



This floral still life on canvas painting, Italian School, circa 1800, depicting tulips, roses and chrysanthemums in a basket, was bought at Sotheby's in December 1997 from the estate of the late conductor and composer Leonard Bernstein.

Leonard Bernstein Provenance Boosts Floral Still Life In March 21 Auction

MOUNT KISCO, N.Y. — Pam Stone, owner of the Benefit Shop Foundation, Inc, was just about done cataloging the upcoming Red Carpet auction, slated for Wednesday, March 21, at 10 am, when a last-minute donation came in that was too good to hold for another month.

The donation is a fine painting, an Italian School still life on canvas, circa 1800, depicting tulips, roses and chrysanthemums in a basket and it has a solid provenance. It was bought at Sotheby's in December 1997 from the estate of the late conductor and composer Leonard Bernstein. The painting is expected to perform well in the March auction.

The 28½-by-36-inch painting

is in a gold leaf carved wooden frame marked for Pocker and Sons. Accompanying the painting is the Sotheby's auction catalog describing the contents of the Bernsteins' luxe apartment in the landmark Dakota building on New York City's Central Park West, where they famously entertained celebrities and their friends in music, arts and entertainment worlds. The couple avidly collected art, antiques and high-end furnishings.

"This is a gorgeous painting that just came in and we knew we had to put it into this month's auction," said Stone. "Its beauty is underscored by the symbolism in its flowers, the meanings of which can be hard to ferret out in modern times. It was well

suited to the Bernsteins' home in the luxurious Dakota and will look lovely in the home of its future owner."

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 nonprofit 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 information, 914-864-0707 or www.thebenefitshop.org.

JMW's Eclectic Collections & Multi-Estates Sale Is March 24



Henry Andrews oil on canvas.



Picasso large plate.

KINGSTON, N.Y. — On Saturday, March 24, at 11 am, JMW Auction Service will sell 550 lots from collections and estates throughout the Hudson Valley, New York City and Boston.

A large collection of American and European posters will be offered, all linen-backed, including oversized. Many different genres will be offered. Movie memorabilia will include older posters and a large Western collection from an Albany, N.Y., estate, including early lobby cards, one-sheet posters, photographs, cap guns and autographs.

Also from this estate, a collection of movies will be offered, including Charlie Chaplin, the Marx Brothers, the Babe Ruth Story, Laurel and Hardy, etc. An Albany old movie theater find yielded

more than 50 three- and six-sheet 1950s posters. Ephemera will also include photography, magazines, stereoview cards, cameras, autographs, advertising, mutoscope cards, postcards and more. Artwork will include a selection of American and European artists, also sterling silver and estate jewelry, Picasso large plate with goat head, glassware, porcelains, clocks, furniture, decorative accessories and a collection of Staffordshire lions.

From a New York City gentleman comes the remaining contents of radio personality and icon Joe Franklin, including many of the framed black and white photographs of him with his guests, award plaques, signed photographs, many tapes of his show and related items. Many will be



An example from a large poster collection.

sold in large lots.

Just in from a Millbrook, N.Y., estate come two period Chippendale mirrors, period Federal inlaid drop leaf table and other decorative accessories.

Previews will be conducted on Friday, March 23, from noon until 8 pm and Saturday, March 24, from 8 am until the sale starts at 11 am.

JMW Auction Service is at 612 Washington Avenue. For information, www.jmwauction.com or 845-389-1933.

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Phillips' Contemporary Art Sales Set Company Record

LONDON — Phillips' March 8 sale of Twentieth Century & Contemporary Art realized a combined sale total of \$135.1 million, the highest sale total in the history of the company and multiplying the sale total from the previous year by nearly seven times. Of the 48 lots offered, 44 found buyers to yield a sell-through rate of 92 percent. The top lot was Pablo Picasso's "La Dormeuse," which brought \$57.8 million. It was followed by Henri Matisse's "Nu allongé I (Aurore)," selling for \$20.5 million. Rounding out the top three was Mark Bradford's "Helter Skelter I," which was being sold by tennis champion John McEnroe and which achieved \$11.9 million, more than doubling the previous auction record for the artist.

Following the example set the previous night, the day sale held March 9 brought a combined total of \$14.6 million, which also set a record for the highest day sale total ever conducted by Phillips in London. Leading that sale was "Keep Moving" by KAWS, which brought \$1.2 million.

The day and evening sales totaled \$149.7 million, and record prices were established for nine artists.

Phillips is at 30 Berkeley Square. For additional information, www.phillips.com or +44-20-7318-4010.

