

Benefit Shop Foundation Sale Will Lure Fan-addicts June 13

MOUNT KISCO, N.Y. — Antique fan collectors will find a fanciful grouping of antique fans on Wednesday, June 13, at 10 am, highlighting the Benefit Shop Foundation's monthly Red Carpet auction.

Consigned a few months ago from a New York City estate, a grouping of around 100 antique folding fans is being divided up among several auctions continuing here this summer. The initial offering crossed the block in the May auction.

"This offering came out of the blue, and we have been having fun sorting through the collection and amazed at the variety here. There are several fans with bone work, others with feathers, and the details are really what makes these so special," said owner and founder Pam Stone. "We offered a few dozen fans in May, and they performed very well — one sold for more than \$2,000 and two for more than \$500 — and I think the quality in the June auction is just as good."

Ladies have used fans for centuries. Even today, fans are highly collectible, but their delicate nature makes regular use ill-advised when it comes to the most valuable examples.

In the June auction, equally desirable and striking ladies fans, all antique and hand-painted, are represented, including a Boucher French fan (\$200/400), having mother-



This Boucher antique hand-painted ladies' French fan has mother-of-pearl handles.

of-pearl handles and decorated with gold painted putties, cherubs, birds, castles, etc., measures 21 by 13 inches when open and a silk wood folding fan toque lady's fan painted on possibly silk or treated paper, featuring Asian themed hand-painting on both sides on a silk purple background, Asian figurals, 24 by 14 inches (\$100/200).

While fans with ivory cannot be auctioned in the United States, several fans here are embellished with bone. Stand-outs include a two-sided fan with intricately carved bone guards featuring flower and leaf motif and painted portraits of royal figures, 9 by 13 inches (\$100/200); a vintage/antique carved bone fan with shaped box panels, possibly faux bone, thin panels with

scalloped shaped edges, outer panel is decorated with intricately carved floral details, came in antique paper box with label reading "Duvelleroy Paris," 8 by 14 inches; and a fan painted with an Oriental outdoor scene on paper and mounted on carved openwork bone frame, possibly faux bone, having intricate filigree and multicolored, hand carved open work details, 10 by 14 inches (\$100/200).

The Fan Museum in London has a collection of more than 5,000 fans and fan leaves originating all over the world. "Few art forms combine functional, ceremonial and decorative uses as elegantly as the fan. Fewer still can match such diversity with a history stretching back at least 3,000 years," according to the muse-



This antique hand-painted silk wood folding fan will cross the block.



A French antique, hand-painted fan with vibrant colors.

um's website.

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 non-profit, and all auction proceeds

support community organizations. Consignors get a tax deduction, the buyer gets a great deal and local nonprofits get much needed funds.

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

Getty's Medieval Pathways To Paradise In India And Europe

LOS ANGELES — Thousands of miles, harsh terrains and diverse waterways separate India and Europe, yet people and materials in these vast regions moved with great frequency during the medieval period. The pages of illuminated manuscripts reveal a dynamically interconnected world filled with real and imagined ideas about life on this earth and in spiritual states beyond.

Drawn primarily from the Getty's permanent collection, with important loans from local institutions and private collections, "Pathways to Paradise: Medieval India and Europe," on view through August 5 at the J. Paul Getty Museum, explores the ways decorated books and portable luxury objects reflected their owners' knowledge of and ideas about the greater world, as well as their spiritual quests for sacred groves, providential gems and guides to enlightenment.

"This exhibition expands on themes we explored at the Getty in last year's exhibition 'Traversing the Globe through Illuminated Manuscripts,' and currently in 'Rembrandt and the Inspiration of India: that the people of early modern Europe were not isolated, but interacted dynamically with other cultures,'" explains Timothy Pott, director of the J. Paul Getty Museum. "With particular focus on how artists in India and Europe conceptualized the idea of paradise, the exhibition explores the diverse religious traditions of these widely separated culture spheres, how each produced wondrous manuscripts and other works of art evoking otherworldly celestial domains."

The word "paradise" often describes an idyllic place of unmatched beauty, but it can also refer to a mindset of harmony and bliss. Several world religions share these conceptions of paradise — including Buddhism, Hinduism, Christianity and Islam — but the path to reaching such a place or achieving this state of mind varied greatly. Whether a physical environment; a metaphysical realm, like heaven; or a state of transcendence, paradise was a potential reality for people of the premodern era, many of whom journeyed from their homelands to destinations across Asia, Africa and Europe in pursuit of precious materials and sites believed to have great spiritual significance.

Precious goods such as jewel-

ry, amulets, coins and reliquaries could be carried over great distances. Other objects, including crowns, oil lamps and votive statues were used to serve local audiences at court, in temples, or in shrines and each of these had the potential to connect owners with metaphysical worlds. Raw materials — such as stones, gems, bronze and silver — were also highly prized. Manuscripts often communicated complex beliefs about otherworldly domains or beings, inviting readers to connect with spiritual realms or to envision the afterlife — states of paradise or infernal damnation beyond the earth.

The Getty Center is at 1200 Getty Center Drive. For additional information, 310-440-7300 or www.getty.edu.



"Krishna Uproots the Parijata Tree, Folio from a Bhagavata Purana (Ancient Stories of the Lord)" by unknown artist, Indian, 1525-50, opaque watercolor and ink on paper, 7 1/4 by 9 1/2 inches (unframed), Accession # EX.2018.6.2, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, From the Nasli and Alice Heerama-neck Collection, Museum Associates Purchase Repro Credit: Photo ©Museum Associates/LACM

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