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**WORKS BY TIFFANY, STICKLEY AND A RECORD ARRAY OF CERAMICS
HEADLINE CRAFTSMAN AUCTIONS ON SEPTEMBER 29TH AND 30TH AT RAGO'S**

Lambertville, NJ – Craftsman Auctions has announced plans for its next major Arts and Crafts sale, to be held at the Rago Arts and Auction Center in Lambertville, New Jersey over the weekend of September 29 and 30th. This four-session sale will include over 1000 lots of important decorative ceramics, Mission furniture, art glass, lighting and Zanesville pottery. Of particular note are two Tiffany lamps, an exceptionally rare and early Gustav Stickley desk and the ceramics collection of Carl Kiss.

Art pottery, the strong suit of this firm, is featured in an unprecedented array of over 800 pieces by more than fifty Period makers. Headline lots include an early and important Grueby gourd vase (one of three known), a large Overbeck vase with children and hollyhocks (arguably their premier example and estimated at \$40,000 – 60,000), and a spectacular cylindrical vase by the Saturday Evening Girls, completely decorated in the round with a stylized landscape in polychrome (estimated at \$17,500 -22,500). The collection features a broad selection of work by Newcomb College, George Ohr, Rookwood, Frederick Rhead, and Van Briggie.

Offered also are over 150 lots of Arts and Crafts furniture by all the major makers including Gustav Stickley, L. and J. G. Stickley, Limbert, Roycroft, and Charles Rohlf. Of particular import is are two extremely rare pieces by Gustav Stickley: a drop-front desk with overhead strap doors, in original black finish (estimated at \$18,000 - 25,000) and a two-door bookcase with Gothic-shaped panes. Also featured will be a Roycroft tooled-leather club chair and elegant tall book pedestal, a Shop of the Crafters inlaid dining room table and chairs, and an L. and J.G. Stickley three-door bookcase.

The auction also includes a large range of lighting by Tiffany, Handel, Stickley, Van Erp and the Roycrofters. Tiffany lamps are represented by a twenty-inch Dogwood on an oversized base (estimated at \$37,500- 47,500) and a Black-eyed Susan (estimated at \$30,000- 40,000), all leaded and in excellent original condition, each coming from a different private estate. The sale also features the best collection of Handel lamps it has yet to offer, with a 20" Cattail, and several spectacular reverse-painted landscapes on strong bases.

The lighting selection from the firm of Roycroft is perhaps the best ever offered at auction. There is a triple hanging chandelier designed by Dard Hunter along with three matching wall sconces from the East Aurora, New York home of Elbert Hubbard II. Rarer still is a unique Dard Hunter table

lamp of wood, wrought copper and green dimpled slag glass, consigned from the collection where it's been secured for over 30 years.

Art glass is playing an ever larger role in this auction house. Excellent vessels and decorative items by the French workshops of René Lalique, Emile Gallé, Daum and Gabriel Argy-Rousseau will be offered, top among them a Lalique *Sirènes Avec Bouchon* stoppered vase (estimated at \$8,000 – 12,000), and a *Serpents* inkwell. From American companies, wonderful examples will be sold by the Tiffany Studios, Quezal, and Steuben. Of note is a rare and delicate Tiffany trivet of glass mosaic depicting a dragonfly from a North Carolina estate.

Potteries from the Zanesville, Ohio region will be represented by a varied collection gathered by Ms. Denise Rago. This will include works designed by Frederick Rhead while at Roseville: exceptional examples of Della Robbia, as well as in possible collaboration with fellow artist Albert Cusick (estimated at \$4,000 – 6,000). A rare Weller lawn figure of a swan, as well as a comprehensive collection of Coppertone and Greora items, complete this list.

Art tiles include an early Batchelder triptych of a landscape, featured in the California Art Tile exhibition in Santa Monica; rare Grueby tiles including one of St. George and the Dragon, 8" sq., and one with a polar bear, the first we've seen.

Printed catalogs will be offered for \$45 each, or a subscription price of \$75 from the Rago Arts and Auction Center, 333 North Main St., Lambertville, NJ 08530 or by calling (609) 397.9374. You may e-mail a request at info@ragoarts.com, and see a complete online catalog at www.ragoarts.com

Exhibition Preview: Saturday, September 22 – Friday, September 28, 2007 from 12- 5 pm and by appointment. Doors open at 9 a.m. the mornings of the sale.

Auction Contact Information

David Rago and Suzanne Perrault (Decorative arts): 609-397-9374 or info@ragoarts.com

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Overbeck Pottery



Gustav Stickley Drop-Front Desk