

Victorian Centerpieces Take Sworders' Center Stage

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET, UK — A pair of Victorian silver-gilt and glass centerpieces, marked "WB" and the London date mark for 1839, rose to the top of Sworders' two-day Fine Interiors auction, June 17-18. Estimated at £15/20,000, the 24%-inch-tall pieces exceeded expectations and sold, to a buyer in London, for \$53,000 including buyer's premium (£39,000). The nearly 650-lot sale realized about \$700,000 in total. More highlights from this sale will be published in a future issue.

Classical Card Table Catches Carlsen Bidders' Attention

FREEHOLD, N.Y. — Carlsen Gallery conducted a 361-lot sale, Two Great Estates At Auction, on June 22. The sale, which had a 99 percent sellthrough rate, was led by a New York Classical card table. The octagonal table, which measured 29 by 35¾ by 18 inches closed, was attributed to Duncan Phyfe Workshop and retained its original surface. A dealer bought it for \$19,200, including buyer's premium, far exceeding its \$1/2,000 estimate. More on this sale will be in an upcoming issue.



Zoar Blanket Chest Soars For Meander

ZOAR, OHIO — Jo Louise Brown was a long-time fixture in Historic Zoar village and her collection — which Meander Auctions sold on-site on Saturday, June 28 — attracted bidders from Ohio and beyond. An Ohio couple, who company president and auctioneer Andrew Richmond said were "serious Ohio collectors" were "present in the heat" to win, for \$30,600, including buyer's premium, a paint-decorated blanket chest attributed to the Long family of Liberty Township of Hardin County, circa 1840-50. The chest was one of about a halfdozen known examples associ-

ated with the Long family; it achieved the top price in the 222-lot auction, during which

amily; it all lots sold. Watch for an e in the upcoming review in a forthg which coming issue.



Thomaston's Summer Auction Arrives in Style





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Thomaston Place Auction Galleries' annual Summer Splendor

auctions were conducted from

June 27 to 29, offering over 1,500

lots. The finish line for highest

price was crossed by a 1971 Mercedes-Benz 280SL Roadster Con-

vertible for \$81,250, to an online bidder. The vehicle sported a handsome cream exterior with

chrome accents along with a burgundy leather and fabric interior

and was in overall excellent con-

dition with a current odometer reading of 61,685 miles. Price quoted with buyer's premium as stated by the auction house, more on this and other top lots to follow.



Kensington's Bidders Find Equestrian Painting To Be 'Magnificent'

CLINTONDALE, N.Y. — Kensington Estate Auction conducted its latest auction of fine art and antiques on June 23. With 170 lots on offer, it was an equestrian oil painting by Slovenian artist Kiar Mesko (b 1936) that led the charge. This work, titled "The Magnificent Seven," featured a band of horses running toward the viewer, with one facing the opposite direction. From a Greenwich, Conn., estate, the 24½-by-38-inch framed painting galloped to \$2,500, including buyer's premium, far surpassing its \$600-\$1,200 estimate range. Additional highlights from this auction will be featured in a forthcoming issue.

Emerald Ring With Jacket Shines Brightest For Opfer

TIMONIUM, MD. — On June 26, Richard Opfer Auctioneering conducted an eclectic 425-lot sale, its Antique & Estate Live and Online Auction, which was split between the firm's physical location and one of the consigning estates, located in Parkton, Md., where a selection of car-riages, sleighs, stoves, carpets and select primitive furniture made up lots 351-425. Leading the sale was a platinum ring set with a 6.01-carat emerald, encased in an 18K yellow and white gold custom-designed ring jacket by David Webb. The jacket, which had a foliate design, was set with 16 diamonds. The ring slipped onto its new owner's



finger for \$19,680, including buyer's premium — almost four times the high end of its \$3/5,000 estimate. Additional highlights from this sale will be featured in an upcoming issue.

Important Boston Leather Back Armchair Sells In Virginia

MOUNT CRAWFORD, VA. — Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates



proved that great pieces will bring great prices regardless of auction venue when it sold an important early Eighteenth Century Boston leather-back armchair for \$256,000, including buyer's premium. The chair, which was part of a small group of early Boston seating furniture, is one of just six examples known, came to auction from the Branchville, N.J., collection of the late Richard and Lesley Harris and had descended in the Har-ris family. The buyer was an East Coast collector on the phone, who was underbid by another private collector on the phone. It was the top lot in the firm's June 26-28 Premier Americana auction, a nearly 1,575-lot event. For informa-tion, 540-434-3939 or www.jeffrevsevans.com.