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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Through March 27, 2009

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**LONG HIDDEN CACHE OF ART AND ANTIQUES EMERGES IN NEW HOPE, PA AND COMES TO AUCTION AT RAGO'S.**

**18<sup>TH</sup>/19<sup>TH</sup> C. CHINESE EXPORT, EUROPEAN AND ASIAN PORCELAINS FROM THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH STANLEY TO SELL ON MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup>.**

**Lambertville, NJ:** In the mid 1980s, Joseph Stanley, a noted New Hope, PA antique dealer, closed his shop. The mansion known as Cintra, where he lived and worked, was shuttered to the public, though its expansive rooms, twelve foot high walls and parquet floors were still fitted out with centuries of art, antiques and rugs. In earlier times, he and his partner had hosted many parties there, traveled widely on buying trips and guided antiques tours in England. Now the sign on York Road reads "Closed". Mr. Stanley lived quite privately there until his death in late 2008. The rooms of his living quarters and shop remained filled, the last shipments still in crates.

All of the property from Cintra will auction at Rago's over the course of 2009. The first sale, on Friday March 27 at 2 pm, will disperse Mr. Stanley's 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> C. Chinese export, European and Asian porcelains. Fine art, furnishings and other decorative arts will follow in August 2009.

"There is so much in this shop and home that we barely have room to turn around without uncovering something unseen and of real interest," said Tom Martin. "We won't be finished the work until spring. Who knows what we'll turn up for August, in addition to what we have readily at hand? You rarely see an estate this special."

A few of the highlights in the March 27 auction:

- 19th C. Chinese Export covered tureens, the largest 13 1/2" x 14"
- A Chinese Export five piece garniture set, ca. 1800.
- 18th C. Chinese Export polychrome punchbowls with figural decoration, Masonic symbols
- A pair of 18th C. Chinese Export covered urns, with floral decoration and foo dog finials
- Worcester Dr. Wall serving pieces
- Late 18th C. Buchan Portabello serving pieces
- Staffordshire figurines, including a rare "Uncle Tom and Eva"

Among the highlights to come in August 2009:

- Georgian and Regency desks, tables, chairs and cabinetry
- 17th C. English furniture
- 18th and 19<sup>th</sup> C. portraiture
- Marine art
- Works of art of the 20th C., including work from the New Hope School
- Garden statuary in lead, stone and iron
- Decorative smalls, including tortoiseshell boxes, fruitwood caddies, sterling and brass, candlesticks, miniature furniture
- Clocks
- Persian rugs

- Americana
- Textiles, including quilts, samplers, fabrics
- Lamps, Girondole mirrors, gilt sconces
- Fireplace accessories and dummy boards
- Books

### Auction Contact Information

Tom Martin: 609-397-9374 or [tom@ragoarts.com](mailto:tom@ragoarts.com)

### IMAGES



**From left: CHINESE EXPORT** Punchbowl with Masonic symbols, 18th C. 11 1/2" x 4 3/4" Est: \$1,500-2,000.

**CHINESE EXPORT** Five-piece garniture set with landscape reserves, ca. 1800. Tallest: 13 1/2" Est: \$2,000-3,000.

**CHINESE EXPORT** Cider mug, ca. 1760-1780. 5 1/2" x 4 3/4" \$600-800.

### Exhibition Preview

Saturday, March 21 - Thursday, March 26, Noon - 5pm and by appt. Doors open at 9 a.m. on the morning of the sale with registration beginning at 10 am.

### Catalogues

The catalogue will post online on March 13. A printed listing of all lots will also be available at no charge. Interested bidders can e-mail Rago's at [info@ragoarts.com](mailto:info@ragoarts.com) or call toll-free to 866-724-6278 (866-RAGOARTS)

### Bidding

Bidding is available in person, by phone, by advance bid and online. Rago's has engaged the services of The Saleroom (the-saleroom.com) to provide its clients with online bidding. Bidders can also use the services of Live Auctioneers (liveauctioneers.com) should they chose.

### Notes for the Editor

High-resolution images available. More information online at [ragoarts.com](http://ragoarts.com).

### About Cintra

The mansion known as Cintra was built by William Maris, who arrived in New Hope soon after the War of 1812. He built the "yellow pebble-dashed house on the York Road" in 1816 from plans purchased after an 1814 visit to the Portuguese castle of Cintra. He took from these plans a wing which particularly attracted his admiration for its thick walls, coffered passageways and windows, its double doors with massive locks, its octagonal hall flanked by large rooms in the wings on

either side. Cintra was purchased by Richard Randolph in 1830, who sold it to his brother-in-law, Elias Ely in 1884. (The Ely family has resided in New Hope since the 17<sup>th</sup> century, granted land by William Penn.) Cintra remained in the Ely family into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

About Rago Arts and Auction Center

Since 1994, Rago's has served thousands of sellers and buyers with a singular blend of global reach and personal service. First specializing in 20th century design, Rago's expertise now covers centuries of fine art, decorative arts, furnishings, jewelry and ethnographic artifacts. It is a world-class venue through which to buy and sell, with sales of over \$25 million in the 2008 season. It is also a destination for those who seek to learn and share knowledge about art, antiques and collecting, with free valuations for personal property (from a single piece to collections and estates) and auction exhibitions in house and online.

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