

Auction Action In Mount Kisco, N.Y.

# First Charity Auction Of 2015 At Benefit Shop Exceeds \$200,000

MOUNT KISCO, N.Y. — The Benefit Shop Foundation conducted its first charity auction of the year on January 25, bringing in more than \$200,000 in sales. A total of 450 lots were sold from estates in an array of styles.

Items sold included Persian rugs, Pop art, country pine, couture furs, antiques, Arts and Crafts, jewelry and furniture in a sale that had something for every taste. A total of 1,000 bidders from 30 countries participated online, on the phone and seated in the gallery on rows of sofas that were sold during the auction. They included contemporary Ralph Lauren leather, tufted Victorian and 1800s Austrian Biedermeier in sectional and custom designs. The audience moved to collections of dining room chairs as the sofas were sold out from underneath them.

Chairs were also auction favorites. A set of 12 Chippendale-style chairs with cut velvet upholstered seats sold for \$1,722. Vibrant yellow leather and chrome midcentury chairs sold for \$277. There were also black leather and blond wood midcentury designer chairs, which are going to a new office installation in Manhattan's Flatiron Building. Other styles included French needlepoint chairs, Gothic high back maroon velvet chairs, Ralph Lauren vintage leather butterfly chairs going for \$1,750 and chairs that could only be described as "thrones."

The merchandise sold went well beyond home décor. Jennifer Brown, the gallery's manager and director, said, "The bidders went for the gold, the silver, the bronze — and the kitchen sink," referring to a vintage hand painted Sherle Wagner sink that sold for \$200.

A Rolex Submariner was the highest selling item of the auction, bringing \$6,600. Other jewelry items included an array of diamond and gemstone vintage estate jewelry. A multigemstone-encrusted gold bracelet went out at \$1,920. Gold and diamond earrings with a pomegranate and vine design and detachable pieces were bid to \$1,680. Dangling diamond earrings went to a Miami bidder for \$1,920, and a gold and aquamarine pin of rococo design sold to a bidder seated on a sofa for \$1,140. An authentic 1850 tiger claw and gold brooch generated lots of interest and finished at \$780. Other popular pieces included



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a gilded copper running horse weathervane that brought \$1,845, as well as a collection of signed bronze sculptures and art glass collections that included Baccarat, Lalique, Daum and Steuben.

A Lalique statement piece of entwined fish brought active bidding and sold to Louisiana bidder for \$1,476. A pair of Voss hunt scene prints brought \$860, and a heavy iron ship captain's wheel sailed out for \$50.

Samantha Ponsrock, also a manager and curator with the gallery, said she was happy to see her favorite piece sell — a hand beaded chair from Africa. It was originally purchased at Linda Horne Antiques more than 20 years ago and now belongs to a couple from Oklahoma thrilled to have found a "match to the one they have from the same region in Africa."

Prices reported include the buyer's premium. The not-for-profit organization is now accepting consignments and donations for its next auction, scheduled for 10 am Sunday,

Fetching \$1,476 from a Louisiana bidder was this Lalique signed sculpture of entwined fish.



Antique 18K gold clip earrings with detachable piece, pomegranate and vine design with diamonds took \$1,680.

March 8, at the foundation's headquarters gallery, 27 Radio Circle. For information, 914-864-1919 or [www.thebenefitshop.org](http://www.thebenefitshop.org).



A hand painted Sherle Wagner sink brought \$200.

A Rolex Submariner was the highest selling item of the auction, bringing \$6,600.



This antique copper running horse weathervane was bid to \$1,845.



A set of 12 Chippendale-style chairs with cut velvet upholstered seats realized \$1,722.



The dangling diamond earrings were \$1,920 to a Miami bidder.