



RAGO ARTS AND AUCTION CENTER >

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
April 2007

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## **Pettibone's "Triple Elvis" Highlights Rago's May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Auction of Post-War and Contemporary Art**

**Lambertville, NJ** – On Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM, and Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM, the Rago Arts and Auction Center holds its Spring sale of Post-War and Contemporary Art.

Session One (Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM) features a significant selection of work from prominent artists of the latter-half of the twentieth century.

Headlining here is a superior selection of Richard Pettibone's early acrylic and silkscreen Pop Art appropriations (characterized by Roberta Smith as "exquisitely accurate pocket-size copies of modernist masterworks"). We are offering a rare, triple *Andy Warhol Elvis 1964* (1968); *Roy Lichtenstein, Aloha 1962* (1969); *Andy Warhol Saturday Disaster 1964* (1968); *C & IM #30 and Flower* (1970); *Train Wreck & Stella* (1970); and *Andy Warhol* (1976), a self-portrait of Warhol which is also very rare.

Session One features archetypal assemblage works from the 1960s and 1970s including *Perses Neije 1 (Box with Toothbrushes)* and an untitled work consisting of six Lucite cubes with magazine prints by recently deceased French artist, Arman (Pierre Fernandez). Other works from the same period include Louise Nevelson's *Dark Cryptic XXV, 1975*; and an example from Dieter Roth's *Small Sunset* series, the formal composition of a sunset over the sea made of two sheets of paper and a slice of salami.

Also included in Session One are two of Jonathan Seliger's sculptures stretched, folded and glued to form urban disposibles: *Metropolitan Life* (1997-98) and *The Wedding Present* (2000). The sale additionally features sculpture by Bill Woodrow, Annette Lemieux, Liza Lou, Mona Hatoum and Yuken Teruya.

Among the noteworthy paintings for sale are an untitled oil on canvas by Abstract Expressionist Sonja Sekula; Chicago Imagist Ed Paschke's brilliantly colored *Anjou* (1987); and *Tern* from contemporary artist Jason Martin, a 1988 combed oil on melamine with a highly satisfying balance of translucence and striation. Paintings by Chris Johanson, Matt Mullican, George Stoll, Marlene McCarty, Peter Wegner, Brady Dollarhide, Matthew Antezzo, Bert de Beul, John Miller, Glen Rubsamen, Chris Johanson, Thomas Trosch, and Roxy Paine are also featured.

Fine art photography is not overlooked in the sale. William Eggleston's voyeuristic *Tallahatchie County, Mississippi, January 1970* (1972), three of Adam Fuss' abstract photograms *Untitled* (1990), and William Christenberry's social commentary in *Cotton Gin, Havana Junction, Alabama* (1981) offer three distinct takes on the medium.

Session Two (Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM) features paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints and photographs from a diverse group of established and emerging artists including Harvey Quaytman, Richard Nonas, Judy Rifka, Carl Ostendarp, Robert Mangold, Joel Shapiro, Christo, Claes Oldenburg, Robert Rauschenberg, Bruce Nauman and Gerhard Richter.

Both sessions of the sale incorporate select works from the Estate of Joshua P. Smith, including paintings, drawings, sculpture and prints, most notably unique works by Gene Davis George Condo, Marlene Dumas, Robert Arneson, Luc Tuymans, Maureen Gallace, Donald Baechler, Kehinde Wiley, Pat Steir and Alan Saret. (A single-owner sale of photographs from the Estate of Joshua P. Smith will be sold with no reserve directly preceding Session One on Saturday at 10 AM.)

"I am very proud to offer such a diverse selection of Post-War and Contemporary art from this key array of artists." said Meredith Hilferty, Director of Fine Art at Rago's.

Catalogues are available in print and online in early May and can be ordered at [ragoarts.com](http://ragoarts.com) or by calling 888-RAGOARTS.

Preview: Saturday, May 12 – Friday, May 18 from noon until 5pm and by appointment. Doors open at 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 19th.

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Available images (please contact [Erika@ragoarts.com](mailto:Erika@ragoarts.com) for images)