a dark blue-green tone (\$3/6,000), measuring 33 by 36 by 38 inches. A go-to interior designer, Sultana hung out his shingle in 2009 to create interiors for many of his major art collector clients, creating statement pieces such as this chair.

Traditional and midcentury furniture will also be well-represented in the auction, including an antique oval extendable dining table (\$1,5/3,500) with intricate base design and exten-

sion two leaves, measuring about 131 inches long with leaves; a John Widdicomb display curio cabinet (\$1,5/3,000) with four doors, Russian Empire style with beveled glass doors and a lighted interior, 87 by 84 by 16 inches; and a set of eight Russell Woodard Sculptura MCM patio pieces (\$1/1,300), including four iron armchairs, an octagonal dining table and three smaller side tables, all purchased by the consignor in the 1950s.

Rounding out the auction are antique floor-size ceramic seated Buddha statue (\$300/600), possibly Hindu, glazed with vibrant saffron yellow and moss green hues, 30½ inches tall; an Art Nouveau sterling silver

water pitcher, 19 inches tall and weighing in at 51 troy ounces, made in the 1880s by New York company Black Starr & Frost; and a signed Fernando Lanhas (1923–2012) oil on canvas (\$500–\$1,000) of a vivid yellow and black abstract geometric expressionist composition, 18¾

by 15 inches. Lanhas was a Portuguese painter and architect who was influenced by music, astronomy and the international abstract movement.

The auction gallery is at 185 Kisco Avenue, Suite 201. For information, 914-864-0707 or www.thebenefitshop.org.

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George Eastman Museum Hosts Nathan Lyons Retrospective, 'In Pursuit Of Magic'

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — The George Eastman Museum is presenting a retrospective of the late Nathan Lyons, to celebrate the impact the photographer, curator, writer and educator has had on the history and practice of photography. "Nathan Lyons: In Pursuit of Magic" will be on view through June 9.

The exhibition, which includes 160 photographs and photobooks, offers the first opportunity to see Lyon's final photographs alongside his earlier bodies of work. Lyons, who died in 2016, had a tremendous impact on the history and practice of photography. For more than 60 years, his commitment to the medium infused his photographs, photobooks, writings, curatorial practice and teaching. His work as a writer and curator has been widely cel-

ebrated, but his own art is not as well known. "Nathan Lyons: In Pursuit of Magic" concentrates exclusively on his own photography, which drove his other activities in the field.

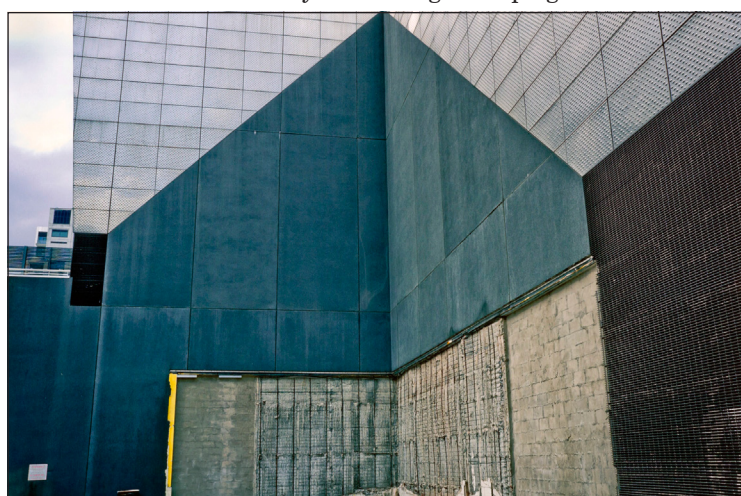
One of the primary features of Lyons's work is his use of juxtaposition and sequence as a core tenet of visual language. He strongly believed in visual literacy as the key to navigating modern social life. His color work brings his vision full circle, providing a platform for discussion about the overwhelming presence of images and advertising in contemporary society. "In Pursuit of Magic" details Lyons' vision and demonstrates its relevance for a new, visually sophisticated audience.

The museum is presenting a range of programs associated

with the exhibition, including a collaboration with Rochester's Wall\Therapy, gallery talks with special guests, and a panel discussion about visual literacy that encourages a close look at Lyons's pictures.

An illustrated book of the same title, co-published by the University of Texas Press and the George Eastman Museum, accompanies the exhibition.

"Nathan Lyons: In Pursuit of Magic" was co-curated by Jamie M. Allen and Lisa Hostetler from the George Eastman Museum. The museum is at 900 East Avenue. For information, 585-327-4800 or www.eastman.org.



Nathan Lyons (American, 1930–2016), untitled (New York City), 2014, inkjet print. Loan from the Estate of Nathan Lyons. ©Estate of Nathan Lyons.

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Event Inquiries: Steve and Lorraine German (860) 653-5733 Email: madriverrantiques@aol.com
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