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HERITAGE MAGAZINE FOR THE  
**INTELLIGENT COLLECTOR**

Spring 2016 \$7.99

**THE CHICAGO ISSUE**

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*Heritage Magazine for the Intelligent Collector*, Vol. 9, No. 3, is published three times a year by Heritage Auctioneers & Galleries Inc., 3500 Maple Ave., 17th Floor, Dallas, TX 75219-3941. ISSN 1941-1790. Subscriptions are \$23.97 for three issues. Send subscription orders to Heritage Magazine for the Intelligent Collector, 3500 Maple Ave., 17th Floor, Dallas, TX 75219-3941. If you have questions about your subscription, or for address change, please call 1-866-835-3243. Back issues are available for \$15 each. Call 1-866-835-3243 to order. Postage paid at Dallas, TX, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Heritage Magazine for the Intelligent Collector, 3500 Maple Ave., 17th Floor, Dallas, TX 75219-3941. Copyright ©2016 by Heritage Auctioneers & Galleries Inc. All photographs by Heritage unless otherwise noted. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part is prohibited without written permission.

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# Chicago's Collecting Ambassador

Chicago is a great collecting town, and few people reflect this more than cover subject Grant DePorter. As CEO of Harry Caray's Restaurant Group and the Chicago Sports Museum, DePorter is a loyal curator of Windy City sports artifacts.

How loyal?

After his beloved Cubs' heartbreaking loss in Game 6 of the 2003 National League Championship Series, the restaurant executive paid nearly \$114,000 for the game's infamous Foul Ball (he prefers *not* using the media's "Bartman Ball" label) and promptly blew it up. "My intention," he tells *Intelligent Collector* contributing editor Barbara Conn, "was to destroy the ball and provide a cathartic release for Cub fans."

Mission accomplished. Read more about this remarkable collector – and where that foul ball is now on display – on page 38.

We are always trying to make *The Intelligent Collector* easier to access and more relevant to your collecting passions. That's why we've revamped our website – [IntelligentCollector.com](http://IntelligentCollector.com) – to include more stories. We've also made it easier to read on most media devices, including your computer, laptop, tablet and cellphone. Learning more about the world's top collectors and their fascinating treasures has never been easier.

On top of that, we've expanded our daily offerings with a new blog by noted numismatist and history buff Jim O'Neal. Jim is the former president and CEO of Frito-Lay International, and earlier served as Chairman and CEO of PepsiCo Restaurants International (KFC Pizza Hut and Taco Bell). I'm confident collectors will find Jim's posts informative, fun and thought-provoking. Visit [IntelligentCollector.com/blog](http://IntelligentCollector.com/blog) to subscribe to The IC Blog.

As always, drop me a line at [HectorC@IntelligentCollector.com](mailto:HectorC@IntelligentCollector.com) to share your stories. I remain interested in your discoveries.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hector Cantú". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

**Hector Cantú**, Editor & Publisher

# Long-Distance Win

COLLECTOR ANDREW SHIVA SUBMITS TOP BID FROM ANTARCTICA



Shiva was on a cruise ship in Antarctica when he submitted the winning bid for this Gravette, Arkansas, First National Bank, Charter 8237, 1902 Red Seal \$10 note.

**D**etermined collectors sometimes are ready to go to the ends of the earth to obtain a desired item. In this case, the route was from 1902 in Arkansas to 2016 in Antarctica.

In a first-of-its-kind bid, Heritage Auctions reports that National Bank Note collector and researcher Dr. Andrew Shiva of New York successfully obtained a scarce Gravette, Arkansas, First National Bank, Charter 8237, 1902 Red Seal \$10 note (Fr. 613) while bidding online from near Antarctica.

"We developed the Heritage Live!® online bidding software so that anyone can participate in a live Heritage auction over the Internet from the comfort of their home or office," says Heritage Auctions President Greg Rohan. "But this was the first time anyone has placed a bid from Antarctica. We've now officially had bidders from every continent on the globe."

The winning bid of \$9,400 was made by Shiva during a live session of Heritage's \$7.6 million January 2016 Florida United Numismatists Currency Signature® Auction in Tampa, Fla. He was on board a cruise ship at the time as it sailed in the southern Atlantic Ocean to the northern tip of Antarctica.

*Donn Pearlman*

## STALLONE – THE AUCTION TOPS \$3 MILLION IN LOS ANGELES

**E**nthusiastic fans of international superstar Sylvester Stallone placed more than \$3 million in winning bids at Heritage Auctions' "Stallone – The Auction" in Los Angeles.

Stallone attended the opening hours of the first two sessions of the auction (see page 12), telling bidders the memorabilia has been a part of his life for well over 40 years. "It's been in my possession and I've fond memories attached to just about every object," he told the crowd. "There comes a point, though, when I think that I've used these objects enough and have created enough memories that I can let them go."

The top lot in the auction was the black leather jacket Stallone wore as Rocky Balboa in the first *Rocky* movie. It realized \$149,000. A pair of 1980 Muhammad Ali training-worn gloves inscribed to Stallone sold for \$47,500.

A portion of the auction proceeds will be donated by Stallone to various charities that assist military veterans and wounded servicemen and servicewomen as well as the Motion Picture and TV Country House and Hospital.



A pair of boxing trunks from *Rocky IV* realized \$57,500.

## LINCOLN AUCTION SCHEDULED FOR SUMMER

**H**eritage Auctions has announced a special "Lincoln and His Times" auction presented in partnership with *The Railsplitter*, the respected journal for Lincoln collectors that is celebrating its 20th anniversary.

"This will be one of our finest and most comprehensive offerings ever," says Americana Auctions Director Tom Slater. "It will feature outstanding artifacts from our 16th president as well as the personalities and events which shaped that turbulent era in our history."

Among the offerings will be perhaps the finest selection of Lincoln photographic images ever to appear in a single auction, as well as outstanding examples of political campaign memorabilia, manuscripts and relics.

The auction is scheduled for July 16 in Dallas and online at [HA.com/6163](http://HA.com/6163), with a preview exhibition of highlights planned for the auction house's New York showroom at 445 Park Avenue.



The auction will feature this 1860 political flag banner from Lincoln's first presidential run.

## PEOPLE

IAN DORIN has joined Heritage Auctions as Director of Fine Wine in New York. Dorin will assist clients in valuing and assembling world-class collections. Dorin previously worked in the retail segment of the wine industry. He is frequently interviewed by *The Wall Street Journal* as an expert, and recently was the subject of a feature on his career in the wine market.



# 1961



## COMIC BOOKS

Looking to revive an under-performing comics company, Stan Lee launched the Fantastic Four, Marvel's first superhero team, with cover and interior art by Jack Kirby. A copy of **Fantastic Four #1**, graded CGC NM- 9.2, realized \$203,150 at a July 2012 Heritage auction. Just two decades earlier, this same copy was sold at auction for \$27,600.



## SPORTS

"Noddors" are common baseball-game giveaways these days, but they date back more than 50 years. While no more than five promotional noddors exist for NFL teams from the early 1960s, only a model from the New York Yankees is believed to have been produced to represent our national pastime. Today, only two are known to survive from the 1961-62 seasons. This 14-inch doll realized \$59,750 at a May 2015 auction.



## VINTAGE WINE

The prestigious Bordeaux, Chateau Lafite Rothschild, has commanded the attention of connoisseurs around the world since classified as a First Growth in 1855. One rare double-magnum of **1961 Chateau Lafite Rothschild**, noted for its cedar and spice character, realized \$4,636 at a March 2015 Heritage auction.



## MOVIE POSTERS

In her role as Holly Golightly, Audrey Hepburn created one of American cinema's most iconic characters. Based on Truman Capote's 1958 novella, **Breakfast at Tiffany's** was one of the year's top-grossing movies. An original one sheet realized \$13,145 at a November 2011 auction.

As the Cold War deepens, the United States severs relations with Cuba. John F. Kennedy is inaugurated as the nation's 35th president. He promptly appoints his brother Robert Kennedy U.S. Attorney General (below). Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin becomes the first human in space, followed by American Alan Shepard a few weeks later. The Beatles perform for the first time at the Cavern Club, while in America, fans make Patsy Cline's *I Fall To Pieces* a top hit. Moviegoers flock to see *West Side Story* and *The Guns of Navarone*. Barbie gets a boyfriend when the Ken doll is introduced.



Alfred Eisenstaedt's gelatin silver print Robert Kennedy, 1961, realized \$625 at a November 2013 auction.

# 11

Category

LOOKING BACK



# F | I

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By Eric Bradley

## VINTAGE COMICS

A near-mint copy of *Amazing Fantasy #15*, purchased by a New York collector for about \$1,200 in 1980, realized **\$454,100** at a February 2016 Heritage auction. It was a record price at public auction for the comic. The first appearance of Spider-Man is one of the most sought-after comic books in the world, says Lon Allen, managing director of Heritage's comics department. "It's worth well more than its weight in gold.

There are very few like this one."





### Rare Currency

This **\$10,000 1934 Federal Reserve Note** (Fr. 2231-B) was once used to decorate the entrance of the Binion Horseshoe Casino. Named after the family that kept dozens of \$10,000 notes in a horseshoe-shaped case in their Las Vegas resort, the famous display was removed in the 1990s. When this high-grade specimen from the collection went to auction, it set a record for the single most valuable bill from the display. It sold for **\$188,000** in January 2016.



### Entertainment

Heritage Auction's presentation of Sylvester: The Auction shocked fans and made worldwide headlines – and some of the auction prices even surprised the superstar himself. **Sylvester Stallone's Personal Black Leather Jacket from Rocky** sold in December 2015 to an avid fan for **\$149,000**.



### Vintage Handbags

Hermès is considered the king of the luxury handbag collectors' market, but this rare **25cm Shiny Vert Emerald Crocodile Sellier Kelly Bag with Gold Hardware** has provenance to true royalty. It was gifted in the 1960s to a Swedish baroness from the Swedish ambassador to London, Vienna and Geneva. It sold for **\$60,000** in February 2016.



### Animation

By their very nature, every animation cel is unique, but few setups have secured a 50-year legacy in American culture as the poignant pageant scene from TV's *Charlie Brown Christmas* special. This one-of-a-kind **Charlie Brown Christmas Production Cels and Key Master Pan Production Background Setup, 1965**, sold for **\$47,800** in December 2015.



## Fine Art

Artist Jacopo Amigoni (1682–1752) majestically captures the female warrior at the heart of Italian poet Torquato Tasso's epic poem in his masterpiece **Clorinda Rescuing Olindo and Sophronia**. The painting, which illustrates the dramatic rescue of the two lovers Sophronia and Olindo, was completed circa 1740. Kept in a private Dallas collection for more than 50 years, it realized **\$137,000** at a December 2015 auction.



## Entertainment

The poncho Sylvester Stallone wore when he fled for his life in 1982's **First Blood** sold for **\$60,000** at Stallone: The Auction in December 2015. **John Rambo's Poncho from First Blood** is made of brown canvas, with roughly torn edges and purposely distressed with faux blood and bullet holes.



## Fine Wine

A December 2015 auction in Beverly Hills set a world record price of **\$91,500** for a case of **1985 Ponsot Clos de la Roche**. It came down to a bidding war between three persistent clients in different parts of the world, says Frank Martell, director of fine and rare wines at Heritage Auctions.

## World Coins

Numismatists were delighted to view an exceedingly rare 1852 South Australia British Colony Gold Adelaide Pound Type 1 when it appeared at Heritage Auctions' world coin auction in January 2016. The coin was minted when the South Australian government attempted to turn quantities of gold into useable coin. But it was done before England had given approval. After a limited mintage, word came from England to stop production. Its rarity pushed the price realized of this piece to **\$99,875**.





William Robinson Leigh (1866-1955)  
*Indian Rider* (detail), 1918  
Oil on canvas, 20 x 16 in.  
Estimate: \$400,000-\$600,000



## HERITAGE AUCTION PREVIEWS

Important Lots from Upcoming Auctions

### **WILLIAM ROBINSON LEIGH'S 'INDIAN RIDER'**

1918 oil on canvas considered one of  
artist's signature paintings **25**

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## Heritage Auctions Offers Several Ways to Bid in Upcoming Auctions

For an up-to-date Auction Calendar, visit [HA.com/Auctions](http://HA.com/Auctions)



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## EVENT

AMERICAN ART SIGNATURE® AUCTION 5251 is scheduled for May 7, 2016, in Dallas and online at [HA.com/5251](http://HA.com/5251). For information, contact Ed Jaster at 214-409-1288 or [EdJ@HA.com](mailto:EdJ@HA.com).

# Norman Rockwell's 'Cinderfella'

PRODUCER AND STAR JERRY LEWIS  
SOUGHT OUT ARTIST FOR 1960 COMEDY

By Mary Adair Dockery



Norman Rockwell (1894-1978)  
*Cinderfella* movie poster art, 1960  
Oil and pencil on canvas, 17 x 23 in.  
Estimate: \$300,000-\$500,000



*Cinderfella* ranked among the top-grossing movies of 1960.

In 1959, Hollywood legend Jerry Lewis was working behind the scenes to market his 1960 production *Cinderfella*. A main goal, the comedian and actor says, was hiring preeminent artist Norman Rockwell to illustrate his movie poster.

"My whole idea was to get an icon in the world of art and have that icon sell the movie for me," Lewis (b.1926) tells Heritage Auctions. "And Rockwell brought that."

The movie performed beyond expectations, and Lewis says Rockwell's art was a key factor. "We figured the picture would gross about \$7 million domestic," Lewis says. "The minute we put Rockwell's name to it, the figure became \$16 million. When it went out, it did about \$5.5 million more than that. ... We really, really banged the ball out of the park."

Rockwell's original *Cinderfella* movie poster art, consigned directly by Lewis, is featured in Heritage's

American Art auction scheduled for May 7, 2016. It's expected to realize at least \$300,000.

"The present work embodies the artistic collaboration of two American legends, illustrator Norman Rockwell and comedian Jerry Lewis," says Heritage Auctions' Senior Vice President Ed Jaster. "It has remained in Mr. Lewis' collection since Rockwell presented it to him in 1960."

Rockwell's art appeared on all promotional materials for the movie, including posters, magazine tearsheets, newspaper ads, lobby cards and the sheet music cover for "Let Me Be a People," a song performed by Lewis in the film.

In his prolific career, Rockwell (1894-1978) executed only a handful of illustrations for films, including the poster art for *The Song of Bernadette* (1943), which Heritage sold for \$605,000 in 2013.

# The Estate of Liz Claiborne and Arthur Ortenberg

COLLECTION OF ETHNOGRAPHIC ART INSPIRED BY  
COUPLE'S WORLDWIDE TRAVELS

At the height of their success, Liz Claiborne and Art Ortenberg retired from the fashion business to focus on environmental and wildlife conservation issues. The couple's journeys took them to Africa, inspiring their interest in collecting ethnographic art.

Heritage Auctions is offering more than 30 lots of Tribal and American Indian art from the Estate of Liz Claiborne and Arthur Ortenberg in its July sale of ethnographic art.

"It is clear that these art works were collected with a keen eye for art and design as well as a passion for the people and places from which they hail," says Delia E. Sullivan, director of the Ethnographic Art Department at Heritage Auctions.

"The pieces being offered reflect their years of exploration and love of tribal art," Sullivan says. "It was while traveling on safari in 1987 that Liz and Art learned of the plight of the African elephant, which literally redirected them from the fashion world to the fight to save wildlife."

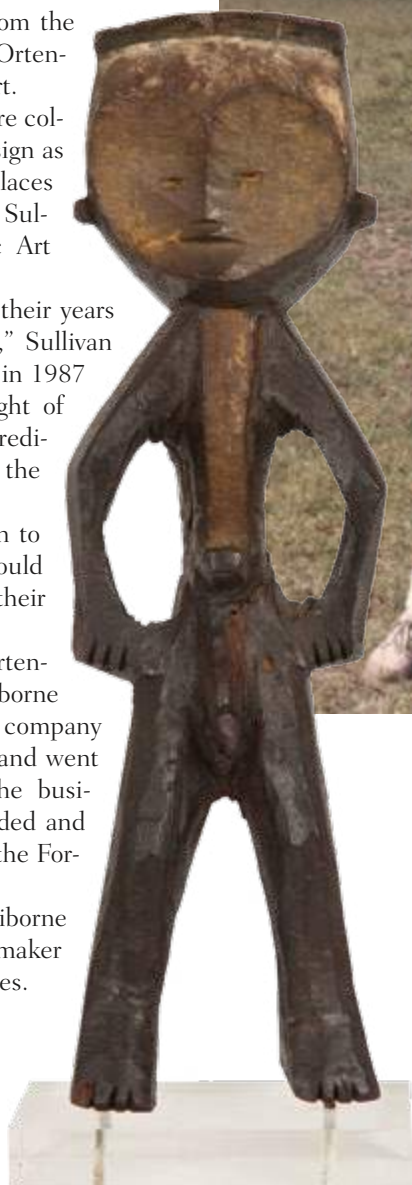
Their second career – the mission to save wildlife – was a cause they would remain dedicated to for the rest of their lives.

Claiborne passed away in 2007, Ortenberg in 2014. They started Liz Claiborne Inc. with a partner in 1976. The company grossed \$2.6 million in its first year, and went public in 1981. Five years later, the business became the first company founded and headed by a woman to be ranked on the Fortune 500.

When they retired in 1990, Liz Claiborne Inc. was the largest women's apparel maker in the country, with \$1.4 billion in sales.



Liz Claiborne and Art Ortenberg  
visit the Serengeti.



Mbole Male Figure  
Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000  
From the Estate of Liz Claiborne  
and Arthur Ortenberg

## EVENT

ETHNOGRAPHIC  
ART SIGNATURE®  
AUCTION 5254,  
featuring items from the  
Estate of Liz Claiborne  
and Arthur Ortenberg,  
is scheduled for July 8,  
2016, in Dallas and online  
at [HA.com/5254](http://HA.com/5254). For  
information, contact Delia  
E. Sullivan at 214-409-  
1343 or [DeliaS@HA.com](mailto:DeliaS@HA.com).



Waja Shoulder Mask  
Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000  
From the Estate of Liz Claiborne  
and Arthur Ortenberg



Bamana Horse  
Head Marionette  
Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000  
From the Estate of Liz Claiborne  
and Arthur Ortenberg



Fine and Rare  
Waja Shoulder Mask  
Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000  
From the Estate of Liz Claiborne  
and Arthur Ortenberg

# The Joe Bowman Collection

SHARPSHOOTER WAS CRAFTSMAN AND GUARDIAN  
OF WESTERN FRONTIER CULTURE

By Hector Cantú



Joe Bowman helped actor Robert Duvall research his role for the miniseries *Lonesome Dove*.

Joe Bowman was more than a legendary fast-draw, sharpshooter and Hollywood consultant.

“He was an extraordinary master craftsman,” says his son Mark. “He made boots and belts. He also went to the Ruger factory. He worked with them for decades to help them redesign their own guns. He was a master gunsmith who helped make changes in the industry itself.”

Most, though, remember Bowman as a gun-show and rodeo regular, a cowboy who dazzled audiences with fancy gunplay and sharpshooting with pistols and rifles. The *Los Angeles Times* reported he could blast an aspirin to powder at 30 paces and split a playing card edgewise at 20. “I’ve seen fast, I’ve seen faster, I’ve seen fastest, and then I’ve seen Joe Bowman,” actor James Drury told the newspaper. “He was incredible.”

Bowman passed away in 2009 at the age of 84.

Almost 250 pistols, rifles, swords, performing costumes, Western paintings and Civil War items from the Joe Bowman Collection are featured in Heritage’s upcoming arms and armor, and entertainment memorabilia auctions.



A pair of engraved and personalized Performance Ruger New Vaquero Single-Action Revolvers and a metal-lined holster rig are centerpieces of the Joe Bowman Collection.



Cased Ornately Engraved Colt Third-Generation Single-Action Army Revolver  
Estimate: \$7,000-\$10,000  
From the Joe Bowman Collection



Joe Bowman visits with customer and friend Sammy Davis Jr. in 1969.



Two Cased Consecutive-Numbered Texas Ranger Ruger New Vaquero Single-Action Revolvers, Personalized to Joe Bowman  
Estimate: \$2,500-\$3,500  
From the Joe Bowman Collection



Engraved Colt Army Single-Action Revolver  
Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500  
From the Joe Bowman Collection

“Joe Bowman was a guardian of Western frontier culture,” says Heritage Auctions consignment director Garry Shrum. “This auction gives collectors of Americana and Western heritage a unique opportunity to own items from the personal collection of a truly unique American hero.”

After serving in World War II, Bowman started the Bowman and DeGeorge Boot Shop in Houston. His finely detailed skills attracted the attention of stars such as Roy Rogers, who ordered a pair of boots with gold toes and heels, and red roses on the side. Sammy Davis Jr. purchased several of his custom fast-draw holsters.

With his gun-handling skills, Bowman was soon consulting on Hollywood film sets, working with

actors such as James Arness, Patrick Swayze and Danny Glover. When actor Robert Duvall was working on the now-classic 1989 television miniseries *Lonesome Dove*, Duvall contacted the Texas Rangers for research on his role. “They sent him to Joe Bowman,” says his son.

“He taught movie stars,” Mark says, “but even more important was his level of patriotism and love for his country. I believe my dad was a true living embodiment of the character of John Wayne. He was almost a man born out of time. He wanted that to come through in everything he did.”

“Joe Bowman,” Shrum adds, “led an extraordinary life. He was a decorated war hero, a patriot, a historian, a celebrated marksman and Western artisan.”

## EVENTS

► **ARMS & ARMOR SIGNATURE® AUCTION 6156**, featuring the Joe Bowman Collection, is scheduled for June 11-12, 2016, in Dallas and online at [HA.com/6156](http://HA.com/6156). For information, contact Garry Shrum at 214-409-1585 or [GarryS@HA.com](mailto:GarryS@HA.com), or Jason Watson at 214-409-1630 or [JasonW@HA.com](mailto:JasonW@HA.com).

► **ENTERTAINMENT SIGNATURE® AUCTION 7144**, featuring the Joe Bowman Collection, is scheduled for June 25, 2016, in Dallas and online at [HA.com/7144](http://HA.com/7144). For information, contact Garry Shrum at 214-409-1585 or [GarryS@HA.com](mailto:GarryS@HA.com), or Jason Watson at 214-409-1630 or [JasonW@HA.com](mailto:JasonW@HA.com).

# King Kalākaua's Rifle and Sword

HAWAII'S LAST REIGNING MONARCH BUILT FRIENDSHIP WITH CIVIL WAR HERO EDWARD McCOOK

**H**awaiian King David Kalākaua was often called "The Merrie Monarch" for his love of parties, royal balls and entertainment. But he also was a serious leader who went on tours to enhance relationships around the world.

By 1887, his cabinet was overthrown and a new constitution was developed, taking away most of his power. By then, the king had entertained diplomats from the United States, including Civil War hero Edward McCook, who was commissioned by President Andrew Johnson to be the U.S. Minister to the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1866.

During this time, King Kalākaua (1836-1891) received a Henry Rifle from McCook (1833-1909). It was factory engraved "Gen'l McCook" on the flat of the receiver and bears an elaborate scroll and punch dot engraving by Henry factory engraver Samuel Hoggson. It carries a nameplate, added in the 1930s, that declares it "King Kalakauas Favorite Rifle."

The rifle, along with a royal presentation sword owned by King Kalākaua, are featured in Heritage's arms and armor auction scheduled for June in Dallas.

"The Henry rifle passed from the king to his queen and then to their adopted son, Prince Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole," says Tom Slater, director of Heritage's Americana auctions. "The rifle was in the rifle cabinet of the prince when he died in 1922." The prince's widow donated the entire contents of the rifle cabinet to the Bishop Museum, which put this rifle up for auction in 1932.

"This is a truly unique Henry rifle with a rich history," Slater says, noting that the last owner was antique firearms collector and Hawaii firearms historian John A. Bell (1931-2008).

Many historians consider King Kalākaua and his descendants true American Royalty. The only real royal palaces in the United States are in Hawaii, which received statehood in 1959.



King Kalākaua (left) received the Henry rifle from Edward McCook, who was the U.S. Minister to the Kingdom of Hawaii.



Henry Model 1860  
Caliber .44 Rimfire,  
Engraved Lever Action Rifle,  
Serial Number 8850  
Gifted by Edward McCook to King Kalākaua  
Estimate: \$100,000-\$200,000

King Kalākaua Royal Presentation Sword  
Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000

## EVENT

**ARMS & ARMOR  
SIGNATURE®  
AUCTION 6156**  
is scheduled for  
June 11-12, 2016,  
in Dallas and online  
at [HA.com/6156](http://HA.com/6156).  
For information,  
contact Tom Slater  
at 214-409-1441 or  
[TomS@HA.com](mailto:TomS@HA.com).



# William Robinson Leigh's 'Indian Rider'

1918 OIL ON CANVAS CONSIDERED  
ONE OF ARTIST'S SIGNATURE PAINTINGS

By Mary Adair Dockery

With its high-octane snapshot of an Indian on horseback racing through the light-suffused desert, *Indian Rider* epitomizes the work of Western genre painter William Robinson Leigh.

Here, a Plains Indian – identified by his beaded moccasins and feather hair decoration – clutches his rifle and leans into his pinto, urging him onward as they flee from a posse on the horizon. Leigh utilizes his famous pastel palette to render the sagebrush, rocks and background mesa of the arid landscape, and he further underscores the “heat” of the action through elements in motion – dust swirling, horse legs pounding, and hair, mane and leather pants streaming.

*Indian Rider*, painted in 1918, is featured in Heritage's American Art auction scheduled for May 7, 2016, in Dallas. Heritage Auctions set a world auction record for the artist in November 2011 when Leigh's 1932 oil on canvas *Home, Sweet Home* realized \$1.19 million.

*Indian Rider* is one of Leigh's earliest paintings to feature what would become his most commercial compositional formula: an up-close image of a single cowboy or Indian on a leaping horse in the middle of a sun-drenched canyon or desert.

In the book *W.R. Leigh: The Definitive Illustrated Biography*, author June DuBois describes the immediacy of these paintings: “So vivid and realistic is Leigh's rendering of flashing hooves and flying and distorted bodies, both equine and human, that the viewer feels his own perch on the top rail should be abandoned for a view through the knothole.”



William Robinson Leigh (1866-1955)  
*Indian Rider*, 1918  
Oil on canvas  
20 x 16 in.  
Estimate: \$400,000-\$600,000

## EVENT

AMERICAN ART SIGNATURE® AUCTION 5251 is scheduled for May 7, 2016, in Dallas and online at [HA.com/5251](http://HA.com/5251). For information, contact Michelle Castro at 214-409-1824 or [MichelleC@HA.com](mailto:MichelleC@HA.com).

## EVENT

ENTERTAINMENT  
SIGNATURE®  
AUCTION 7144  
is scheduled for  
June 25, 2016,  
in Dallas and online  
at [HA.com/7144](http://HA.com/7144).  
For information,  
contact Garry Shrum  
at 214-409-1585 or  
[GarryS@HA.com](mailto:GarryS@HA.com).

# Frank Sinatra Artifacts

## PERSONAL ITEMS COLLECTED BY GOLF INSTRUCTOR FRIEND

In 1960, Frank Sinatra joined other partners, including buddy Dean Martin, to purchase the Cal-Neva resort and casino on the shores of Lake Tahoe.

Like any good businessman, Sinatra (1915-1998) worked to promote his resort. Part of this effort included handing out Cal-Neva lighters to friends. "Frank never turned down a chance to promote his business," says Heritage Auctions consignment director and entertainment specialist Garry Shrum. "If you were lucky, he personally handed you a Cal-Neva lighter."



Sinatra

A set of Cal-Neva lighters, given by Sinatra to his California golf instructor, are featured in Heritage's entertainment auction scheduled for June in Dallas.

The golf pro who worked with Sinatra was a friend who attended Sinatra's 1966 wedding to actress Mia Farrow, Shrum says. "He became friends with Sinatra and met several people on his staff, including his head of security and executive assistant Dorothy Uhlemann."

Other Sinatra items from the collection include a pair of custom-made boots and a record-company jacket.

"These are personal pieces from an icon of American culture," Shrum says. "These aren't records or store-bought items. These are pieces that came from close to his soul, things he owned or handed out to friends. These items are still popular with fans everywhere."



Frank Sinatra-Related Set of Cigarette Lighters from the Cal-Neva Lodge, early 1960s  
Estimate: \$800-\$1,200



Frank Sinatra-Related "Duets" Jacket, 1990s  
Estimate: \$800-\$1,200



Frank Sinatra Set of Sterling Silver Jewelry, 1940s-1970s  
Estimate: \$1,000-\$2,000



Frank Sinatra Pair of Custom-Made Boots, 1980s  
Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500

# Lead U.S. Flag of D-Day Amphibious Assault

NAVY LT. HOWARD VANDER BEEK GUIDED AMERICAN LANDINGS ONTO UTAH BEACH IN 1944

Howard Vander Beek was often asked about the 19 waves of troops and equipment he led to shore on June 6, 1944. Over the decades, details had faded.

What always remained clear was the scope of the largest invasion fleet in human history. “The immensity of it,” he told the *Waterloo (Iowa) Courier* in 2009. “The unreality of the reality. I couldn’t believe I was really there.”

After the war, Vander Beek kept the U.S. flag that flew on the Landing Control Craft (LCC) he commanded as a U.S. Navy lieutenant the day Allied forces invaded France on D-Day. Look closely and you’ll see one symmetrical hole on the blue field of the 48-star flag.

“That’s a hole where a bullet went through,” Vander Beek said.

Vander Beek, who lived in Cedar Falls, Iowa, passed away in 2014. He was 97. His U.S. flag is featured in Heritage’s arms, Militaria and Civil War auction scheduled for June 12, 2016, in Dallas. It’s expected to realize at least \$100,000.

Vander Beek’s story is featured in John C. McManus’ book *The Americans at D-Day: The American Experience at the Normandy Invasion* and in *D-Day, June 6, 1944: The Climactic Battle of World War II* by Stephen E. Ambrose.

“Three boats were supposed to lead the first wave of the amphibious assault on Utah Beach, which was the first landing of D-Day,” says Heritage Auctions historical specialist Marsha Dixey. “Two others were disabled so Howard’s boat, the LCC 60, took the mission solo. In short, there was nothing but water, beach and the German army ahead of this flag, and



Brandon Pollock/Waterloo Courier

Howard Vander Beek talked about his U.S. flag in an interview with the *Waterloo (Iowa) Courier* in 2009.

the entire Allied armada behind it.”

While in secret briefings and studying the shoreline at his planned landing, Vander Beek met and befriended Gen. Teddy Roosevelt Jr., the son of President Theodore Roosevelt who led the first wave of troops at Utah Beach.

Vander Beek’s boat famously led the assault to the wrong landing point due to heavy smoke, but this ended up being an incredible bit of luck, as German entrenchments at the planned landing spot were not disabled by the bombing prior to the amphibious assault. Thus Roosevelt was inspired to deliver the most famous quotation of the D-Day invasion as he landed and realized the error:

“We’ll start the war from right here!”

Despite his leadership on D-Day, Vander Beek always maintained he was not a war hero.

“I was just such a small part of it,” he told the *Waterloo Courier*. “There were so many giving up their lives. Those are the true heroes.”

## EVENT

ARMS AND MILITARIA INCLUDING THE CIVIL WAR SIGNATURE® AUCTION 6156 is scheduled for June 12, 2016, in Dallas and online at [HA.com/6156](http://HA.com/6156). For information, contact Marsha Dixey at 214-409-1455 or [MarshaD@HA.com](mailto:MarshaD@HA.com).

# Barnum & Bailey Bandwagon

'TWO HEMISPHERES' FROM GOLDEN AGE  
OF TRAVELING CIRCUS SHOWS

When manufactured in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, showman James A. Bailey's circus parade wagon cost \$4,400 – the greatest amount ever paid for a single circus wagon up until that time.

"In 1903, travel for most of the world was limited to the ground and sea, but that didn't stop Barnum & Bailey from touring the nation with their famous traveling circus," says Tom Slater, director of Americana auctions at Heritage. "Everyone eagerly awaited the grandiose spectacle of the circus parade because it meant the circus was in town."

Bailey's wagon nicknamed "Two Hemispheres" is featured in Heritage's Americana and political auction schedule for May 14 in Dallas. It's expected to realize at least \$200,000.

The big bandwagon was conceived as the lead feature of the 1903 procession that heralded the return to America of Barnum & Bailey's "Greatest Show on Earth."

Show-figure carver Samuel Robb (1851–1928) led a team of artisans that created the elaborate bas-relief carvings that embody this wagon's theme, Slater says.

"Robb carved a great variety of works, from traditional cigar-store Indians to ventriloquist dummies to circus wagons. His carvings for the Two Hemispheres bandwagon represent the union of the Eastern and Western hemispheres as a celebration of James Bailey's travels around the world."

The Two Hemispheres wagon led Barnum & Bailey's daily street parades through 1918, and those staged in 1919-1920 by the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey combined shows. The last circus use of the wagon occurred in the early 1930s on Fred Buchanan's Robbins Bros. Circus.

Beginning in the 1950s, the Two Hemispheres bandwagon traveled to museums throughout the country, including the Ringling Brothers Museum of the Circus, the Circus Hall of Fame, and the Circus World Museum.

"It is believed to be the largest circus bandwagon ever built, requiring a team of 40 horses to pull it," Slater says. "Its stunning condition makes it all the more impressive."



The wagon in more recent years has been featured in various parades.

## EVENT

**AMERICANA & POLITICAL GRAND FORMAT AUCTION 6153** is scheduled for May 14, 2016, in Dallas and online at [HA.com/6153](http://HA.com/6153). For information, contact Tom Slater at 214-409-1441 or [TomS@HA.com](mailto:TomS@HA.com), or Kathleen Guzman at 214-409-1672 or [Kathleen@HA.com](mailto:Kathleen@HA.com).



Wood-carver Samuel Robb ran the largest workshop in 19th-century New York City.



Barnum & Bailey's  
"Two Hemispheres"  
Circus Bandwagon, 1903  
Estimate: \$200,000+

Visit [HA.com/Auctions](http://HA.com/Auctions) for details on all Heritage Auctions

## April

**MANUSCRIPTS**  
Grand Format Auction 6154  
New York – HA.com/6154

**RARE BOOKS**  
Signature® Auction 6155  
New York – HA.com/6155

**SILVER & VERTU**  
Signature® Auction 5261  
Dallas – HA.com/5261

**WORLD COINS**  
Signature® Auction 3046  
Chicago International Coin Fair  
Chicago – HA.com/3046

**1933 GOUDEY PSA SET  
REGISTRY**  
Catalog Auction 7138  
Dallas – HA.com/7138

**PHOTOGRAPHS**  
Signature® Auction 5253  
New York – HA.com/5253

**LUXURY ACCESSORIES**  
Signature® Auction 5244  
New York – HA.com/5244

**DOMAIN NAMES**  
Signature® Auction 1230  
San Francisco – HA.com/1230

**JEWELRY**  
Signature® Auction 5243  
New York – HA.com/5243

**ILLUSTRATION ART**  
Signature® Auction 5245  
Dallas – HA.com/5245

**U.S. COINS**  
Signature® Auction 1234  
Central States Numismatic Society  
Chicago – HA.com/1234

**CURRENCY**  
Signature® Auction 3543  
Central States Numismatic Society  
Chicago – HA.com/3543

**WORLD CURRENCY**  
Signature® Auction 3544  
Central States Numismatic Society  
Chicago – HA.com/3544

## May

**MODERN & CONTEMPORARY ART**  
Signature® Auction 5258  
New York – HA.com/5258

**MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**  
Signature® Auction 7133  
*Featuring the  
Rudolf Rock Collection*  
Dallas – HA.com/7133

**AMERICAN ART**  
Signature® Auction 5251  
Dallas – HA.com/5251

**SPORTS COLLECTIBLES**  
Signature® Auction 7123  
Dallas – HA.com/7123

**VIKTOR SCHRECKENGOST  
AUCTION**  
of 20th Century Art & Design  
5265  
Dallas – HA.com/5265

**AMERICANA & POLITICAL**  
Grand Format Auction 6153  
Dallas – HA.com/6153

**20TH & 21ST CENTURY DESIGN**  
Signature® Auction 5252  
Beverly Hills – HA.com/5252

**FINE & RARE WINE**  
Signature® Auction 5266  
Beverly Hills – HA.com/5266

**SPACE EXPLORATION**  
Signature® Auction 6158  
Dallas – HA.com/6158

**TEXAS ART**  
Signature® Auction 5255  
Dallas – HA.com/5255

**MODERN & CONTEMPORARY  
PRINTS AND MULTIPLES**  
Signature® Auction 5267  
Dallas – HA.com/5267

**TIMEPIECES**  
Signature® Auction 5263  
New York – HA.com/5263

**COMICS & COMIC ART**  
Signature® Auction 7137  
Dallas – HA.com/7137

## June

**NATURE & SCIENCE**  
Signature® Auction 5241  
Dallas – HA.com/5241

**U.S. COINS**  
Signature® Auction 1236  
Long Beach Expo  
Long Beach, Calif. – HA.com/1236

**ARMS & ARMOR, CIVIL WAR AND  
MILITARIA**  
Signature® Auction 6156  
Dallas – HA.com/6156

**LEGENDS OF THE WEST**  
Signature® Signature® 6159  
Dallas – HA.com/6159

**WORLD COINS**  
Signature® Auction 3047  
Hong Kong – HA.com/3047

**WORLD CURRENCY**  
Signature® Auction 3546  
Hong Kong – HA.com/3546

**EUROPEAN ART**  
Signature® Auction 5259  
Dallas – HA.com/5259

**ENTERTAINMENT**  
Signature® Auction 7144  
Dallas – HA.com/7144

**AUTO RACING SPORTS  
COLLECTIBLES**  
Signature® Auction 7146  
*Featuring the  
Harlen Hunter Collection*  
Dallas – HA.com/7146

## July

**U.S. COINS**  
Signature® Auction 1237  
*Summer Florida United  
Numismatists*  
Orlando – HA.com/1237

**ETHNOGRAPHIC ART**  
Signature® Auction 5254  
Dallas – HA.com/5254

**LINCOLN AND HIS TIMES**  
Americana & Political Grand  
Format Auction 6163  
*Joint Auction by Heritage Auctions  
and The Railsplitter*  
Dallas – HA.com/6163

**MOVIE POSTERS**  
Signature® Auction 7128  
Dallas – HA.com/7128

## August

**COMICS**  
Signature® Auction 7139  
Dallas – HA.com/7139

**U.S. COINS**  
Signature® Auction 1238  
*American Numismatic Association*  
Anaheim, Calif. – HA.com/1238

**WORLD COINS & ANCIENT COINS**  
Signature® Auction 3048  
*American Numismatic Association*  
Anaheim, Calif. – HA.com/3048

**CURRENCY**  
Signature® Auction 3545  
*American Numismatic Association*  
Anaheim, Calif. – HA.com/3545



Norman Rockwell  
(1894-1978)

*Portrait of a Young  
Boy, circa 1955*

Oil on canvas, 11 x 11 in.

*Featured in American Art  
Signature® Auction 5251*

*All dates and auctions subject to change after magazine goes to press. All auctions subject to conditions as printed in catalogs.*

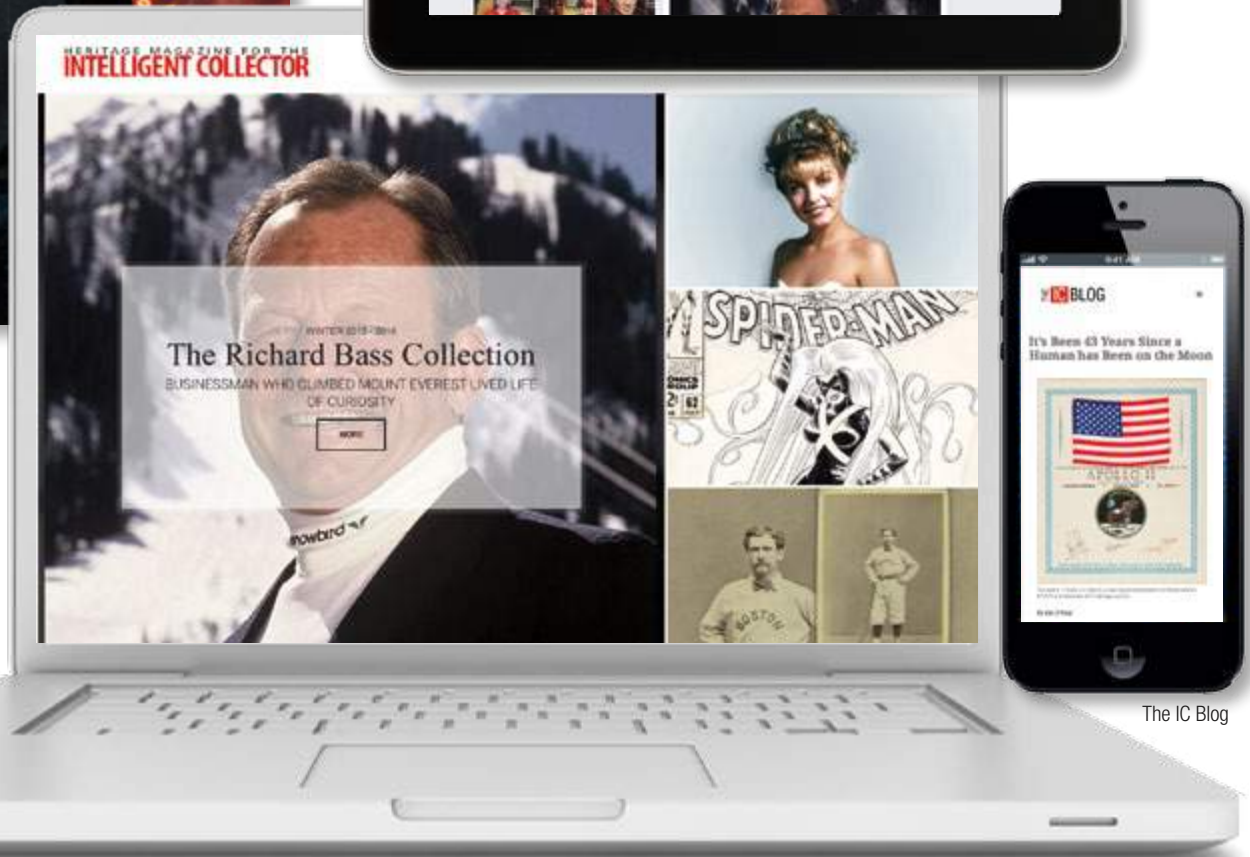
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# My Favorite Things

JEWELRY DIRECTOR AND 'ROADSHOW' APPRAISER  
**JILL BURGUM** EXPLAINS WHY THESE 5 PIECES  
 ARE REMARKABLE

I absolutely love what I do. I meet wonderful people from all walks of life. I'm fortunate to travel to places I never dreamed I'd see. And I'm always fascinated by the jewels presented, whether they have monetary or sentimental value. On top of that, no two days are alike. Sometimes, I'm a detective, a teacher, a problem-solver or a researcher trying to track down hallmarks or designer names – and I thoroughly enjoy it. Another challenge: selecting a mere five favorites from the thousands of pieces I have handled over the years.

## Art Deco Fancy Blue Diamond, Diamond, Platinum Ring, J.E. Caldwell



This piece hit the trifecta. A phenomenally rare blue diamond set in a ring made by a well-respected Philadelphia firm, J.E. Caldwell, during the Art Deco period. An accompanying original September 1927 advertisement showcasing the ring was icing on the cake. This ring realized **\$1,650,500** at an April 2013 Heritage auction.

## Diamond, Cultured Pearl, Enamel, Gold Pendant-Brooch, Masriera

I love the fantasy element of this brooch. The metamorphosis of the beautiful winged woman with her elegantly draped gown is truly eye-catching. The designer's use of plique-à-jour enamel gives this theme a light airiness. It realized **\$7,500** at a December 2012 Heritage auction.

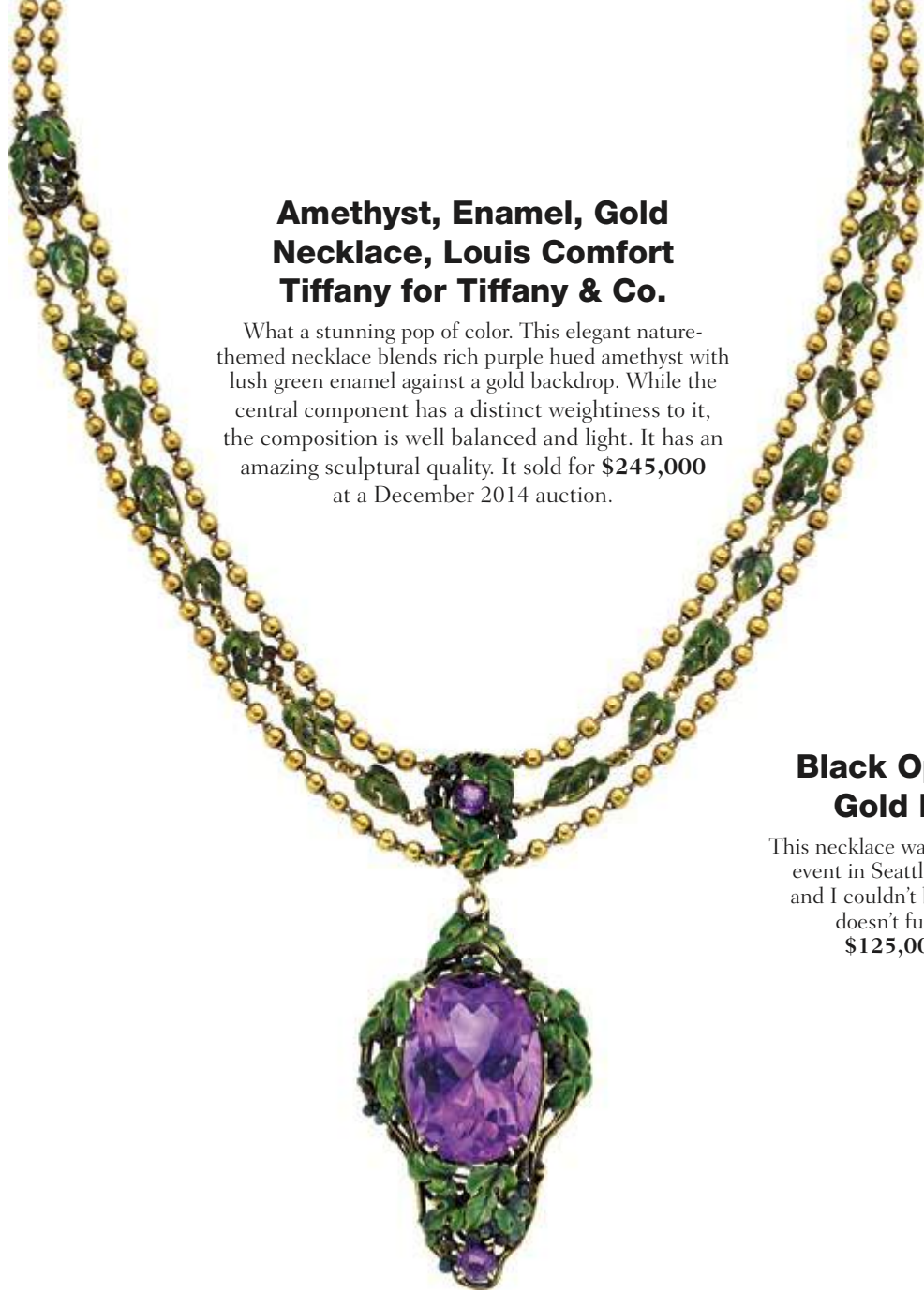


*JILL BURGUM is Heritage Auctions' senior director of fine jewelry and a regular appraiser on PBS' Antiques Roadshow. She can be reached at [JillB@HA.com](mailto:JillB@HA.com).*



**Amethyst, Enamel, Gold  
Necklace, Louis Comfort  
Tiffany for Tiffany & Co.**

What a stunning pop of color. This elegant nature-themed necklace blends rich purple hued amethyst with lush green enamel against a gold backdrop. While the central component has a distinct weightiness to it, the composition is well balanced and light. It has an amazing sculptural quality. It sold for **\$245,000** at a December 2014 auction.



**Black Opal, Montana Sapphire,  
Gold Necklace, Tiffany & Co.**

This necklace was presented during an *Antiques Roadshow* event in Seattle. It was literally the first piece of the day and I couldn't believe my eyes. To say it was spectacular doesn't fully capture the impact it made. It realized **\$125,000** at a December 2013 Heritage auction.



**Sapphire, Diamond, Enamel,  
Platinum, Gold Brooch,  
Oscar Heyman Bros.**

This piece is pure poetry for me. The delicate beauty of a butterfly is brought to life masterfully by Oscar Heyman Bros. The intricate craftsmanship, the balance between gemstones and metal, and the use of a soft color palette are all elevated by unusual gemstone shapes. The overall effect is absolutely lovely. It realized **\$8,750** at a December 2012 auction.





# Big League Players

MANTLE, CLEMENTE, RUTH CONTINUE BREAKING RECORDS IN THE VINTAGE BASEBALL CARD MARKET

By Hector Cantú

**I**t seems each new auction of vintage baseball cards brings with it record-setting prices.

In some cases, classic cards are realizing higher prices than higher-graded versions that have gone to market before them.

A 1955 Topps Roberto Clemente #164 graded PSA Mint 9, for instance, sold in February for \$478,000. It outperformed a PSA 10 that sold for \$432,000 four years ago. “The February sale was an auction record for this card at any grade,” says Rob Rosen, vice president of sports at Heritage Auctions.

What’s going on? There are several factors at play, Rosen says.

“Pre-War and early post-War cards are getting their due as a real alternative investment class,” Rosen says. “It’s been happening in antiques and with art and it’s finally happening with these cards.”

In response, it appears the hobby’s traditional base is expanding, Rosen says.

“Some of these cards, like the 1952 Topps Mantle, have surpassed sports collecting and card collecting and have crossed over to Americana,” Rosen says. “You don’t have to be a card collector to want that card in PSA 8 grade, just like you don’t need to be an art collector to want an Andy Warhol Monroe or a comic collector to want *Superman No. 1*.”

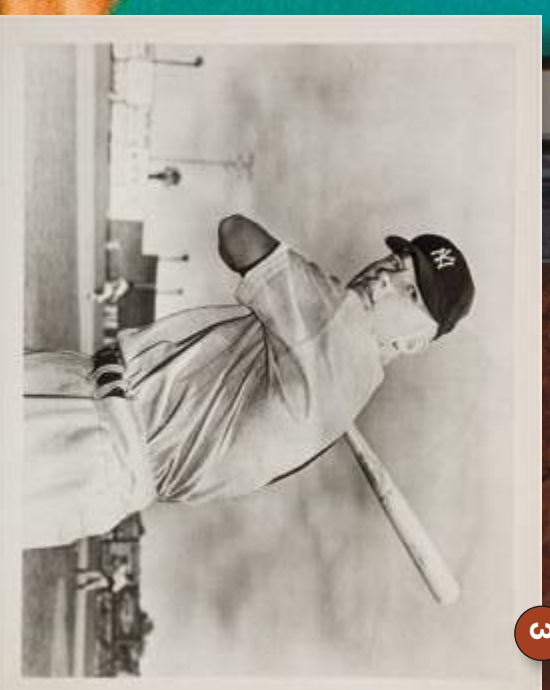
On top of that, the population of pre-War and early post-War cards has most likely reached a peak, tightening the supply and increasing the demand.

“There are no boxes left to open,” Rosen points out. “High-grade vintage cards are like beach-front property and no more are being created. So just try prying these from the kung fu-grip of their current owners.”

We looked at prices realized for cards offered by Heritage Auctions for the 12-month period ending February 2016 and found these record-setting treasures.

# HERITAGE MAGAZINE FOR THE INTELLIGENT COLLECTOR

## TOP BASEBALL CARDS OF THE YEAR



- 1** 1952 TOPPS MICKEY MANTLE #311  
Grade: PSA NM-MT 8  
Sold for: \$525,800 | December 2015  
*The most important, valuable and recognizable card of the post-war era; only 11 examples validated by PSA grade higher. Record price for card in this grade.*
- 2** 1951 BOWMAN MICKEY MANTLE #253  
Grade: PSA NM-MT 8.  
Sold for: \$137,425  
February 2016  
*Only 10 examples graded higher. Record price for this card in this grade.*
- 3** 1951 MICKEY MANTLE ORIGINAL NEWS PHOTOGRAPH USED FOR 1951 BOWMAN ROOKIE CARD  
Grade: PSA/DNA Type 1  
Sold for: \$71,700  
*Collectors increasingly are interested in vintage baseball photographs.*



**RECORD PRICE**



**RECORD PRICE**



**RECORD PRICE**



**RECORD PRICE**



**RECORD PRICE**



**RECORD PRICE**



**RECORD PRICE**

**1** 1955 TOPPS ROBERTO CLEMENTE #164  
Grade: PSA Mint 9  
Sold for: \$478,000 | February 2016  
One of 11 Clemente rookies assessed this grade level. Record price for card in this grade.

**3** 1934 GOUDEY LOU GEHRIG #37  
Grade: SGC 98 Gem 10.  
Sold for: \$167,300 | February 2016  
Finest known, population one.

**5** 1909-1911 T206 PIEDMONT TY COBB (GREEN PORTRAIT)  
Grade: PSA NM-MT 8  
Sold for: \$155,350 | February 2016  
The rarest Cobb, the highest available grade. Record price for this card.

**7** 1933 GOUDEY BABE RUTH #149  
Grade: PSA NM-MT 8.  
Sold for: \$119,500 | February 2016  
One of the most popular from the opening salvo of the "bubble gum era" of trading cards. Record price for card in this grade and first at this grade to break the six-figure barrier.

**4** 1961 TOPPS ROBERTO CLEMENTE #388  
Grade: PSA Gem Mint 10  
Sold for: \$131,450 | February 2016  
One of only two in Gem Mint. Record price for this card in this grade.

**6** 1909-11 E90-1 AMERICAN CARAMEL TY COBB  
Grade: PSA NM-MT 8  
Sold for: \$113,525 | November 2015  
Of more than 3,800 Type 1 American Caramels reviewed by PSA, only 16 have earned a NM-MT or better rating. Record price for this card in this grade.

**8** 1915 CRACKER JACK WALTER JOHNSON #57  
Grade: PSA Mint 9  
Sold for: \$101,575 | February 2016  
One of five at this grade with none higher. Record price for this card in this grade.

**2** 1915 M101-5 BLANK BACK BABE RUTH #151  
Grade: PSA EX 5  
Sold for: \$191,200 | February 2016  
Perfect specimen of a middle-grade example. Record price for card in this grade.



# Blind Wine 2016 Challenge

Heritage Wine Auctions is looking for the best blind tasters in the world for our 2nd Annual Blind Wine Challenge.

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to make reservations

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HERITAGE MAGAZINE FOR THE  
**INTELLIGENT COLLECTOR**

**HERITAGE**  
AUCTIONS

38

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CHICAGO: COLLECTOR





# Collecting **CHICAGO**

Interview by Barbara Conn ▪ Portrait by Jim Newberry

## **GRANT DePORTER**

IS A LOYAL WINDY CITY  
FAN, EVEN SPENDING  
\$114,000 ON THE CURSED  
2003 GAME 6 FOUL BALL  
AND BLOWING IT UP

## LIVING IN A HOTEL SOUNDS A BIT LIKE AN EPISODE OF THE 1970s TELEVISION CLASSIC *THE LOVE BOAT* – EACH DAY, EXCITING AND NEW.

On occasion, real life intersects with fiction, as is the story of business leader Grant DePorter. Growing up in a hotel, where simply riding the elevator was an adventure and bumping into a World Series champion or an NBA athlete was a daily occurrence, a lifelong passion for sports was ignited.

Today, DePorter is no ordinary collector. He is CEO of Harry Caray's Restaurant Group, named for legendary Hall-of-Fame broadcaster Harry Caray (1914-1998). Harry Caray's Restaurant Group operates seven restaurants and the Chicago Sports Museum. "Grant's dedication to keeping Harry's legacy alive is appreciated by the entire family," says Caray's widow Dutchie. "He's done an outstanding job capturing Harry's love of the game and the fans throughout all of our restaurant locations."

DePorter also is a formidable civic leader, sports historian, curator of the Chicago Sports Museum and an innate showman, all while enthusiastically sharing his collection with the public. "Grant has a way of creating an enjoyment of the history of the game," says Gold Glove winner, Hall of Famer and friend Ryne Sandberg.

### **When did you discover your interest in collecting?**

My father, Don DePorter, was in the hotel business my entire childhood. I remember as early as 1973, when he was running the Hyatt Embarcadero in San Francisco, encountering Hank Aaron right before he broke the all-time home run record. He signed a baseball to me, and I was hooked. Later in the '70s, my dad became a partner in the Oakland Stompers soccer team, along with Ben Davidson of the Oakland Raiders and John Brody from the San Francisco 49ers. I'd attend games as a kid, wearing a uniform, and be seated with the families who always made sure I went home with a distinctive souvenir.

Later, when he went on to run the Hyatt Regency Chicago, it felt like all of the visiting sports teams were constantly staying there. I'd ride with them in the elevators, see them in the lobby, and quickly came to realize it was an opportunity to add to my collection. And it wasn't just players. It was umpires and coaches, too. Umpire Ken Kaiser used to take me to White Sox games and into the locker rooms, where I once unexpectedly encountered outfielder Chet Lemon as I was helping myself to one of his bats.

The NBA annually held their awards dinners at the hotel, too. My dad was quite

charitable, and would often be thanked after the event with a basketball signed by all of the winners. That certainly was a highlight in my early collecting years.

### **What was the first piece you remember buying?**

What got me aggressive was the infamous Foul Ball. Being five outs away from the Cubs going to their first World Series since 1945, and have it not happen, was traumatic for Cub fans. [The ball was] auctioned off two months after the game. I thought I would be bidding against Florida Marlins fans, since they won the World Series that year, and that foul ball incident played a part. I didn't know whom I was up against. It turned out I beat [comic book artist and publisher] Todd McFarlane, who, at the time, owned six of the 10 most expensive baseballs in history.

My intention was to destroy the ball and provide a cathartic release for Cub fans. I received 20,000 letters in one week thanking me and offering suggestions of how to accomplish this. The *Today Show's* Katie Couric was the first to call, followed by media outlets from around the world. Not wanting to travel with my newly acquired and expensive piece of history, [NBC newsman] Lester Holt interviewed me via satellite about my purchase and unique plans.

Sports fans around the world became acquainted with DePorter in 2004 when he paid \$113,824.16 for the infamous Foul Ball (aka the "Bartman" ball) from the Cubs' heartbreaking loss in Game 6 of the 2003 National League Championship Series. He then proceeded to blow up the cursed ball with the assistance of an Oscar-winning special effects expert.

The Chicago Sports Museum features a replica of the device that allows fans to simulate blowing the ball into fiery chunks. The replica and tarnished remains of the actual ball are located in the museum's "Curses and Superstitions" area.

So, how does one transition from being a kid living it up in a hotel to possessing one of the most extensive and important collections of Chicago sports memorabilia? We sat down with DePorter, in what had been Harry Caray's personal office, to find out.

One of the letters I received came from Michael Lantieri, who won the Special Effects Academy Award for *Jurassic Park*. He said he would explore the techniques they employed in Hollywood to destroy the ball. Ultimately, he used a heat-pressured explosive to blow it up, while retaining some remains, so there was a bit left over.

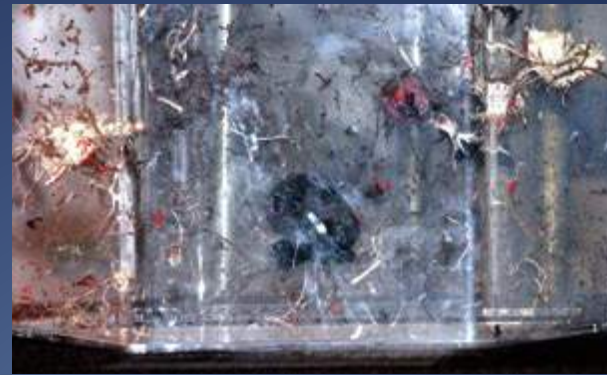
In February 2004, we publicly staged this moment in front of Harry Caray's Italian Steak House on Kinzie Street here in Chicago. Mayor Daley closed the street, saying it was for the greater good of Chicago, and we enlisted Harold Ramis, the famous *Ghostbuster* as our master of ceremonies, along with performances from Smashing Pumpkins' Billy Corgan and Cheap Trick's Rick Nielsen, all culminating when Michael Lantieri pushed the button and blew up the ball. The following year, we took some of those remains and after much preparation, turned it into spaghetti sauce [and] 700 fans ate it.

Michael Lanteri also worked on *Back to the Future 2*, where the Cubs win the World Series in 2015, and loaned me the movie's hover boards and sports almanac to display. I ended up buying the ball from Heritage Auctions that made the final out in the 1945 World Series, the last time the Cubs were in the Series. I thought by acquiring that ball, it should be treated differently. Michael and





Fan Steve Bartman makes his infamous reach for a foul ball as Chicago Cubs left fielder Moisés Alou attempts to make the catch. DePorter later purchased the ball (top right) and blew it up (middle right). It's now on display at the Chicago Sports Museum.



## Collecting Lessons

**GRANT DePORTER IS CEO** and founder of the Chicago Sports Museum, which is part of the Harry Caray's Restaurant Group. Here's what he's learned on his collecting adventures:

- The most important thing for any serious buyer is research, research and more research. Do not take the word of a seller or an industry-accepted expert.
- Ask others involved in the industry about the object and use science if at all possible.
- Provenance about the object is vital. Ask questions about the item and if the answers do not add up, walk away.
- Look at past sales of similar objects to determine a fair price you're willing to pay (if past sales can be trusted).
- Know the return policy and what you need to do to trigger that policy.

“My intention was to destroy the ball and provide a cathartic release for Cub fans. I received 20,000 letters in one week thanking me.”



*USA Today* calls Grant DePorter's Chicago Sports Museum one of the best museums in Chicago for families.



As CEO of Harry Caray's Restaurant Group, Grant DePorter has helped build on Caray's legacy since the legendary Chicago Cubs broadcaster's death in 1998.

his brother Lou, another special effects artist, lent us a steel container to house and suspend the ball until the Cubs actually win the series. The ball remains on display in that canister today.

#### **What is the most unique item you've ever purchased?**

The oddest item I've ever purchased came from Andrew Shaw of the Chicago Blackhawks. It's his stitches from the Stanley Cup Finals Game 6 in 2013 [in which Shaw took a puck to the face]. At that point, local media were projecting that I would be the buyer. I never want people to know what I'm going for, so I said I wasn't interested. Ultimately, I did buy them, and paid \$6,500. Fans thought I was being thematic, as Shaw's number is 65. The money went to charity, which was meaningful.

I also bought Sammy Sosa's infamous corked bat. One of the partners here at Harry Caray's is a radiologist, and performed a CAT scan on the bat that showed the cork going all the way through. It's on display at Harry Caray's Tavern on Navy Pier, and always a conversation piece.

#### **Did you ever drift away from collecting?**

I never lost my passion for collecting, but when I went off to college and later was getting my MBA, it took a backseat. Upon returning to Chicago, I got involved with the newly opened Harry Caray's Restaurant, and instinctively began to archive Harry's memorabilia.

#### **Do you have any stories about the one that got away?**

In 2015, at the National Sports Collectors Convention, Heritage offered William "The Refrigerator" Perry's Super Bowl Ring. I really wanted it for our Sports Museum

at Water Tower, as we already have a replica on display. I was the second-highest bidder at \$191,000 and it felt a bit like crazy money. It ultimately sold for \$203,150.

#### **What is still out there that you'd love to get your hands on?**

The things I go for the most are Chicago specific, and if I'm close to someone, it has special meaning for me. Walter Payton was a friend of my dad's, and the week before the Bears' Super Bowl appearance he was hanging out with us in my dad's office, wanting to talk about the restaurant business, trying to get his mind off football. So I recently acquired Walter's final touchdown football. When I care about someone and there is more of a personal connection, I am going to go after it.

Ernie Banks' 1969 glove I acquired, too. I felt like I saw Ernie almost every day in recent years, until his passing in early 2015. Ernie had lost most of his possessions from his sports life, so whenever I could get them back, I knew that he loved it. I also went after his 1976 coach's jersey. Not a lot of people know that in 1973, Ernie was the first African-American to manage a baseball game. Fans think it was Frank Robinson, but Ernie was about a year ahead. It's currently on display at Harry Caray's on Kinzie Street. The players I know love to see their memorabilia on display. They like sharing their awards and historic moments with their fans.

#### **Do you collect anything else?**

Absolutely! I was entrusted with a large private newspaper collection by a long-time customer. He knew I would respect and take care of it. Many of the papers are framed on walls at various Harry Caray's restaurants. I recall after that gift, I fed him lunch for the rest of his life.

## RECENT ACQUISITIONS

DePorter and Harry Caray's Restaurant Group walked away with several treasures offered at Heritage's Sports Collectibles Platinum Night Auction last summer. They are now among the many items displayed at the Chicago Sports Museum.



The 1998 NBA Finals basket and backboard from Michael Jordan's championship-winning shot realized **\$41,825**.



Ernie Banks is among the most beloved figures ever to call Wrigley Field home. His 1969 game-worn fielder's glove realized **\$31,070**.



Mike Ditka's 1964 game-worn Chicago Bears jersey with an armband memorial for running back Willie Galimore and tight end Bo Farrington, killed that year in an automobile accident. It sold for **\$33,460**.

And it's not just sports. It's Chicago history, too. I converted the basement of Harry Caray's on Kinzie Street into a Frank Nitti museum, which features his vault, after I purchased a Nitti subpoena from a Cook County court auction. Nitti was the infamous enforcer for Al Capone. His in-laws purchased the building that we now own, and he kept an apartment on the fourth floor, which served as a hideout and conveniently allowed him to keep an eye on the courthouse across the street. About 150 people come through each day.

#### Do you ever come across fakes or forgeries?

In 2010, the Blackhawks won their first Stanley Cup in 49 years. I wanted something from that game, and found out that the winning puck was missing. No one knew where it was. I was participating in the FBI Civilian Academy at the time, and put out a \$50,000 reward for the puck. A Philadelphia Flyers fan came forward, so I sent the puck to the FBI for authentication. Volunteering their own time, they blew up the image of the final goal

being scored, and with NBC providing an unedited reel, it was determined the puck was not a match. Eventually, it was established that the linesman, Steve Miller, picked up the puck. I continue to search for it, and people continue to submit. The reward is still out there, if anyone has it.

#### What advice do you have for collectors?

Always do your research and look at the back story to understand if something is authentic. How did it get from point A to point B is extremely important. History and provenance and, of course, buy from reputable places. I frequently get calls from people offering to sell me their items, but if it has no historical significance, I'm generally not interested. I also have the privilege of displaying important pieces on loan. For years, I've been trying to get outfielder Moisés Alou to sell me the mitt he wore in that fateful 2003 NLCS game. He finally acquiesced and loaned it indefinitely. It's now displayed next to the remains of that infamous 2003 foul ball.



**BARBARA CONN**  
is consignments  
director for Heritage  
Auctions in Chicago.

A night-time photograph of the Chicago skyline, featuring the Willis Tower and other skyscrapers illuminated with various colors. The lights are reflected in the water of Lake Michigan in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

# WINDY CITY WONDERS

SCORES OF CHICAGO-RELATED ARTIFACTS HAVE GONE TO AUCTION OVER THE YEARS. HERE ARE 10 COLLECTOR FAVORITES



## WORLD'S FAIR JAPANESE COIN

The World's Columbian Exposition (also known as the Chicago World's Fair) was held in 1893 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' arrival in the New World. An Empire of Japan (Meiji) silver 5 Sen Year 25 coin was struck for exhibit at the fair – long after the last date of this type was produced (1880). This coin, offered by Heritage Auctions in September 2011, remains extremely rare.

Price Realized: **\$276,000**



Perry

### PERRY'S SUPER BOWL XX RING

William "Refrigerator" Perry (b.1962) remains one of the most popular players of the 1980s-era Chicago Bears. The team won Super Bowl XX, thanks in part to the defensive lineman actually switching to fullback and scoring a touchdown. Thirty years later, in July 2015, Perry's 1985 Chicago Bears Super Bowl XX Championship Ring – called the largest NFL championship ring ever produced, at an estimated size 25 – appeared at auction.

Price Realized: **\$203,150**



### UNION NATIONAL BANK \$100 BROWN BACK

The Union National Bank of Chicago merged with First National Bank of Chicago in 1900 – making notes issued with the Union Bank title very rare. National Bank Notes were issued by banks throughout the country and in U.S. territories from 1863 to 1935. Among these, collectors value Brown Back notes for their beauty. This Union National Bank of Chicago Fr. 520, auctioned in August 2014, is among the highest-graded 1882 \$100 Brown Back examples from any bank in the country.

Price Realized: **\$99,875**



### FABER'S WHITE SOX UNIFORM

Pitcher Urban "Red" Faber (1888-1976) played his entire career for the Chicago White Sox. Though an illness kept him from playing in the notorious 1919 World Series, he was on the roster and suited up for games. This Faber game-worn Chicago White Sox uniform – auctioned in August 2011 – is the only-known uniform dating to that historic Fall Classic.

Price Realized: **\$68,712.50**



Faber



### NEIMAN'S RIVERVIEW PARK 'CAROUSEL'

Although born in St. Paul, Minn., and primarily working from his studio in New York City, LeRoy Neiman (1927-2012) studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and the University of Chicago. His vibrant paintings made him one of the most recognizable contemporary artists in the world. His oil on board *Carousel (From Riverview Park, Chicago, Ill.)*, 1958, went to auction in December 2008.

Price Realized: **\$65,725**

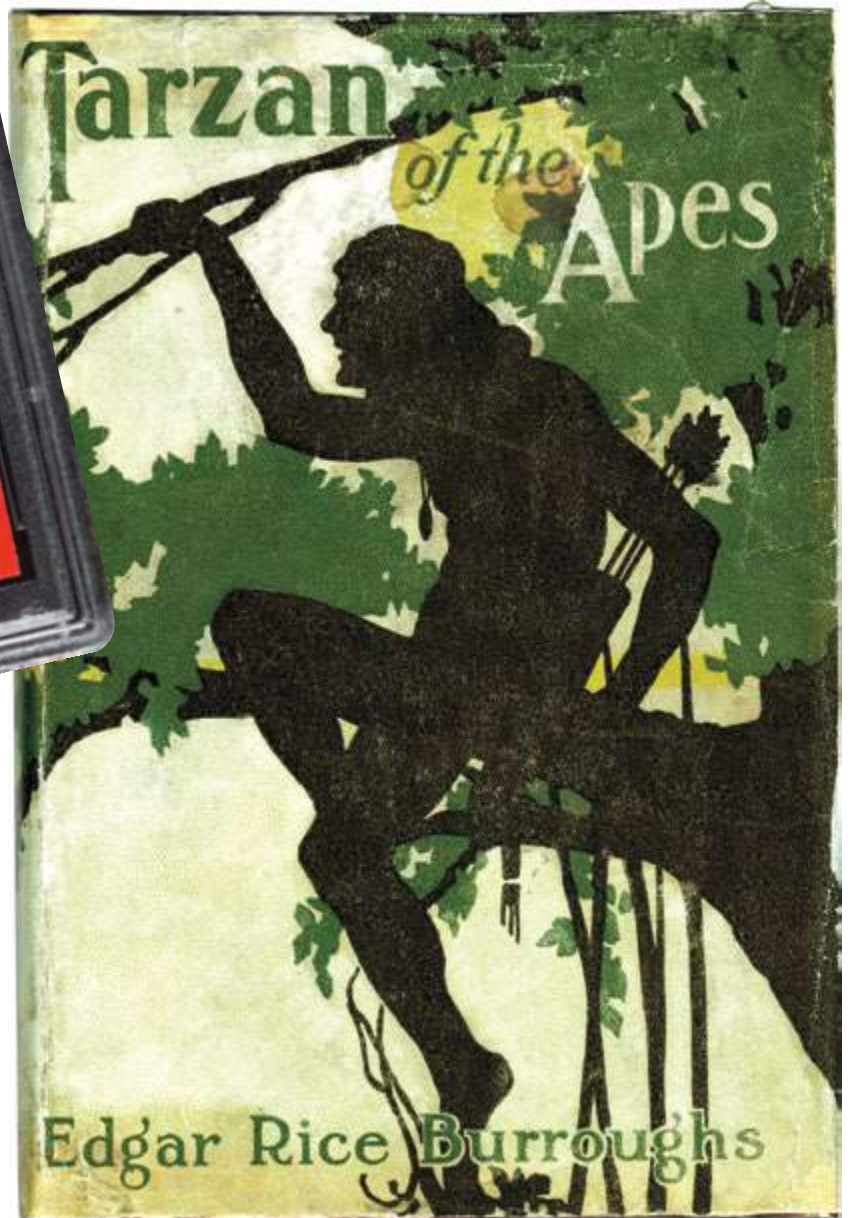




## JORDAN'S ROOKIE TRADING CARD

After arriving in Chicago, Michael Jordan led the Bulls to six World Championships in eight seasons. His spectacular play took the sport to heights of popularity not seen in the game's 100-year history. Today, Jordan's 1986 Fleer rookie card is one of the most sought-after modern cards of any type. An example graded PSA Gem Mint 10 went to auction in May 2015.

Price Realized: **\$15,535**



*Burroughs*

## 'TARZAN OF THE APES' FIRST EDITION

Native son Edgar Rice Burroughs (1875-1950) put publisher A.C. McClurg on the map. The Chicago publishing house in 1914 released Burroughs' novel *Tarzan of the Apes*, and launched an American literary legend. A rare first edition, first printing of the book, in its original dust jacket, was offered by Heritage Auctions in June 2009.

Price Realized: **\$20,912.50**





Piccolo

### PICCOLO'S CHICAGO BEARS JERSEY

Brian Piccolo's career as a running back for the Bears was cut short when he died of cancer at age 26. The Massachusetts native (1943-1970) was a fan favorite, passed over in the 1965 NFL draft but making the team as a free-agent running back. After his death, the 1971 television movie *Brian's Song*, starring James Caan, famously recounted the details of Piccolo's life. His 1966-68 game-worn Chicago Bears jersey went to auction in August 2013.

Price Realized: **\$40,331.25**



### 1908 World Series Program

The year 1908 marks the last time the city's beloved Cubs appeared in the World Series. Game 2, played at West Side Grounds, was a pitcher's duel until the bottom of the eighth, when Joe Tinker's home run blast opened the floodgates and propelled Chicago to a 6-0 lead. The Cubs would go on to take the Series 4-1. This rare 16-page 1908 World Series Program from Game 2 went to auction in April 2009.

Price Realized: **\$41,825**



Brady

### 'IN OLD CHICAGO' ACADEMY AWARD

20th Century Fox's 1938 film *In Old Chicago* is a fictionalized retelling of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, starring Tyrone Power and Don Ameche. It was Alice Brady (1892-1939), however, who received recognition from the Academy Awards for her performance as the owner of the cow that started the blaze. Her 1937 Best Supporting Actress Academy Award went to auction in October 2008.

Price Realized: **\$59,750**



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CHICAGO: ATTRACTION

Associated Press



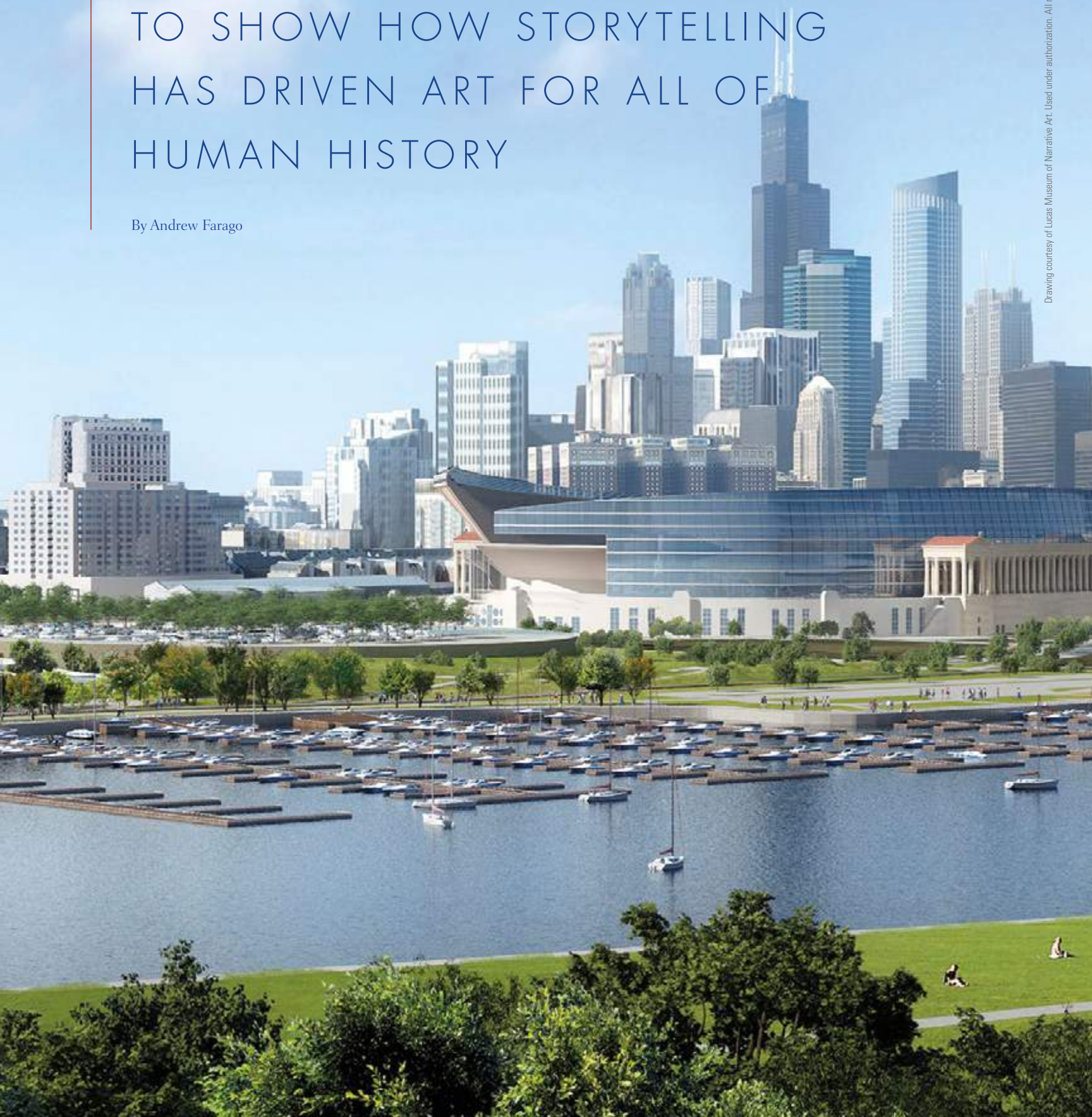
# LUCAS MUSEUM OF *Narrative Art*



This illustration shows the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art not far from downtown Chicago.

# FILMMAKER'S STRIKING LANDMARK TO SHOW HOW STORYTELLING HAS DRIVEN ART FOR ALL OF HUMAN HISTORY

By Andrew Farago



Drawing courtesy of Lucas Museum of Narrative Art. Used under authorization. All rights reserved.

Ralph McQuarrie  
(1929-2012)  
*Luke Skywalker and  
Darth Vader Battle with  
Lightsabers on the Death  
Star*, circa 1974-1975  
Gouache and graphite  
pencil on board



George Lucas is known throughout the world – if not the galaxy – as the creator of *Star Wars*, one of the most influential film franchises of both the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. The pioneering work of his visual effects division, Industrial Light & Magic, and audio artistry of Skywalker Sound has transformed the film industry.

Now, Lucas hopes to bring that same level of artistry and innovation to his latest endeavor, the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art.

The museum and its archives will be housed in Chicago, already home to world-class museums and a

thriving art scene. Through educational programming and public outreach, the museum plans to become an essential part of the city and its cultural, civic and community groups even before its scheduled public opening in 2018.

The Lucas Museum of Narrative Art is touted as the first of its kind, designed to challenge the way people think about museums. Visitors to the lakeshore facility will be welcomed by public green spaces designed by Chicago-based Jeanne Gang of Studio Gang Architects and Kate Orff of SCAPE. A massive park landscape will pay tribute to the area's historic topography and native vegetation.



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“Fans of *Star Wars*, like fans of any compelling narrative, will want to visit to ‘peek behind the curtain ...’”



Courtesy of the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art

“At any given time, there may be several thousand works on view at the museum,” says museum President Don Bacigalupi.

Celebrated architect Ma Yansong designed the facility as a sculptural element that both complements and contrasts with the lake, the cityscape and the sky itself. Yansong intends for the building to be a fundamental part of the museum experience as patrons explore its galleries.

George Lucas’ private art collection, numbering tens of thousands of pieces, will serve as a seed collection for the museum. “At present, the core of the collection is strongest in 19th, 20th and 21st century works,” says museum president Don Bacigalupi, “but we will be reaching back and adding selectively to the historical collection to illustrate the continuity of narrative art forms in previous historical moments.

“The galleries of the museum will present both collection works in great depth and temporary exhibitions. Those exhibitions will bring material from other colleague museums and collections around the world.

At any given time, there may be several thousand works on view at the museum.”

As a collector, Lucas is drawn to works with an emphasis on visual storytelling. This forms the common thread throughout his collection, from Pierre-Auguste Renoir’s domestic scenes to Norman Rockwell’s beloved *Saturday Evening Post* cover paintings to the surreal comic-book worlds of Jean “Moebius” Giraud.

The broad term “narrative art” encompasses a wide range of popular art forms. The museum’s collection includes comic strips, children’s books, pulp illustrations, paintings from the likes of Edgar Degas and Winslow Homer, the art nouveau designs of Alphonse Mucha, and the Depression-era photography of Dorothea Lange. The scope of the museum’s collection is truly remarkable.

Not surprisingly, the LMNA has an extensive cinematic archive as well. In addition to Lucas’ own films, the museum’s collection spans the history of cinema, with an



Maxfield Parrish  
(1870-1966)  
*Waterfall*, circa 1930  
Oil on panel, 32 x 22 in.

“The biggest surprise might be the revelation that storytelling has been one of the principle drivers of art-making for all of human history ...”

emphasis on visual innovation. Film lovers will delight in the groundbreaking visual effects of Georges Méliès and the dramatic innovations of Sergei Eisenstein, while younger audiences can learn how these classic films inspired modern filmmakers like Ridley Scott and Peter Jackson.

This spirit of innovation carries over into the LMNA's expanding Digital Art archives, encompassing computer advances in cinema, illustration, fine art, sculpture and architecture.

Bacigalupi welcomes the opportunity to present all these forms of narrative art under a single roof. “Visitors who are interested primarily in painting will enjoy a vast array of painted works, and will encounter unexpected relationships between painting and more non-traditional art media,” he says. “Similarly, visitors who come seeking insights into the narrative art of filmmaking will discover the connections between those forms and others that inspired and related to them.

“The biggest surprise might be the revelation that storytelling has been one of the principle drivers of art-making for all of human history, and continues to be manifest in our many forms of visual communication today.”

And for those seeking an inside look at one of the world's most beloved film franchises, Bacigalupi promises the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art has that covered, too.

“Fans of *Star Wars*, like fans of any compelling narrative, will want to visit to ‘peek behind the curtain’ and see the works of many artists that gave rise to their favorite works,” he says. “The illustrators, storyboard artists, costume designers, prop masters, matte painters, and many more contribute to a comprehensive narrative art that is one of the dominant forms of narrative art of our time.”

For art fans and collectors, the grand opening can't come soon enough.

ANDREW FARAGO is curator of the Cartoon Art Museum in San Francisco, and author of the Harvey Award-winning *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: The Ultimate Visual History*.

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George Herriman  
(1880-1944)  
*Krazy Kat* Sunday Page  
May 29, 1938  
Pen and ink with brush  
on heavy illustration  
paper, 22 x 20 in.



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Dr. Steven L. Duckor says collecting offers a fun break from his medical practice. "I owe a lot to coins, no question about it."

# Doctor Amazing

**STEVEN DUCKOR** HELPED LAUNCH INDEPENDENT GRADING, ASSEMBLED SOME OF THE FINEST COLLECTIONS EVER SEEN — AND DRAMATICALLY CHANGED THE HOBBY FOREVER

Story by Beth Deisher ■ Portrait by Axel Koester

**W**hat is the secret to becoming a successful and savvy collector?

Dr. Steven L. Duckor, legendary in coin collecting circles, doesn't think of his personal mantra — *buy the very best, stretch to buy it and hold on to it* — as a secret. That's because he willingly shares it. But he does credit his guiding philosophy as having been the key to his becoming an accomplished and highly successful coin collector.

In the past four decades, Duckor has formed finest-known collections in at least half a dozen series. His Barber half dollar collection — selected to Professional Coin Grading Service's Hall of Fame in 2003 and sold in 2010 — is widely acclaimed as the all-time finest collection of circulation strike Barber halves ever assembled. And his collections of Saint-Gaudens double eagles and \$1 gold coins have equally dazzled the collecting world.

"Collect rare and the best quality," he advises. "If it doesn't come gem, other than the few \$1 gold coins that are the finest known, I won't buy it. I'm looking for the very best. Remember my mantra: Buy the very best, stretch to buy it. It means if you can't afford to buy it, buy it anyway."

Legendary collector John Pittman, Duckor points out, took a second mortgage out on his home to acquire coins at the 1954 sale of the King Farouk collection. "I've done that actually. I've taken a second out on my house, borrowed money from my brother 20 years ago to buy coins. It's worth it," Duckor says, "if you know what you are doing."

### Starting With Silver Dollars

A native of Indiana, Duckor began collecting coins shortly after his family moved to Miami Beach, Fla., when he was 10 years old. The young Steven collected by series and obtained most of his coins by sorting through change from his father's business. He was 11 when he bought for \$8 his first coin – a 1914-D

“You have to find somebody you can trust that is knowledgeable. Make sure you feel comfortable, that it's a comfortable fit.”

Lincoln cent in “very good” condition. His father thought it was a lot of money for a penny.

“You've got to be kidding!” Duckor recalls his dad saying.

Nevertheless, his father (who was not a collector) trusted his son's knowledge, was supportive and encouraged his pursuits. “In 1960,” Duckor says, “my father took me to the local bank in Florida. They let me go through all their rolls of silver dollars. My dad said, ‘You can have only one of each date.’ So that's how I started in silver dollars.”

In his early collecting years, Duckor followed the more traditional path of collecting coins by date and mint mark, filling in albums. But his approach to collecting changed dramatically in the early 1970s. “Really, I didn't seriously start collecting until I graduated from medical school in 1971 and came to California,” Duckor says.

Shortly after beginning his internship at the University of Southern California Medical Center in Los Angeles, he met a coin dealer who was collecting gem coins. “Gem” is not a grade or description of a coin's state of preservation. Rather, it is a term that refers to the top tier of grades, generally Mint State or Proof 67 to 70. In some early series, gem also encompasses the 65 and 66 numeric levels because so few are known to have survived at those grades or beyond.

Greatly influenced by the coin dealer, Duckor began collecting circulation-strike gem Buffalo nickels, Standing Liberty quarters, Walking Liberty half dollars and Morgan dollars. By 1976, he turned his attention to gem 20th century gold coins, primarily quarter eagles, half eagles and double eagles. “That was when gold was about \$105 an ounce,” he notes.

### NOTABLE SALE

#### 1926-D Saint-Gaudens Double Eagle

**MS66+ PCGS Secure. CAC.**

The finest-known example of this issue, part of the Dr. and Mrs. Steven L. Duckor Collection of Saint-Gaudens double eagles sold at Heritage's January 2012 FUN Auction.

**Price realized: \$402,500**





## NOTABLE SALE

### 1920-S Saint-Gaudens Double Eagle MS66 PCGS Secure. CAC.

This important gold piece, tied for the finest certified of its issue, was offered in the Dr. Steven L. Duckor Collection of Saint-Gaudens Double Eagles by Heritage Auctions in January 2012.

**Price realized: \$575,000**

It was also a time when coins were bought and sold in small, brown envelopes – before independent third-party grading and encapsulation. He made it a priority to become knowledgeable by reading reference books about the series he was collecting, viewing coin lots in order to understand grading, studying auction catalogs and reading stories in *Coin World* about collections coming to market.

The top coin he purchased between 1976 and 1981 was a 1920-S Indian Head \$10 eagle at a Stack's sale in June 1979. "It was in gem condition, the finest known, and I paid \$80,000 for the coin. I can tell you that in 2007, I sold it at Central States in a Heritage auction for \$1.725 million. Unbelievable!" he admits.

Duckor cites the gem 1920-S \$10 gold coin as confirmation of his decision to concentrate on gem coins.

### A Pivotal Partnership

When he learned the Louis E. Eliasberg Sr. Collection of U.S. Gold Coins was to be auctioned in October 1982, Duckor sought out gold specialist David Akers. They first met over breakfast at New York's Hyatt Hotel on Oct. 27,

the morning of the first day of the sale. During the conversation, Akers revealed he had been the under-bidder at the June 1979 sale at which Duckor had purchased the gem Brilliant Uncirculated 1920-S eagle (later graded by PCGS MS-67+). "So we immediately had camaraderie."

Duckor asked Akers if he would represent him at the Eliasberg sale and together they set up basic criteria.

At the time, Duckor was focused on Saint-Gaudens \$20 double eagles. "That night, we bought several key coins from

"Don't buy with the thought 'I'll upgrade.' Wait until the right coin comes along."

the Eliasberg sale: a superb gem 1908 With Motto that later graded PCGS MS-67, a superb gem 1909-D that later graded PCGS MS-67, a 1920-S graded as choice BU that later became PCGS MS-66, a 1921 graded About Uncirculated 53 that

later became PCGS MS-65, and a 1931 graded choice BU that became a PCGS MS-66. So you can tell we bought some great coins.”

Meeting Akers was pivotal. “He became my mentor for 30 years, until his death [in 2012]. He was a great friend, somebody I talked to all the time about politics, the world, the economy, as well as coins. Through David, I redid my whole gold collection over a 25-year period.”

Duckor believes Akers was one of the top numismatists of the 20th century. He credits Akers with teaching him how to discern the difference in quality among coins – an ability many observers say distinguishes Duckor from most other advanced collectors living today.

“I learned that ability from David,” Duckor says. “... He taught me to pick out the gems, the superb coins.” Duckor adds that later the opportunity to compare third-party graded coins also helped because he could see the difference between, for example, a MS-64 versus a MS-66, bolstering his confidence in his ability to delineate quality.

“David had an incredible memory,” Duckor says. “He remembered every coin he had ever seen. He could tell you details or he could go to the auction catalog that

he kept details on about the coins and what he thought of them.”

In 1992, when Duckor told Akers of his desire to collect gem Barber halves, Akers responded, “Well, I have 10 of them. Why don’t we start you with them?”

Akers sent him the 10 Barber halves. Duckor had reservations about the price of one, a 1904-S graded MS-67, so he mailed it back to Akers.

“Are you sure?” Akers said in a follow-up call.

“No,” Duckor responded. “Send it back.”

The doctor purchased the coin for \$8,500. In 2010, when his collection of Barber halves was sold at auction, the coin realized \$125,000 and was declared the finest known.

An ability to spot winners ranks Duckor among the greatest living collectors, says Todd Imhof, executive vice president at Heritage Auctions. “In numismatics, only a small percentage of pedigrees continue to deliver a premium price years after a collector sells his coins and the Duckor name is one of those,” Imhof says. “His approach to collecting reflects that of a true connoisseur, and his personality and integrity make him one of my very favorite people to work with.”

## NOTABLE SALE

### 1904-S Barber Half Dollar MS67 PCGS Secure. CAC.

Pedigreed to the James A. Stack Collection that was sold in 1975, this lovely piece is one of two Gem examples known, and was offered as part of the Dr. and Mrs. Steven L. Duckor Barber Half Dollar Collection sold in August 2010.

**Price realized: \$138,000**





## NOTABLE SALE

### 1920-S Indian Eagle, MS67 PCGS.

An astonishingly beautiful Superb Gem from the Dr. Steven L. Duckor Collection, this 1920-S Indian Eagle is the finest certified example, and was offered by Heritage Auctions in March 2007.

**Price realized: \$1,725,000**

Duckor has equal praise for his auction partners. All the coins he has sent to auction in the past two decades have gone to Heritage Auctions. Results, he says, have been “tremendous” and catalog descriptions “detailed and wonderful.” Imhof, he says, has been his exclusive “go-to guy.”

“Todd,” Duckor says, “is one of those guys who is totally on top of his game. I don’t think there is anyone in numismatics today that has a greater understanding of the overall marketplace and of the dynamics that cause a certain area to appreciate or decline. His ability to get deals done that are fair and effective for both sides, no matter how complicated, has been a huge asset for me over the years.”

Duckor believes trustworthy partners, dealers and mentors are important to becoming a successful collector. “You have to find somebody you can trust that is knowledgeable,” he says. “Make sure you feel comfortable, that it’s a comfortable fit.”

He is critical of what he calls “newer dealers” who are not as educated or knowledgeable as Akers or gold coinage expert Doug Winters, with whom he began working after Akers’ death. Some of the newer dealers, he says, rely too much on third-party grading (what’s on the slab) rather

than the coin itself. “That’s why I think it’s helpful to have CAC stickers,” Duckor says. “It’s another layer of confirmation of the grades.”

## When it’s Time to Move On

Unlike many collectors, Duckor does not feel compelled to amass complete collections nor does he think in terms of

“Remember my mantra: Buy the very best, stretch to buy it.”

keeping his collections for a lifetime. “To me there’s as big a pleasure in selling as there is in buying,” he says. “It reconfirms your thoughts on what you bought. It validates what you have done.

“I know when it’s time to move on. There’s always a time,” he says. “My Saint-Gaudens \$20 gold collection that I sold in January 2012 I had for over 30 years. ... On the other hand, my \$1 gold collection that I started six years ago was sold in August [2015].”

He says his goal when starting his \$1 gold collection was to buy only coins grading MS-65 or better, which eliminated a third of the coins in the set because they do not exist in those grades. His collection consisted of 54 coins.

Mark Borckardt, senior cataloger and numismatist at Heritage Auctions, describes Duckor's \$1 gold collection as "far finer than any other gold dollar collection ever offered for public sale." It included four graded MS-64, six MS-65, three MS-65+, eight MS-66, one MS-66+, eight MS-67, six MS-67+, 13 MS-68, and five MS-68+. (All coins were PCGS graded and CAC approved.)

Duckor points out that his collection did have a few coins below the MS-65 threshold. "For instance, Dahlonga. I only collected the 1855-D in MS-64 because it is the finest known. The only Charlotte coin I collected was the 1849-C in MS-64, the finest known."

His secondary goal when he began his \$1 gold collection was to sell it by the time he was 70. "I just turned 70!" Duckor said shortly after the auction.

He says he has always collected coins for fun and pleasure. "It's a break from medicine for me. It's actually fun as a

diversion from my gastroenterology practice. I have a very busy practice, even at this age. ... It gave me a focus, a hobby. I owe a lot to coins, no question about it."

Duckor's current collecting focus is Walking Liberty half dollars, a series he describes as "familiar territory" because he collected it 40 years ago. However, he is not collecting the entire series this time. He is collecting the years 1916

Collecting coins today, Duckor says, is much easier than in the past.

to 1933. "That's because those are the toughest dates. Those are the hardest to find in gem."

He points out, "The only difference is 40 years ago, the 1919-S was rarer than the 1919-D. Now the D and 21-S are the two rarest dates in the Walker series."

He continues to collect series because he likes to study in-depth what he is collecting. "As I get older, I don't need to complete a series. I don't have a 1919-D Walker in MS-65. I only want it in MS-65

## NOTABLE SALE

### 1863 Gold Dollar, MS68 PCGS Secure. CAC.

Offered as part of the Duckor Family Collection of Gold Dollars in August 2015, this stunning 1863 carries a provenance from famous Chicago collector Virgil Brand and the late

David Akers. This is the finest-known 1863 gold dollar by two grade points.

**Price realized: \$193,875**





CAC because there's only one. ... I always advise collectors not to fill every hole. If you only get two coins out of 20 in gem, that's fine. You don't have to finish a set. That's what I've learned over the years."

He also advises collectors to be patient.

"Don't buy with the thought 'I'll upgrade.' Wait until the right coin comes along. You can go crazy upgrading all the time. Great collections do come on the auction block every few years."

He looks back at the advent of third-party grading as an important milestone and takes pride in the role his collection played.

"In 1985, I received a call from David Hall," Duckor remembers. "He asked if he and Gordon Wrubel could look at my 20th century gold collection. He said they had a 'new idea.'"

Hall and Wrubel met Duckor at his bank to examine the entire collection. "They each graded the coins separately," Duckor explains. Later they provided him with copies of their grading sheets. He was amazed at how accurately and how close their grades were. He describes that exercise as a "founding experiment," noting that Hall and Wrubel went on to launch Professional Coin Grading Service in February 1986.

Three years later, PCGS graded and encapsulated his entire 20th century gold collection. Since that time, experts agree that third-party grading has helped propel rare coins into a \$5 billion market today.

"PCGS, and shortly thereafter Numismatic Guaranty Corporation, established a solid standard of independent grading that gave coin collectors and investors an unprecedented level of confidence in the numismatic marketplace," Imhof says. "Endorsements of PCGS by prominent collectors like Dr. Duckor helped transform the rare coin marketplace into a far more vibrant, liquid and credible place to buy and sell."

Collecting coins today, Duckor says, is much easier than in the past. He credits the vast amount of information available on the Internet – access to auction records, grading service population reports, blogs and the ability to communicate directly via email with other collectors – as bringing important changes to coin collecting.

But he also looks back to the standard references and researchers such as David Akers and David Hall writing in the 1970s and 1980s. He said he was reviewing some of their work recently on Walkers and 20th century gold and noted they were "90 percent accurate on what was rare and what wasn't rare." He observed that the old-time researchers were accurate without using pop reports, third-party grading, CAC or other tools readily available today.

"Amazing!" Duckor declares.

BETH DEISHER, retired editor of *Coin World*, is author of *Cash In Your Coins: Selling the Rare Coins You've Inherited*.



Viktor Schreckengost, a key figure in the first era of modern design and one of its last leaders, has been called an “American DaVinci.”

Photograph by Robert C. Hofner, courtesy Joseph Kisvardai

## Master of Design

SCHRECKENGOST A GIANT OF ART WHO SHAPED THINGS AMERICANS HAVE USED FOR TWO GENERATIONS

By Marianne Berardi, Ph.D.

**D**rawn exclusively from the estate of the artist, a May auction brings to market for the first time a near-comprehensive cross-section of the artistic achievement of Viktor Schreckengost (1906-2008), one of the giants of 20th-century modern design and author of the Art Deco *Jazz Bowl* for Eleanor Roosevelt.

A contemporary of Raymond Loewy, Norman Bel Geddes and Walter Dorwin Teague, Schreckengost was the last major figure from the first age of industrial design in the United States. His revolutionary designs changed the face of products we use every day. But as this first public auction dedicated to Schreckengost's wide-ranging career will bring to light, he was an equally accomplished fine artist who exhibited his sculptures and paintings internationally.

The auction includes examples of Viktor's award-winning sculpture

(glazed ceramic, plaster relief and bronze); hand-built and thrown pottery; watercolor paintings; drawings; children's pedal cars which were the most successful ever marketed; remarkably beautiful bicycles as well as exquisitely finished renderings for them; his student work from both the Cleveland Institute of Art and the Kunstgewerbeschule in Vienna; the first commercial modern American dinnerware designs; theater designs; puppets; and furniture.

Based in Cleveland, Viktor worked with uncanny versatility. His conviction that something didn't need to be expensive to be handsomely designed provided him with a sustaining passion and delight for almost three-quarters of a century as he set himself the task of improving everything from flashlights to bikes and baby strollers, to electric fans, safer printing presses and lawn chairs. He once quipped, “If they sold

600,000 of something, then I thought I was on the right track.”

Indeed, just one of these avenues of artistic pursuit would be more than enough for most artists, but Viktor — who lived to the ripe old age of 101 — often juggled many lines of work for several companies at once. In addition to his work as a designer, he was a teacher for most of his life. His tenure at his alma mater, the Cleveland Institute of Art, where he created what is considered by many to be the first American program in modern industrial design, is the longest in the school's history.

From 1930 until just a few years before he died in 2008, Viktor molded the thinking and careers of countless major figures in the world of industrial design. Well into his mid-90s, and dressed impeccably in a suit and tie that looked as though he had walked straight out of the set of *Mad Men*, Viktor would



Viktor Schreckengost (1906-2008). *Pursuit Plane (Child's Pedal Car)*, 1941. Designed for Murray Ohio Manufacturing Company. 25 in. high, artist's copy. Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000



Viktor Schreckengost (1906-2008). *The Seasons (Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring)*, 1938. Glazed ceramic, 17 to 17¾ in. high (range). Estimate: \$150,000-\$250,000

show up at the department to give thoughtful critiques to appreciative students. Generations of Viktor's students have gone on to play major roles in reshaping our products, particularly in the fields of toy and automotive design.

Born in the pottery town of Sebring, Ohio, he, his father and his siblings all worked in the commercial potteries there. Growing up working with clay and the various technologies behind its mass-produced wares gave Viktor an intrinsic understanding of the medium and most everything it could and couldn't do. Clay really was his first and enduring love, and it was working with this medium that Viktor first distinguished himself. In fact, a great many of his industrial designs — notably his pedal cars — were initially sculpted in clay.

As his career evolved, Viktor also took up watercolor painting with great intensity of focus, and became a regularly exhibiting member of the American Watercolor Society. The May auction contains an outstanding selection of Viktor's work in watercolor in a range of styles from early works of Regionalist scene painting to his own brand of grid-based abstraction.

Highlights of Heritage Auctions' Viktor Schreckengost Auction include Viktor's four monumental glazed ceramic heads of *The Seasons* (1938), which illustrate his strong artistic debt to his Viennese training at the Kunstgewerbeschule under Michael Powolny. The mask-like columnar heads were made by taking a vessel form, and modifying it without compromising the intrinsic integrity of the vase shape. Viktor pushed out the wall to create a nose, poked through the wall twice to make eyes, and then applied the decorative elements to identify each season, such as star-shaped crystals for winter or floral clusters for spring.

Also featured in the auction are four original plaster relief sculptures illustrating the history of birds from their first appearance 140 million years ago up to the present day. They were the presentation models Viktor created in 1950 for a major architectural sculpture commission: his massive brightly colored ceramic reliefs which faced the birdhouse tower at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. The complexity, success and beauty of the designs for this commission resulted in national attention, with an article in *Newsweek* and a medal for the artist. The plasters were shown in the

Schreckengost retrospective exhibition at the Cleveland Museum of Art in 2000.

The auction includes two original concept drawings for perhaps Viktor's greatest single innovation in truck design — the first cab-over-engine truck in 1933 for White Motor Company (which is now the industry standard for trucks as well as busses). A selection of Viktor's own examples of the steelcraft toys (with original related drawings), 1941 Pedal Pursuit Plane, and Police Radar Car designed for Murray Ohio Manufacturing Company will be included. A virtually unknown face of Victor Schreckengost is his work as a bold, direct draftsman. Included in this auction is a fine selection of never-before-exhibited drawings Victor produced in chalk and pastel from life, as well as concept and working drawings for his ceramic sculptures.

In addition to work by Viktor, the auction will include notable examples of work by the artist's brothers, Paul and Don, who were distinguished dinnerware designers in their own right. Paul Schreckengost's extremely rare *Tom and Jerry Punch Bowl Set*, which he designed in 1938 for the Gem Clay Forming Company, Sebring, Ohio, will be a coveted prize for dinnerware collectors.



MARIANNE BERARDI, Ph.D., is Senior Fine Art Expert at Heritage Auctions.

## EVENTS

### SECOND TUESDAYS AT SLOCUM LECTURE SERIES

featuring fine art expert Marianne Berardi discussing Viktor Schreckengost's influence on American ceramic sculpture and industrial design is scheduled for 6 p.m., May 10, 2016, at the Heritage Design District Annex, 1518 Slocum St., Dallas. RSVP at 214-409-1050

THE VIKTOR SCHRECKENGOST AUCTION OF 20TH CENTURY ART & DESIGN is scheduled for May 13, 2016, in Dallas and online at [HA.com/5265](http://HA.com/5265).

# Wood-Working Pioneer

PAMELA WEIR-QUITON HAS CARVED OUT A CELEBRATED CAREER IN A MALE-DOMINATED ART FORM

By Katie Nartonis

Pamela Weir-Quiton is among a handful of important wood-workers to emerge from the West Coast art scene of the post-World War II period.

As a female artist operating in a largely male-dominated art form, her early success and long career has been hard-won through persistence and the sheer force of creative imagination. Her acquired skills with power tools didn't hurt. Pamela's finely crafted sculptural works from exotic woods have been seducing collectors and curators since the mid-1960s.

Known for her whimsical life-size rocking animal forms and stylized "Georgie Girl" functional dolls, her vision is a fresh take on the artist's desire to maintain a childlike sense of wide-eyed freedom and self-expression. Her work resides in the space between sculpture, woodworking and toys crafted for grown-ups. Her chunky, geometric dolls and animal forms measure from 24 inches all the way up to 8 feet tall.

First discovered when she was in her early 20s, Weir-Quiton was celebrated widely in the press as a Southern California "fashionista with a band saw." A striking and fashionable young woman in the swinging early 1960s, the contrast was a powerful combination. Soon the artist was being featured in magazines across the country. She was billed as the vibrant and hip young L.A. wood-worker who could emerge from the studio covered in saw-dust in the morning – and don a fabulous frock for a photo shoot at the beach later that afternoon.

Pamela's first dream was to become a fashion designer and as a young college student she won a spot as guest-editor for *Mademoiselle* magazine in New York City. She approaches her work from a fashion angle and she even likens her skills with woodworking tools to that of "operating a sewing machine." Always aware from a young age that she was an artist and meant for a creative life, it was after "a very cute male advisor" in college

suggested she try a woodworking course that Pamela was hooked. She never looked back.

Early in her career, her large-scale work was sought out by architects and many public and private commissions were realized including retail spaces, shopping malls and playgrounds. In the 1970s, she was the subject of the documentary *People who Make Things* and has recently been featured in a number of new short films and fresh magazine articles about her work. Always willing to share her space and her work, her studio is now open regularly for tours, classes and by appointment.

Weir-Quiton is celebrating her 50th studio year and her work is included in important collections and institutions across the country. With her stunning green eyes and her easy laugh, Pamela has spent her long and legendary career inviting the world to "come play with her" in her spacious Venice Beach, Calif., studio.



**KATIE NARTONIS**  
is consignment director for 20th and 21st Century Design at Heritage Auctions. She is founder of the Nartonis Project, which is dedicated to telling the stories of the West Coast Art Scene.



Pamela Weir-Quiton is celebrating her 50th studio year, and her work has been included in important collections and institutions across the country.

## EVENT

Historical examples of Pamela Weir-Quiton's work will be featured in Heritage Auctions' 20th & 21st Century Design Signature® Auction scheduled for May 17, 2016, in Beverly Hills and online at [HA.com/5252](http://HA.com/5252)



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Obsessed with Hermès

ART CONSULTANT BARBARA GUGGENHEIM MIGHT NOT SLEEP WITH HER COLLECTION, BUT DON'T SAY SHE'S HANDSOME ROMANTIC.

Photograph by Neil Kinnaird



## Collecting ELVIS

FOR SOME OF THE NATION'S TOP COLLECTORS, THE LURE OF 'THE KING' IS TOO STRONG TO RESIST

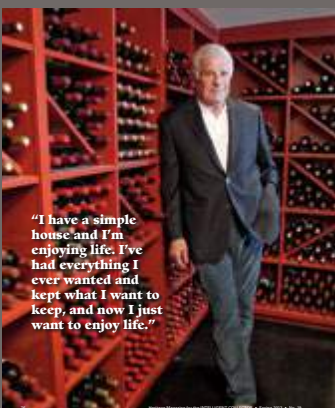
By Billie J. Melnyk

THE LEGEND OF ELVIS PRESLEY is that of the ultimate American success story — 28-year-old musician boy with an incredible voice, making the grunge of rock business success and acquiring all of the trappings that go with the throne.

In a culture fixated on getting fame and fortune, Presley, who died 50 years ago this year, was an anomaly: rather than obsessively seeking up the world's love, "The King" was known for his generosity: he bought cars for his family, he freely offered his jewelry to new friends, he handed out awards to anyone that he felt was deserving. Anything and everything that Elvis gave away was an item to be treasured, whether the item was a car or glass of cognac.

"This is the guy who got it started — his looks, his class, his style, his stage presence," says Heritage Auctions music specialist Gary Strass, "and he loved to give stuff away. He was so friendly, he would give away his clothes. After he'd worn something for a time and got tired with it, he'd give it to somebody in the Memphis area. [Strass' background, or some guy, or somebody, or a show set, he was always Mr. Nice Guy.]"

Rich Cantara is among those swept up by the magic of The King. "I had the pleasure — just happened — of owning this in October of '97," says the longtime New York collector. "I was at the Buffalo Memorial Auditorium, and I own 13 original replicas of shoes from that concert."



"I have a simple house and I'm enjoying life. I've had everything I ever wanted and kept what I want to keep, and now I just want to enjoy life."



## Thomas Jane

FORBIDDEN AND SUBVERSIVE ARE KEY ELEMENTS IN WESTLAWN PUBLISHER ADDS TO HIS COLLECTIONS

Thomas Jane is a man of many talents. In the 1980s, he was a successful actor, and in the 1990s, he was a successful publisher. Now, he is a successful collector.

Westlawn Publishing is a collection of books and magazines that are both forbidden and subversive. They are books and magazines that are both forbidden and subversive.

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*Heritage Magazine for the Intelligent Collector* is published three times a year. The cover price is \$7.99. Offer good in U.S. and Canada only. All payments in U.S. funds. Your first issue will mail 8-12 weeks from receipt of order. We never sell our mailing list to third parties.

# The Magic of Books

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE A LAUNCHING POINT  
FOR WRITING TEAM AND THEIR CURIOUS DAUGHTER

By Pamela Y. Wiggins

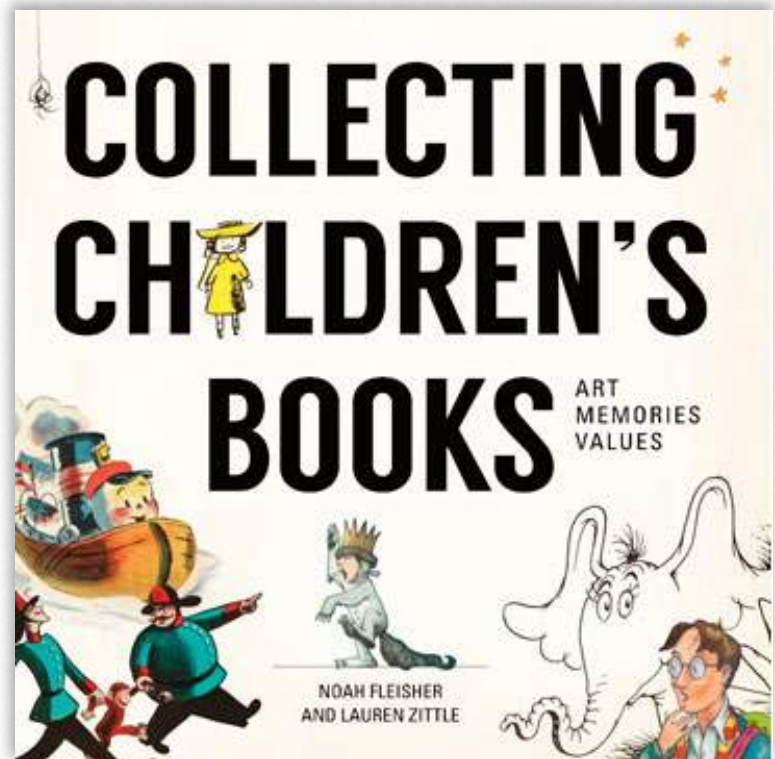
Once upon a time, a little girl fell in love with books and inspired her parents to start a collection. While certainly no fairy tale, in a number of ways this story is a dream come true for husband and wife Noah Fleisher and Lauren Zittle, and their 10-year-old daughter Fiona.

Fleisher and Zittle authored *Collecting Children's Books: Art, Memories, Values* (Krause, 2015) to share their passion with others. While Fleisher has daily exposure to some of the finest collectibles in the world as public relations director at Heritage Auctions, Zittle wasn't really much of a collector until Fiona came along. Then mom dove head first into the swimming pool of colorful characters from children's literature.

"I was a bookworm, and I really looked forward to sharing all those books I had loved with my daughter," Zittle says. As a mom, she knows the benefits from reading at an early age include exercising the brain, doing better in school and improving concentration. As time passed, she noticed even broader benefits, such as empathy and a connection with the human experience.

"Our scoldings usually consist of telling her to stop reading so she can set the table," Zittle happily shares. Fiona is a great kid and remarkable student, but she also shows an interest in the world around her – gleaned through reading about fascinating themes and interesting places she wouldn't know otherwise.

Beyond introducing her daughter to children's books – with the help of Fleisher, of course – Zittle gets what it means to be a collector now. Through this journey, she learned about the labor of love found in compiling a collection, and how it offers a keen connection to the past. Sharing a decade-by-decade overview of favorites and authors who



stand out as the best of the best in *Collecting Children's Books* reflects this newfound appreciation.

As a collectibles enthusiast, Fleisher believes collecting children's books should be about buying what you love. As a collection grows, he advises narrowing the focus by looking at certain authors, themes or time periods – and the captivating book he wrote with his wife helps collectors do just that. While the book is written for adults, this advice is true for collectors of all ages.

Fleisher suggests taking the entire family to book and paper shows or bookshops specializing in collectibles. "I tend to default to people in the business when it comes to learning and guidance so book dealers are a good resource," Fleisher says. "Many auction houses have book specialists on staff as well. And the Heritage archives online are a great place for research and looking through high-quality photos.

*Collecting Children's Books:  
Art, Memories, Values*  
By Noah Fleisher and Lauren Zittle  
Krause Publications  
\$26.99 (hardcover)

Beyond all that Heritage offers at HA.com, *Collecting Children's Books* recommends a number of resources found on the Web. Sites such as Abebooks.com and Alibris.com are recommended, along with other reputable book dealers and auctioneers who sell books. These can be tapped for research as well as shopping.

When buying children's literature, whether guiding a young collector or for your own bookshelf, Fleisher and Zittle recommend paying close attention to the condition of covers. They should be clean and not faded. Spines should be in good shape, too, not broken or cracked. And if the book is supposed to have a dust jacket, make sure it is present, clean and original. Check pages for foxing (age-related

***“I was a bookworm,  
and I really looked  
forward to sharing all  
those books I had loved  
with my daughter.”***

Lauren Zittle  
Co-author, *Collecting  
Children’s Books: Art,  
Memories, Values*



Lauren Zittle and Noah Fleisher  
with daughter Fiona.

spots or browning) and water damage, along with any that are torn or missing. These factors greatly impact the value of books.

They also encourage buyers to do pricing research before shopping to know what similar copies have sold for. When considering a signed or inscribed edition, make every effort to ensure that the signature is authentic before paying a premium for that perk.

“If you are not buying it in person, then ask these questions in advance,” the authors share in their text. “It will show you know what you are doing and make sure you are getting the best book for your money.” Shop online together with the kids you’re mentoring so they can learn these valuable lessons while building a collection, too.

Whether buying online or in person, don’t forget to look for edition and printing information within the book as well. The first printing of a first edition can be far more valuable than other copies that might look the same at first glance. “The edition information is always on the copyright page, listed toward the bottom,” note Fleisher and Zittle. Ask online sellers to forward a photo of the page to you so you can help a youngster decipher the information if needed. This all goes back to knowing what you’re buying before pulling the trigger.

Of course, after amassing a true collection, one looming question remains:

Should you actually sit down and read those books with a youngster?

“It depends on the level of collecting and how much you spend on the books,” Fleisher adds. “The Oz books, for instance. There are lots of editions to choose from, and there are some good reading copies available out there.” If you spend thousands on a first edition, in other words, it would obviously be better left for occasional admiration rather than risk damaging it with repeated reading. There are, however, many books available in the \$20 to \$50 range that can serve both as collection books and readers.

Fiona has her own shelf of books that count as her collection, in fact, in addition to the ones Zittle has more purposely sought out as her collecting curiosity has been piqued. Other books the family owns have been read over and over again.

With some research, care and lots of shared fun discovering the wonder-filled world of children’s books, this family is truly living happily ever after. Through the magic of collecting, maybe yours can, too.



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# Umlauf Sculpture at Bryan Museum

PIECE ON DISPLAY AT ATTRACTION KNOWN FOR  
ITS FOCUS ON SOUTHWESTERN ART, ARTIFACTS

**T**he Bryan Museum prides itself for housing the largest collection of its kind in the world. More than 70,000 items span 12,000 years, with an emphasis on historical artifacts, documents and art relating to the Southwestern United States.

So it's no surprise that Charles Umlauf's sculpture *Madonna and Child*, 1963, offered Heritage's Texas art auction in May 2015, now sits in a prominent position at the Galveston museum.

The cast bronze with green patina sculpture, consigned from the Estate of Ruth Carter Stephenson to benefit the Amon Carter Museum, stands 88 inches high.

In addition to Texas art, the museum displays treasures ranging from ancient Native American cultural artifacts to 21st century pieces – rare German, French, Spanish and English documents, saddles, spurs, antique firearms, rare maps and books, religious and folk art, and portraits.

Umlauf (1911-1994), born in Michigan, taught at the University of Texas for 40 years.

## LONGTIME FAN WINS 'ROCKY' COAT

**T**he auction of Sylvester Stallone's personal memorabilia at the end of last year was a once-in-a-lifetime event for film fans everywhere.

Among the happiest winning bidders was medical device company executive Atul Joshi, who paid \$13,750 for a cashmere overcoat Stallone wore in *Rocky III*.

"I first saw Stallone in *Rocky III* in a 1985 re-release in Mumbai, India," Joshi says. "I was then 16 years old – the proverbial 90-pound weakling, living in one of the poorer neighborhoods in Mumbai, and going through a rough patch. The movie quite literally changed my life."

## GIFT FOR HOUSTON NEIGHBORHOOD

**A**fter collector Charles Grichar purchased a 5-ton equine sculpture by Anna Hyatt Huntington, he put it on display in his Houston neighborhood.

*The Torch Bearers*, which had stood watch over the Discovery Museum in Bridgeport, Conn., since 1963, was featured in a December 2013 Heritage auction. Today, the bronze sculpture sits on a lot Grichar owns in Lindale Park, a 1930s-era housing development near the city's downtown.

"People in the neighborhood love it," says Grichar, an engineer for National Oilwell Varco. "It's become a neighborhood landmark."

Huntington (1876-1973), a native of Massachusetts, was a prominent New York City sculptor. In 1915, she was the first woman to create a public monument in the city. Her pieces have been displayed at Columbia University, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Central Park and the Bronx Zoo.



*Madonna and Child* at Galveston's Bryan Museum.



Atul Joshi's winning bid was \$13,750.



*The Torch Bearers* in Houston's Lindale Park.

## TELL US

We're interested in where your auction treasures are now displayed. Email us at [Info@IntelligentCollector.com](mailto:Info@IntelligentCollector.com).



# Rob Rosen

VICE PRESIDENT OF HERITAGE SPORTS TURNED FAN LETTERS INTO AN IMPRESSIVE CAREER IN SPORTS COLLECTIBLES

As a kid growing up on New York's Long Island in the 1970s, Rob Rosen couldn't wait to get home after school to check the mail. Who knew what surprises awaited in the mailbox?

"I used to send letters to the athletes I saw on television," Rosen says. "I would send trading cards and they would sign them and send them back. Sometimes, they would include a signed photo. Roger Maris wrote back to me. So did Henry Aaron. I got responses from Gayle Sayers, Dick Butkus, Johnny Unitas. That's when I first started getting really excited about collecting."

After earning a degree from Brooklyn Law School, Rosen decided to work in the music business as regional director of promotion and marketing at Atlantic Records. "Our job was to break new artists and get their songs on the radio," he says. But the calling of his childhood was too strong and in 2006, he launched his own sports collectibles business. "I had been a big collector for so long and had built relationships with all the serious players from the dealers to the auction houses. So, I turned my hobby into a career and opened BabeRuthAutographs.com."

Today, Rosen is a vice president of the sports collectibles category at Heritage Auctions, where he helps to manage a sports category that's twice as large as its nearest competitor.

## **How did you transition from dealer to auction house?**

As an adult, I first participated as a bidder with all the major auction houses, and as my collection got larger and I became a dealer, the relationships and dealings with the auction houses got stronger. One of those relationships was with [Heritage Director of Sports Auctions] Chris Ivy, who I did business with as a bidder, consignor and private treaty. As the Heritage sports department grew, Chris and I discussed the possibilities of a more formal business relationship. He may tell a different tale, but he drove pretty hard to the hoop.

## **As a young collector, you started with autographs.**

### **How did you move to general sports memorabilia?**

My first non-autograph collectible was a Babe Ruth game-used bat. I bought it in auction. It was a 36-inch, 40-ounce beautiful piece of history that I enjoyed for many years. I no longer own it. I sold it for a nice profit, though.

## **So what gets you excited about sports memorabilia today?**

Working with clients to build collections, whether it's a game-used bat collection, autograph collection, vintage sports photography, whatever. Also, I still get juiced when a special piece comes in on consignment, one of those pieces either you can't believe exists or can't believe it's in-house.

## **What's a recent example of that?**

A 1921 Babe Ruth game-used bat attributed to his then-record 59th home run of the season. It also happens to be the heaviest documented Babe Ruth bat, weighing in at 47 ounces. The ultimate Ruthian war club!

## **That realized \$717,000 back in February 2015, right? Was that the top price realized for the year?**

No, it came in second. Our highest price realized in the sports department in 2015 was the \$956,000 we got for the 1965 Muhammad Ali and Sonny Liston fight-worn gloves.

## **Which lot over the past year was the most surprising as far as collector interest?**

A Clemente rookie card graded PSA 9 stunned us and the entire hobby. Several of the vintage high-grade baseball cards from our July Platinum Night Auction did as well, but the Clemente rookie led the way. We were expecting about \$150,000, but it realized \$310,700.

## **What category of sports memorabilia collecting – excluding cards – saw the most growth in 2015?**

Game used. Game-used bats, game-used jerseys from the iconic players ... Ruth, Gehrig, Mantle, Cobb, Koufax, Clemente.

## **Is there a category you think is overlooked right now? Something you'd invest in?**

Vintage sports photography, especially those by the big-name sports photographers. Charles Conlon, Paul Thompson, George Grantham Bain, George Burke and Louis Van Oeyen. It's not in the basement anymore, but it is still far from the penthouse. Vintage photos in good condition with relevant subject matter are very rare, very desirable and have the ability to cross over that line to the art world.

## **What's one thing you wish more collectors knew?**

There are many reputable auction houses, authenticators and dealers in this hobby who handle themselves honorably and have a long-term perspective in dealing with clients. I wish more collectors, specifically the new collectors entering the hobby, knew how to distinguish them from the disreputable ones. I hate to think of how many collectors our hobby has lost because their first encounter was with the latter.

## **So what are the main things collectors should look for when dealing with an auction house, authenticator or dealer for the first time?**

In short, do your due diligence and research on the auction house and the authenticator. If you have friends in the hobby, ask them. Call the auction house and develop a relationship. Reputable auction houses recognize the value of long-term customers and relationships.



Kevin Gaddis Jr.

"The people we deal with want the best of the best," says Rob Rosen. "They want investment-quality items."

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**Fine & Rare Wine Signature® Auction 5266**  
*Auction dates: May 20-21, 2016*  
**Consignment deadline: April 18, 2016**  
Contact: Frank Martell, Ext. 1753  
[FrankM@HA.com](mailto:FrankM@HA.com)

All dates and auctions subject to change after magazine goes to press. All auctions subject to conditions as printed in catalogs.

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# THE RED PLANET

VIKING 1 BECAME THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONAL SPACECRAFT TO LAND ON MARS 40 YEARS AGO. A LOOK AT RELATED LOTS FROM THE HERITAGE ARCHIVE



By the Numbers



## NUMBER OF KNOWN

examples of this ancient Roman gold coin of Emperor Gallienus featuring god of war Mars on its reverse (top). It sold for \$20,700 at an April 2011 Heritage auction.

**NUMBER OF MARTIAN** spaceships visible in this half sheet poster for Paramount's 1953 classic *The War of the Worlds*. It sold for \$39,435 at a November 2006 auction.



# 2012

**YEAR THIS MARTIAN** meteorite was found in Morocco. It realized \$125,000 at a June 2013 Heritage auction.



# 348

**NUMBER OF PAGES** in this 1918 first edition of Edgar Rice Burroughs' *The Gods of Mars*, with publisher's red cloth and dust jacket. It realized \$14,340 at a September 2011 auction.



# 11

**APOLLO MISSION THAT** used these two pages from the flight's navigation dictionary – showing the “half-unit vectors” for Mars – referenced by Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin while on the lunar surface. The lot realized \$8,962.50 at an April 2013 auction.



# 48

**TRADING CARD NUMBER** of Topps' 1962 “Mars Attacks!” series featuring this image. This original illustration by Norman Saunders, Wally Wood and Bob Powell realized \$31,070 at a November 2012 auction.

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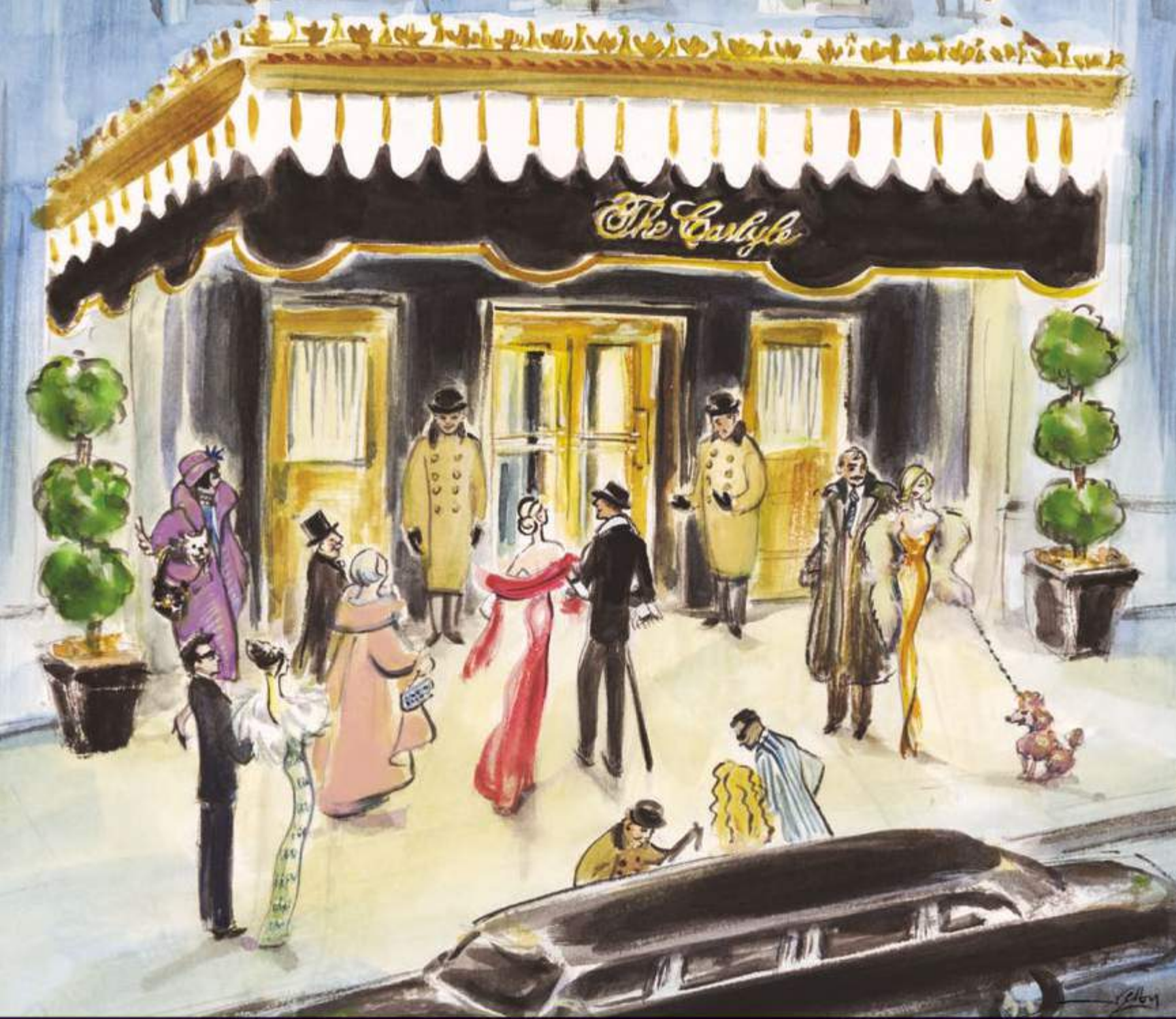
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