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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Through September 27, 2008

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**RAGO'S TO AUCTION EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> C. DESIGN ON SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> and 28<sup>TH</sup>**

**Exceptional Property includes Arts & Crafts by George Ohr, Marblehead, Tiffany, and Handel; important European pieces by Zsolnay and Amphora.**

**Lambertville, NJ:** On Saturday, September 27 and Sunday, September 28, 2008 at 12 pm, the Rago Arts and Auction Center will host an auction dedicated to the furnishings and design of the early 1900s.

"This sale reflects our buyers' interest the decorative arts of Europe, in lighting from Tiffany and other great makers, as well as fine American Arts & Crafts." says David Rago. "Collectors of American art pottery, Gustav Stickley, lamps and Continental pottery, porcelain and glass should be particularly attentive."

American Art pottery is, as ever, a strong suit at Rago's. Headline lots include a collection of ceramics from the **Strong Museum in Rochester**, New York, a private collection of decorated Marblehead and another of works by **George Ohr**, which conspicuously includes a large crumpled bowl covered in gun-metal and green mottled glaze (pre-sale estimate \$7,000-10,000) and a twisted bulbous vase covered in two distinctive glazes (pre-sale estimate \$4,000-6,000). Buyers will find a large selection of **Dedham** and **Chelsea Ceramic Art Works** pottery, with many experimental vases by Hugh Robertson, including one covered in red, green, and blue mottled oxblood glaze (pre-sale estimate \$2,000-3,000) and much Crackleware, including three very rare Crab plates (pre-sale estimate \$1,000-1,500). Also exceptional: a tall **Grand Feu** (California) vase covered in mahogany flambé glaze (pre-sale estimate \$6,000-9,000). At 13" x 6", it is the largest example Rago's has seen from this superior pottery (and is joined by other spectacular pieces by the same maker). Other potteries/potters whose work will be sold: **Grueby, Rookwood, Newcomb College, Rhead, California Faience, Fulper, Weller, Merrimac, Teco, Van Briggie, Pisgah Forest, Arequipa, North Dakota School of Mines, Roseville, Volkmar** and **Clewell**.

Arts and Crafts furniture of import includes a **Gustav Stickley** trapezoidal china cabinet circa 1901 (pre-sale 15,000-25,000), a Gustav Stickley Director's table (pre-sale 10,000-15,000) and a Gustav Stickley inlaid fall-front desk in its original ebonized finish (pre-sale 20,000-30,000). In all, over 100 fine examples of Stickley furniture will be offered, as well as more from **Limbert, Roycroft, Lifetime** and **Old Hickory**.

This sale showcases Rago's strongest group of lighting to date. Among the many highlights from **Handel** are three table lamps with reverse-painted "chipped" glass shades, one painted with a moonlit landscape (pre-sale estimate \$6,500-8,500), one with an autumnal landscape (pre-sale estimate \$5,000-7,000) and a third with bamboo and cranes (pre-sale estimate \$8,000-12,000). The work of **Tiffany Studios** includes a Curtain Border lamp, some geometrics and, first among others, these five table lamps: Black-Eyed Susan (pre-sale estimate \$35,000-45,000), Roman (pre-sale estimate \$42,000-47,000), Acorn (in an unusual lavender and green combination) (pre-sale estimate \$17,000-22,000), Pomegranate (pre-sale estimate \$19,000-24,000), and Apple Blossom (pre-sale estimate \$37,500-47,500). **Bigelow, Kennard & Co.** is well represented by two rare table lamps with leaded-glass shades, one in a floral pattern (pre-sale estimate \$13,000-17,000) and the other with red drapery glass roses

(pre-sale estimate \$13,000-17,000). Lighting from **Fulper, Benedict, Duffner & Kimberly, Phoenix, Pairpoint, Suess, Gustav Stickley** and **Dirk van Erp and Roycroft** rounds out the selection.

European and American buyers alike are turning to Rago's for Continental and British work, as well as American. Rago's expects particular attention to be paid to a **Moorcroft/Shreve** bonbonnière in the Claremont pattern, covered by Shreve (San Francisco) silver overlay with trefoils, ca. 1905 (pre-sale estimate \$3,000-4,000), a variety of **Zsolnay** including a fine Art Nouveau pitcher with four dancing muses under an Eosian glaze (pre-sale estimate \$6,000-9,000); a large group of Art Nouveau vessels by **Riessner, Stellmacher & Kessel**, including an important centerpiece with standing maiden holding poppies, by **Edward Stellmacher** (pre-sale estimate \$1,500-2,000); and vessels and decorative items by the workshops of **René Lalique, Daum, Loetz, Emile Gallé, the Wiener Werkstatte** and American makers **Steuben, Quezal, and Durand**.

Art tiles always figure in this sale. In September, buyers can choose between **J. and J.G. Low's** large, plastic sketch by Arthur Osborne titled "Peace, My Children" (pre-sale estimate \$2,000-3,000) and its tile clock, with bees and leaves covered in a deep teal blue glaze (pre-sale estimate \$3,000-4,000). Also for sale are tiles from **Walrath, Von Schwarz, De Porceleyne Fles, California Clay Products (CALCO), Grueby** and **Rozenberg**.

Metalwork and silver of the period are represented by **Dirk van Erp, Heintz, Jauchens, Roycroft, Old Mission Kopper Kraft, Charles Rohlf's** and **Jarvie**; a music stand in the style of Yellin; a bowl by **Marie Zimmerman**; a **Tiffany Furnaces** desk set in the Venetian pattern; a rare **Albert Berry** knife and serving fork group; **Liberty & Co.** pewter and silver; and a very fine **Kalo** hammered sterling faceted coffee set.

Also of note: woodblock prints, paintings and drawings; textiles; stained glass windows, rugs and the photos of **Edward Curtis**.



Pictured from left:

George Ohr large crumpled bowl covered in gun-metal and green mottled glaze. Script signature. 4" x 8 1/2" \$7,000-10,000

Tiffany Studios table lamp, its leaded glass shade in the Apple Blossom pattern on a three-socket fluted bronze base on ball feet. Original patina, a few breaks to glass. Stamped TIFFANY STUDIOS NEW YORK, base 9510. 23 1/2" x 15 3/4" \$37,500-47,500

Zsolnay Art Nouveau pitcher with four dancing muses under an Eosian glaze. Five Churches medallion 7147 36 48. 14" x 8". \$6,000-9,000

#### **Auction Contact Information**

David Rago and Suzanne Perrault (decorative arts): 609-397-9374 or [info@ragoarts.com](mailto:info@ragoarts.com)

Jerry Cohen (furniture): 800-448-7828 or [jerry@craftsman-auctions.com](mailto:jerry@craftsman-auctions.com).

**Exhibition Preview**

Saturday, September 20 – Friday, September 26, 2008 from 12- 5 pm and by appointment. Doors open at 9 a.m. on the mornings of the sale.

**Catalogues**

Printed catalogues are \$25 each and can be purchased online at [ragoarts.com](http://ragoarts.com) or by calling (609) 397.9374. You can also e-mail a request to [info@ragoarts.com](mailto:info@ragoarts.com) or view the complete catalogue online.

**Notes for the Editor**

High-resolution image available.

More information online at [ragoarts.com](http://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 20<sup>th</sup> C. design, decorative arts and furnishings, fine art, jewelry and silver, tribal, Asian and other property from Americana to pop culture. Rago's achieved sales of over \$30 million in the 2007-2008 season.

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