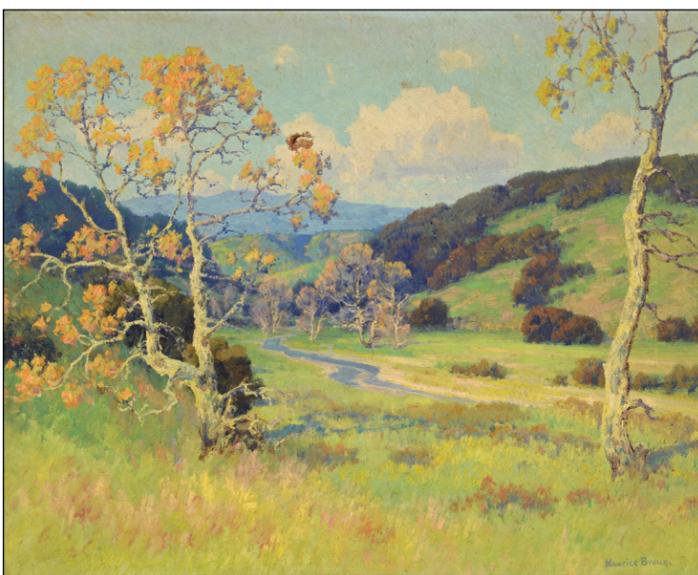


Auction Action In Knoxville, Tenn.

Portraits, Civil War Trove & Southern Pottery Lead At Case's



The pair of portraits depicting the Reverend Hardy Murfree Cryer and most likely his first wife Elizabeth Rice Cryer by Ralph E. Earl fetched \$24,780.



Maurice Braun's oil on canvas landscape of rolling hills and a stream achieved \$24,780.

KNOXVILLE, TENN. — Portraits proved to be some of the most popular lots at Case Antiques Winter auction held January 24 at the company's gallery. The top selling lot was a 1963 oil on canvas portrait by noted Knoxville-born African American artist, Beauford Delaney, of his mother Delia, which soared to \$48,380, well past its \$12/14,000. A second Delaney painting, a face painted on a pillowcase during the late 1950s, when the artist lived in Paris but was too poor to buy canvas, hammered for \$24,180 to a private collector, underbid by an institution. It is one of a handful of Delaney works painted on non-traditional supports (another such work, painted on a raincoat, was featured in a traveling exhibit of his work organized by the Minneapolis Institute of Arts in 2005–2006.

Several antique portraits fared well too. A pair of circa 1830 oils by President Andrew Jackson's favorite portrait painter, Ralph E. W. Earl, depicting the president's close friends, Reverend Hardy Murfree Cryer and his wife, sold for \$24,780 against a \$6,8/8,400 estimate. A miniature portrait depicting Montgomery County, Alabama, Judge Benajah Smith Bibb, painted the same period, doubled its high estimate at \$3,422. It was signed by English American artist Hugh Bridport, and was one of several items being sold from the private museum of the late Judge George Greene of Phenix City, Ala.

A large, unsigned, late Eigh-

teenth Century portrait of an English military officer, in the manner of Thomas Hudson, attracted considerable overseas interest but ultimately hammered to an American buyer for \$7,316, more than doubling its high estimate. A portrait of a lady in the manner of Thomas Sully, with South Carolina provenance, realized \$3,224, and a rare engraved image of President James Madison sold to the Montpelier Foundation for \$826.

Folk art faces were in demand as well: a wood sculpture collage by Helen Bullard (Tennessee, 1902–1996), comprised of 15 carved human faces, and titled "Does Anyone Know What Comes Next" — a reference to race relations — earned \$2,600. A Southern carved stone female bust by an unknown artist, dated 1849, brought \$2,596. The phone lines were at capacity when a vivid California landscape by Maurice Braun (1877–1941) crossed the block; it tripled its high estimate going to \$24,780. A landscape by Hermann Herzog, depicting sheep threatened by an approaching storm, realized \$22,420, while a pastoral landscape by East Tennessee painter James Wiley Wallace rested at \$4,956.

An autumn landscape by Tennessee impressionist Catherine Wiley sold for \$9,440, a seascape by Florida Highwaymen artist A.E. Backus brought \$14,750, and a small 9-by-16-inch limestone sculpture of a bird by William Edmondson landed at \$14,160 despite a repaired break to its



An abstract oil on fabric pillowcase work by Beauford Delaney sold for \$24,180.



tailwing. It is thought the repair was made by Edmondson himself, as reported by the original owner.

Case Antiques made newspaper headlines in the weeks leading up to the auction for its offering of an archive related to Lieutenant Dabney Scales of the CSS *Shenandoah*, a Civil War Navy ship whose crew became the last Confederates to surrender on November 6, 1865. (After the war, Scales went on to become a Tennessee state senator.) His diary chronicling events on board the *Shenandoah* sailed to \$19,470. The Tennessee State Museum paid the same price for Scales' photo album featuring more than 30 CDVs, many of them identified Confederate naval officers.

An 1863 Scales diary, accompanied by his 1860 ship practice log, fetched \$8,946. The World War I archive of Scales' son, George, including his pilot's aviator uniform and related documents and photographs, estimated at \$700/900, flew to \$2,232.

When John Case, company president, went on a house call to examine a blanket chest, he discovered a hidden cavity in the piece. When opened, an archive of early East Tennessee slave documents were among the documents there. They were divided into two lots, which brought \$2,124 and \$1,652 respectively. Also discovered in the chest was a Civil War letter archive relating to E.S. Cassady of the Georgia 9th, including his

ambrotype. It rallied to \$5,456. The chest, meanwhile, sold for a modest \$295. "Look for more documents from the cache to be sold in Case's July 18 auction," said Sarah Campbell Drury, vice president of fine and decorative arts at Case.

The paper category was hot overall: an Andrew Jackson signed document approving the sale of land in Alabama by a Creek Indian to a white settler doubled its estimate at \$2,832, the same price paid for a Revolutionary War and early 1800s account book relating to early Middle Tennessee settler General James Winchester. A 1799 map of Tennessee brought \$1,416, and a pair of Seventeenth Century maps by Gerard Mercator, depicting America and the Straits of Magellan, charted \$4,712.

An East Tennessee vine-and-fan-inlaid Federal chest of drawers led the furniture category at \$19,470, while a sugar chest in the form of a miniature sideboard, from the estate of Bertha Wright of Kentucky's famed Calumet Horse Farm, served up \$6,844. A Tennessee sugar chest of traditional form with turned legs sold for \$4,484, the same price as a Kentucky two part Jackson Press; an East Tennessee walnut chest of drawers with provenance relating to a Revolutionary War soldier reached \$4,956; and a Southern blanket chest on tall turned legs brought \$2,242.

Southern pottery has a strong following at Case. Multiple bidders chased an East



Beauford Delaney's portrait of his mother, Delia Delaney, executed in Paris, brought \$48,380.



The furniture category was led by this East Tennessee Federal inlaid chest of drawers with extensive inlay that attained \$19,470.

A Confederate CSS *Shenandoah* diary and archive made \$19,470.

Tennessee redware jar with manganese splotches to \$17,110 (\$4,5/5,500 estimate). A double-handled stoneware jar by N.H. Dixon of North Carolina, which descended in the family of the potter, sold for \$3,422, while a Georgia or Alabama alkaline glazed jar with illegible script decoration wrote up \$1,534. A rock-teethed face jug by Lanier Meaders of Georgia earned \$1,003, and a Southwestern Native American Acoma olla with polychrome geometric design, measuring 10½ inches high, brought five times its estimate at \$4,484.

Featured in this auction were 60 lots of Southern coin silver collected over a lifetime by John Montague of Memphis. Case signed on as a co-sponsor of the Natchez Antiques Forum to help promote the collection, and it appeared to pay off. A plain water pitcher bearing the mark of Samuel Cockrell of Natchez, Miss., brought \$2,950, while a smaller cream jug marked for Emile Profilet of Natchez brought almost as much at \$2,714. A Natchez fish slice by George McPherson served up \$1,770. A New Orleans coin silver repoussé pitcher by Adolph Himmel brought \$4,012, while a ladle by early New Orleans silversmith Pierre Lamothe hit \$2,478, and a set of 12 coin silver dessert spoons by Samuel Bell of Knoxville, Tenn., rang up a strong \$3,068. Other silver standouts included a set of four George III sterling candlesticks by William Cafe, \$8,732, and a 169-piece set of



A large Chinese Export silver bowl decorated with dragons made \$14,750.



This Mississippi coin silver water pitcher, 1808, earned \$2,950.



Stoneware offerings included this East Tennessee redware jar with manganese decoration that realized \$17,110.



Highlighting jewelry offerings was this 3.01-carat brilliant-cut diamond that went out at \$16,520.

Kirk repoussé pattern sterling flatware, \$4,720.

It was a good day for jewelry, with several lots bringing within or well above estimate. A GIA certified 3.10-carat round diamond solitaire ring sparkled at \$16,250, while a 2.02-carat diamond ring with guard brought \$7,688, and an 18K Patek Philippe men's pocketwatch, circa 1916 with original paperwork, ticked to \$4,956.

This auction contained an above-average number of French decorative arts. Highlights included a Napoleon III French inlaid commode with bronze mounts stamped for Victor Paillard of Paris, \$14,260, a French Empire period giltwood and marble

pedestal, \$5,900 (\$500/600), and a French gilt-bronze and champlevé enamel clock and garniture, retailed by Tiffany, \$8,680.

There were more bidders participating from China than any other country except the United States, and most were bidding online. Asian highlights included a large Chinese Export silver bowl pierced with dragon and cloud designs, which roared to \$14,750, and a ten-piece Chinese Export silver tea service realized \$4,216. A framed silk Buddha-themed Tibetan Thangka surprised at \$6,136 (\$600/800), while two pairs of Ming period framed silk embroideries with figures and dragons executed in metal-

lic threads brought \$10,416 (\$5,208 apiece) and a Qing Yixing teapot with animal finial made \$3,596.

The auction was among the company's most successful to date, and drew more than 2,750 bidders from 50 countries, bidding in person, by phone, absentee and online. "We were pleased to see healthy results on the majority of items in this auction, and the sale overall exceeded its high estimate," said Case. "The Twentieth Century art and historical document categories, in particular, were very active and we look forward to offering more outstanding pieces in these and other categories in the year to come."

All prices reported include the buyer's premium.

For additional information, www.caseantiques.com, 865-558-3033 (Knoxville) or 615-812-6096 (Nashville).

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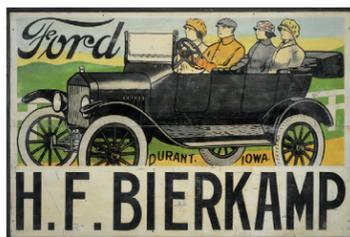


Consignments Wanted

For Our Advertising, Toy & Doll Auction - Spring 2015

Touted as one of Julia's finest fall toy, doll & advertising auctions in recent memory, the auction had all the makings for a blockbuster right from the start. Drawn fresh from three major collections, combined with select pieces from individuals from all over the United States, it was a nonstop parade of quality, condition, rarity, and diversity. With estimates that were realistic and conservative, bidders were treated to one spectacular piece after another. Combined with Julia's expansive marketing program, their reputation for honest and fair dealing, and some of the finest catalogs in the industry, the results were phenomenal, setting a few world auction records along the way. When the final hammer fell, Julia's tallied over \$1.4 Million, nearly a half million dollars over the total presale estimate of approximately \$935,000. We are now accepting quality consignments for our spring 2015 toy, doll & advertising auction. Whether you have one item or an entire collection, please contact us for a free consultation.

Below are just a few of the successes we had for our consignors in the fall sale:



Ithaca Sign Works Ford sign (est. \$9,000-12,000)
Sold \$16,590



K*R 107 "Karl" (est. \$20-30,000)
Sold for \$23,700



Painted Ives Palace bank (est. \$4,500-6,500)
Sold for \$18,367



Tobacconist figure (est. \$2,500-4,500)
Sold for \$29,625



Rare Goo Goo gum vendor (est. \$15,000-20,000)
Sold for \$42,660



Lehmann Walking on Broadway with original box (est. \$5,500-7,500)
Sold for \$22,515



Salesman sample hay rake with original box (est. \$2,500-3,500)
Sold for \$20,145

Here are just a few of the items already consigned to our Spring sale:



Diminutive Columbus penny gum vendor



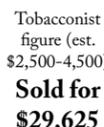
Tabletop 20-3/4" Reginaphone disc player/phonograph with cupola top



Rare Wine Coca syrup dispenser, precursor to Coca-Cola



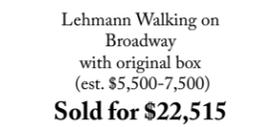
Lovely 28" Steiner lever-eye doll



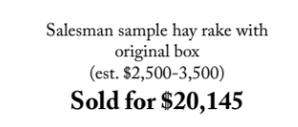
Francis, Field & Francis Philadelphia Express wagon



Citroen tanker truck



Hull & Stafford windup locomotive



Pratt & Letchworth landau



Scarce Ives cast iron scale



Fallows Fine Groceries wagon

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