

SOLLO RAGO

RAGO ARTS AND AUCTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Through April 26, 2009

SOLLO RAGO MODERN AUCTION APRIL 25/26 2009

SOLLO RAGO OFFERS IMPORTANT DESIGN IN A SALE FEATURING THE COLLECTION OF FAMED INTERIOR DESIGNER JUAN MONTOYA AND WORKS BY MODERN MASTERS – FROM ART DECO TO CONTEMPORARY EUROPEAN DESIGN.

SALE INCLUDES IMPORTANT PIECES BY ARMAND-ALBERT RATEAU, EUGENE PRINTZ, JACQUES ADNET, GEORGE NAKASHIMA, RON ARAD AND ZAHA HADID.

ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHS TO BE OFFERED

Lambertville NJ: Once again, Sollo Rago brings together the very best in twentieth century design drawing from a wide spectrum of important works by Art Deco masters to studio hand-made, one-of-a-kind pieces of furniture, ceramics and glass. With over 1,000 lots, Sollo Rago Modern's sale on April 25 and 26th, will offer collectors and design enthusiasts a wide range of offerings and price estimates.

"We're thrilled to be able to offer such a strong selection with exceptional variety, especially French Art Deco" says John Sollo. "We have gathered together some of the best makers of the 20th century."

The sale features the collection of Juan Montoya, the pre-eminent New York interior designer. Highlighting his eclectic and always elegant taste, the collection was built over the last fifteen years. Works include an exceptional club chair by the French Art Deco firm Dominique, a truly modernist desk by René Herbst, the base made from a single curved piece of mahogany and a rare chair by the American architect Paul Rudolph in acrylic and chrome, the floating angles of the chair reflecting the same ideas as his architecture.

Other European offerings include a pair of gilt and cast iron Andirons by A.A. Rateau, a rare and important dining table by Eugene Printz and a large collection of furniture and accessories by Jacques Adnet. Contemporary European designs include a stainless steel 'Well Tempered Chair' and a sinuous 'Aqua' table by Zaha Hadid for Established and Sons.

Studio works, always an important focus for Sollo Rago, are highlighted by an exceptional George Nakashima English oak burl coffee table. On offer are many pieces of Wendell Castle's work including a spectacular desk with feet made from sculpted wood hands and a wood laminate jewelry box, one of his signature works. Other related works include a dining table with zoomorphic details by Judy Kensley McKie and a playful clock by Pedro Friedeberg. Among the Paul Evans pieces is a custom double-sided screen, an excellent example of this rare form.

Glass, turned wood and ceramics are also exceptional with offerings by Dan Dailey, Dale Chihuly, Bob Stocksdale and Mark Lindquist. Ceramics include a collection from Theo Portnoy, the pioneer craft dealer and feature some of her favorite artists including Ralph Bacerra and Jack Earl.

Sollo Rago has added a careful selection of approximately twenty architectural photographs aimed to dovetail with modern design. This will highlight the natural crossover between fine art and design. The sale will feature architectural photographs by Berenice Abbott, Margaret Bourke White, Alfred Eisenstadt and William Klein, among others.

Left to Right:



ARMAND-ALBERT RATEAU Pair of cast iron andirons with gilded sculptural uprights. (Model illustrated in situ: Hélène Guéné, "Décoration et Haute Couture: Armand Albert Rateau Pour Jeanne Lanvin. Un Autre Art Deco." Les Arts Decoratifs, 2006, p. 101; Franck Olivier-Vial and François Rateau "Armand Albert Rateau: Un Baroque Chez Les Modernes", Amateur, 1992.) Each upright stamped A.A. RATEAU I.N.V.R. 16 ½" x 22" x 6 ½" Est: \$80,000-120,000
RON ARAD Stainless steel Well-Tempered Chair. 31" x 38" x 31" Est: \$8,000-12,000. **WENDELL CASTLE / S. PROCTOR** Exceptional sculptural single-drawer writing desk, en suite with desk chair, 1980. Carved signature: Made by S. Proctor and W. Castle and W. Castle 80. 29 1/2" x 67 1/2" x 36 1/2"; 20" x 24 1/2" x 26" Est: \$7,000-9,000.

Auction Contact Information

Sollo Rago is located at 333 North Main Street with Annex Gallery at 204 North Union Street, Lambertville NJ. For more information phone 609-397-9374 or visit www.sollorago.com.

Exhibition Preview

Saturday, April 18 – Friday, April 24, 2009 from 10- 6 pm and by appointment. Doors open at 9 a.m. the mornings of the sale.

Catalogues

Printed catalogues are \$20 and can be purchased online or by calling (609) 397.9374. You can also e-mail a request to info@ragoarts.com or view the complete catalogue online at www.sollorago.com. The online catalogue will be available on April 3 at shop.ragoarts.com

Notes for the Editor

High-resolution image available.
 More information online at ragoarts.com.

About Sollo Rago Modern Auctions

Sollo Rago Modern Auctions was established in 1998 by John Sollo and David Rago, two of the country's leading experts in the sale of in 20th century design. Sollo Rago Modern is the first auction house to

champion the great studio craftsmen George Nakashima, Paul Evans and Wharton Esherick, the first to promote the growth of Modern ceramics and the first to return to the designs of 1970's. It is also responsible for the resurgence of interest in the great Post Modern studio designers, including Wendell Castle, Albert Paley and Judy Kensely McKie. Much of the most important work sold at auction by Evans, Nakashima, Esherick, Harry Bertoia, Vladimir Kagan, Gertrude and Otto Natzler and Beatrice Wood (among others) has been sold by John Sollo and David Rago. In 2006, specialist Meredith Hilferty added fine Modern and Contemporary art to the selection of extraordinary decorative arts and furnishings. Sollo Rago Modern Auctions holds two multi-million dollar sales each year in April and October.

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. 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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