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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RAGO'S TO AUCTION FINE ART OF THE 19TH AND 20TH C. ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2008

Highlights include important American sculpture by Vonnoh, Huntington and Couper and paintings by White, Noyes, Sotter and Coppedge.

Lambertville, NJ:

On Saturday, September 13, 2008 at 12 pm, the Rago Arts and Auction Center will host a sale of works by American and European artists, including a first-rate selection of American sculpture.

"This is a sale of fine works acquired at a range of price points, almost entirely from private sellers. The Sotter night scene has never been to market." says Meredith Hilferty, Director of Fine Arts at Rago's, "It is absolutely a sale to see for anyone seeking a great American bronze."

The first session of the auction features works by both American and European artists. Notable among these is an untitled oil by Orrin Augustine White (pre-sale estimate \$6,000-9,000); a wonderful scene of Broadway near Union Square in oil on Masonite by Laurence A. Campbell (pre-sale estimate \$10,000-15,000); a woodcut in colors by William Henry Johnson (pre-sale estimate \$2,000-3,000); an oil by George Loftus Noyes (pre-sale estimate \$6,000-8,000); and a large oil on wood panel by Everett Lloyd Bryant (pre-sale estimate \$3,000-4,000). Also featured in this session, paintings by artists John Fery, Howard Russell Butler, William Chadwick, Marguerite Stuber Pearson, James Carroll Beckwith, Johann Berthelsen, Walt Kuhn, Franklin Benjamin DeHaven, Birge Harrison, Lowell Blair Nesbitt, Moses Soyer, Charles Arthur Fries, Ralston Crawford, Arthur Vidal Diehl and John R. Grabach; a gouache by Kenneth L. Callahan; a mixed media work by David Davidovich Burliuk and a watercolor by Henry Martin Gasser.

American sculpture has been an essential component of Rago's fine art sales since its landmark auction of the Reingold Collection. An increasingly strong selection of bronzes has found their way to the auction house. September's sale features Bessie Onahotema Potter Vonnoh's *Dancing Girl*, cast in 1899 by the Henry-Bonnard Bronze Company (pre-sale estimate \$30,000 - 50,000); Alexander Phimister Proctor's *Buckaroo* (pre-sale estimate \$30,000-50,000); Anna Vaughn Hyatt Huntington's bronze bookends *Charging Mountain Goats* (pre-sale estimate \$7,000 -9,000); an untitled cast terra cotta by Maurice Glickman (pre-sale estimate \$1,000-2,000); an untitled marble sculpture (with base) by William Couper (pre-sale estimate \$4,000-6,000), as well as sculpture by Paul Howard Manship, Boris Lovet-Lorski, Victor David Brenner, Elizabeth Norton, William Zorach, Jose De Creeft, Eugene Gauss, Emil Fuchs, Enrico Glicenstein and Robert Henry Rockwell.

The sale's second session is devoted to Pennsylvania area artists. The highlight: an exceptional night scene by George William Sotter. Commissioned by a neighbor of Sotter, held privately since its creation, the oil on Masonite measures 22" x 26" and is signed and dated 1946 (pre-sale estimate \$100,000-150,000). Other important works include two oils by Fern Isabel Kuns Coppedge, *Harbor Afternoon* (pre-sale estimate \$25,000-35,000) and an untitled oil (pre-sale estimate \$5,000-7,000); Charles Rosen's *Brick Yard* (pre-sale estimate \$3,000-5,000); William Langson Lathrop's *North Shore, Long Island* (pre-sale estimate \$7,000-9,000); an untitled oil by John Fulton Folinsbee (pre-sale estimate \$4,000-6,000); Walter Emerson Baum's *Autumn Forest Scene* (pre-sale estimate \$4,000-6,000) and three etchings by Daniel Garber.

Those in search of the Pennsylvania Modernists will find works by Joseph Meierhans, Lloyd Ney and Josef Zenk. And Rago's continues its support of some of the finest artists working in and around Bucks County today, among them artists Joseph Barrett, Judy Henn and Jeff Gola.



Pictured left to right

- George William Sotter (American, 1879-1953) Untitled, 1946; Oil on Masonite (framed); Signed and dated; 22" x 26"; Provenance: The artist; Adelaide and Jack Williams (acquired directly from the artist); Private Collection, Pennsylvania; By descent to present owner. \$100,000-150,000.
- Bessie Onahotema Potter Vonnoh (American, 1872-1955) Dancing Girl, 1899; Bronze; Signed, dated and titled "Girl Dancing / Bessie O Potter / Sculptor / copyrighted 1899." and with foundry mark "THE HENRY-BONNARD BRONZE CO / FOUNDERS.N-Y.1899"; 14" high; Provenance: Private Collection, New York \$30,000 – 50,000
- Laurence A. Campbell (American, b. 1940) Broadway near Union Square; Oil on Masonite (framed); Signed and titled; 16" x 12"; Provenance: Private Collection, New Jersey \$10,000-15,000

Auction Contact Information

Meredith Hilferty: 609-397-9374 or meredith@ragoarts.com

Exhibition Preview

Saturday, September 6 through Friday, September 12, Noon until 5pm and by appointment. Doors open at 9 a.m. on the morning of the sale.

Catalogues

Printed catalogues are \$20 each and can be purchased 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 catalogue online.

Notes for the Editor

High-resolution image available.

About Rago Fine Art Auctions

Rago Fine Art Auctions, established in 2003, is the fastest growing auction division at Rago's. We are committed to significant art at any price point, with an emphasis on the 20th Century and on developing a secondary market for emerging and mid-career artists. We are excited by all forms of visual expression: painting and sculpture, drawings, prints and illustrated books, installations, photography and video. It's a point-of-view that has attracted much exceptional and interesting art, from the department's first record-breaking sale to single-owner collections from Kenneth L. Freed, Joshua Smith and Eileen and Marvin Reingold. Rago's hold six regularly scheduled fine art sales each year: Post War and Contemporary Art in May and November; 19th and 20th C. American and European Art in February and September; and Modern art, in conjunction with Sollo Rago Modern Auctions, in April and October. Rago's has built its professional reputation on achieving outstanding prices at auction for its clients and attention to their goals as sellers is of paramount importance. Our clients enjoy direct access to partners and experts throughout the valuation, consignment and auction process.

About Rago Arts and Auction Center

The Rago Arts and Auction Center was established in 1995 by David Rago, an 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 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.