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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Through December 9, 2007

GREAT ESTATES COME TO RAGO'S IN A DECEMBER 7TH-8TH-9TH HOLIDAY AUCTION

Fresh to Market. 90% Unreserved. Decorative Arts. Furnishings. Asian. Fine Jewelry and Silver. Paintings and Sculpture. Americana. Ephemera. Ethnographic.

Lambertville, NJ: Rago's Great Estates weekend is a holiday sale of outstanding estate property in three sessions. Much of it arrived from local families, many of whom attend Rago's walk-in "Appraisal Mondays." The majority of the property will be sold unreserved.

Sarah Churgin directs Saturday's sale of jewelry and silver. Ivo Ispani directs the Friday and Sunday sessions of decorative and fine arts, furnishings and other estate property.

"Because of the great success of last year's sale, we've been offered extraordinary pieces and this year's auction has a breadth that we never imagined," says Ivo Ispani, Director of Estate Sales at Rago's, "Like all fine estate sales, my sessions include furnishings, carpets, art. We are selling a superb selection of statuary and clocks. There's also a Dentzel carousel horse and other Americana and personal collections of baseball cards and ethnographic items."

"David Rago asked me to try my hand at auction in 2002, after a life spent as a dealer in fine jewelry, silver and couture," adds Sarah Churgin, Director of Jewelry and Silver at Rago's, "Some six years later, I am still a kid in a candy shop - but I now know how much there is to discover by evaluating tens of thousands of pieces each year and that it is far from easy to find property worthy of a fine sale. The sale of December 8th is a very fine sale, indeed. I am privileged to offer these treasured heirlooms."



From left to right:

Lot 124: Pennsylvania tall case cherry clock in the Chippendale style. 94" ht. \$7,000 - 9,000

Lot 22: French 19th C. console dessert by Maison Krieger. 39" x 79" x 20" \$10,000-15,000

Lot 181 Gustav Dentzel Sweet Faced Mare Prancer in original paint, ca. 1905 \$8,000-10,000

Session One: Friday, December 7 at 3 PM

Friday's sale begins with a wide-ranging selection of furnishings, including a fine collection of clocks from a home in Mamaroneck, New York. Among the offerings: an exceptionally large four-hundred-day clock with

dome and base (lot 2/\$3,000-5,000); many tall case clocks; and a Tiffany & Co. clock garniture (lot 64a/\$6,000 to \$8,000). Among the best of the carpets is a 9' x 20' Persian, signed in Arabic, from an estate in upstate New York (lot 31/\$6,000-\$8,000). Those in search of fine furnishings will take an interest in a 19th C. French "plum pudding" mahogany console dessert at (lot 22/\$10,000-15,000); a Victorian carved desk at ((lot 51/\$1,000-1,500); a Chippendale Revival dining set; and an American mahogany Empire sofa among many others pieces.

Notable among the paintings for sale on Friday are two large 19th C. works: a Dutch street scene (lot 2/\$6,000-9,000) and a French neo-classical depiction of the return of Helen of Troy. Also for sale are multiples by Erte, Whistler and Rembrandt; photographs by Ed Clark, W. Eugene Smith and Deborah Turbeville, and early photography.

The sale has a small and choice selection of ethnographic items. These include a Northwest Coast ceremonial bowl; a Rio Grande blanket, ca. 1880-1890; a Sioux pipe bag; and a unique collection of South American pottery and other property, including a monumental retablo from the estate of explorer and ethnographer F.W. McBryde.

Americana will be sold on Friday and includes textiles, weathervanes, two carousel horses (one by Dentzel), an excellent tramp art cabinet and a rare icon of 20th C. corporate advertising: a 2 foot high model of the droll and dapper Esquire Magazine mascot "Esky," consigned by a former executive of the magazine. The Friday session closes with antique books and ephemera, dolls and mechanical banks, collections of paperweights and baseball memorabilia.



From left to right:

Lot 1606: Tiffany & Co. Japanesque mixed metal silver salver, ca. 1878. \$12,000-18,000

Lot 1168: Ed Weiner 18k gold cuff. \$2,000-5,000

Lot 1023: Tiffany & Co. moonstone and Montana sapphire brooch in 18k gold, ca. 1900. \$4,000-6,000

Session Two: Saturday, December 8 at Noon

Saturday is devoted to jewelry and related goods in 500 lots. Fanciers of period jewelry will want to pay particular attention to (among others) a glorious Edwardian diamond and platinum ring with a center stone of 5.75 cts flanked by thirty smaller diamonds (lot 1484/30,000 – 40,000); a sapphire and diamond brooch in the style of Fouquet; a Tiffany & Co. aquamarine and diamond ring; a bejeweled Arts & Crafts portrait designed by Marie Zimmerman; an Art Nouveau moonstone and Montana sapphire brooch attributed to L.C. Tiffany or Paulding Farnham; and an Art Deco Cartier tutti-frutti platinum double clip brooch, ca. 1920, with carved sapphires, rubies, emeralds and circular-cut diamonds (lot 1489/\$8,000-12,000).

Collectors of Ed Weiner, Georg Jensen, Angela Cummings, Paloma Picasso, Jean Schlumberger, Elsa Perreti, Elizabeth Gage, Buccellati, Taxco and Cartier will surely want to see this sale. Among the designer highlights: an Ed Weiner 18 ct yellow gold cuff in its original box (lot 1168/\$2,000-\$3,500); a Paloma Picasso gold and amethyst ring (lot 1188/\$1,000-1,500); a Cartier diamond and gold ribbon bracelet for \$4,000 – 6,000 (1193); and a Spratling silver cuff (lot 1269/\$1,000-1,500). Those in search of gemstone jewelry will surely not be disappointed by 3.25 ct diamond studs (lot 1452/\$9,000-12,000) or a superb selection of rings: a diamond and platinum engagement ring; an Art Deco star sapphire and diamond ring (lot 1467/\$2,500-3,500); an emerald-cut citrine ring (lot 1390/ \$1,000-1,500), among many other examples of fine gemstone jewelry.

The sale includes watches (a Patek Phillippe gentleman's bracelet watch is one [lot 1110/\$3,000-4,000]), objets de vertu and handbags, including a Hermes brown leather Kelly bag from 1966. For the first time, this auction also features a select grouping of vintage art deco perfume bottles by Rene Lalique, Baccarat, and Czechoslovakian crystal makers, each influenced by the 1925 Paris exhibition of Decorative Arts, all brought to us by Ken Leach (lots 1209 to 1243).

150 lots of fine silver follow the jewelry, showcasing opulent 19th and 20th century display pieces such as the first lot of the session, a monumental Sy & Wagner silver centerpiece crowned by Winged Victory ca. 1884, (lot 1600/\$25,000-35,000) and a Tiffany & Co. exhibition grade silver baluster vase, ca. 1901 (lot 1603/\$4,500-5,500). There are examples of every major style from colonial to Japanesque, from Beaux Art to Art Moderne. The sale is graced by many works of Tiffany & Co., including a buffalo head-handled tureen, ca. 1858 (lot 1625/\$6,000-8,000) and a cherub centerpiece, ca. 1861 (lot 1622/\$3,000-4,000). It also includes fabulous examples of the work of the great American firm Gorham, such as a Martele centerbowl from 1906 (lot 1610/\$10,000-15,000) and a special order coffee service from 1911 decorated with twin mermaids and dolphins in the neoclassical taste (lot 1615/\$3,000-5,000).

As the economy boomed in the late 1800's, ever more elaborate flatware became a status symbol to the wealthy. Our sale includes a service for 12 of the "Olympian" pattern for Tiffany & Co, ca. 1880-1907 (lot 1630/\$7,000-9,000). Exposure to the arts and crafts of Japan also influenced design at this time. We have extraordinary examples, many from Tiffany & Co, including a Japanesque salver depicting an aquatic scene (lot 1606/\$12,000-18,000).

The 20th Century is well-represented. Of note are a Peer Smed three piece coffee set (lot 1657/\$4,500-6,000); many pieces by Georg Jensen, including an Acorn pattern service for eight (lot 1664/\$3,000-4,000); and work by Allen Adler, William Spratling, Walter Meyer and Hector Aguilar. The historic revivals that were a la mode after WWI are here, as are the artisanal works of the Arts and Crafts movement, as represented by a copper and silver humidor attributed to Joseph Heinrich and a 1916 Marie Zimmerman bowl (lot 1652/\$2,000-3,000).



From left to right:

Lot 360: Edouard Drouot (French, 1859-1945) "Muse de Bois," gilt bronze statue with base. 28" \$5,000 - 7,000

Lot 291: 19th C. Italian Ceramic Charger. \$1,000-1,500

Lot 663: Japanese Porcelain Red Kutani bowl painted with landscapes. 11 1/2" x 12" dia. \$8,000-10,000

Session Three: Sunday, December 9 at Noon.

We are proud to offer many fine European bronzes on Sunday, most from a local, single-owner collection, many with companion pedestals (sold separately). Among the artists represented are Albert Erneste Carrier-Belleuse, Edouard Drouot, Eugene Marioton, Emile Louis-Picault, Henry Etienne Dumaige, Jean Baptiste Gustave Deloye, Mathurin Moreau, Emil Andre Boisseau and Fernand Antonin Mercie. The sale of art continues and features a large portrait by Janet Bridgham Curtis Child and a wonderful Orientalist oil by Theodore Wores, as well as woodblock prints by Paul Jacoulet. This session includes art glass from Lalique, Moser, Etling, Steuben, Dorflinger, Durand, Tiffany, Waterford, Loetz, as well as cut and pressed glass; tableware, cabinet and figural porcelain from Royal Vienna, Sevres, Limoges, Meissen, Royal Doulton, Royal Copenhagen, Lenox, Royal Dux, Wedgwood, Spode, Minton, Staffordshire and KPM, and groupings of

majolica. The selection of lighting includes candelabrum, shades by Handel, cut-glass lustres, and a monumental bronze and ormolu figural lamp (lot 482/ \$6,000-8,000), Inkwell collectors will want to see a French Empire ink stand with clock (lot 422/\$3,000-4,000), among others. Other fine smalls and objets de vertu include Continental ivories, Italian micro mosaic and a collection of canes.

The sale concludes with over 200 lots of art and design from Japan, China, Korea and Southeast Asia. Among some of the highlights: a six panel Japanese screen depicting Tales of the Genji (lot 610/\$7,000-9,000); a Japanese gilt bronze Bodhisattiva from the Edo Period; a red Kutani deep bowl painted inside and out with landscapes (lot 663/\$8,000 – 10,000); a Satsuma style pottery makuzu kozan from the Meiji period; a fine array of Korean porcelains and ceramics including a 6 ¾" Korean baluster vase from the Yi Dynasty (lot 710/\$12,000-15,000); a Chinese dragon imperial robe, whisk and hat; a Chinese bronze zun; a monumental Chinese export Famille Rose porcelain bowl; a Chinese Tang style stone frieze (lot 758/\$20,000-30,000); a Thai gilt bronze Buddha (lot 817/\$6,000-8,000); and an Indian carved stone head (lot 830/\$10,000-12,000). Paintings and woodblocks, netsuke, okimono, tsuba, cloisonné and Satsuma, ivories, snuff bottles, jade, Asian art books are also offered.

Auction Contact Information

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Sale Dates

Friday, December 7 at 3 pm

Saturday, December 8 at Noon (Jewelry and Silver)

Sunday, December 9 at Noon

Exhibition Preview

Saturday, December 1st through Wednesday, December 5th, noon until 5pm. Until 7 p.m. on Thursday, December 6th and Friday, December 7th and by appointment. Doors open at 9 a.m. on the mornings of the sale.

Catalogues

Printed catalogues are \$20 each or \$35 together. Purchase online at ragoarts.com or by calling (609) 397.9374. You can also e-mail a request to info@ragoarts.com or view the complete online catalogue at ragoarts.com.

Notes for the Editor

High-resolution images available.

More information online at ragoarts.com.

About Rago Arts and Auction Center

The Rago Arts and Auction Center was established in 1995 by David Rago, a leading expert and dealer in American art pottery who entered the business of auctions in 1984. The Auction Center, located midway between Philadelphia and New York, holds multi-million dollar sales of 20th century decorative arts and furnishings, fine art, jewelry and estate property. Rago's achieved sales of over \$27 million in the 2006-2007 season. It holds an average of twelve sales each year.