

# NEAL AUCTION'S

April 17-19, 2015

*Important Spring Estates Auction*

## ACHIEVES \$2.1 MILLION

- Monumental Blue Dog painting by George Rodrigue achieves world record auction price of \$173,275.00
- Pair of Alexander John Drysdale bayou landscapes achieve \$48,995.00
- The Gotlib Collection of Continental Decorative Arts and Furniture achieves \$506,000.00
- Modern furniture and French art glass from the Estate of Dr. Roger Hatchette sells for \$74,000.00

Neal Auction Company's *Important Spring Estates Auction* witnessed excellent results for fine art, furniture, and decorative arts.

The sale featured a number of notable collections, including property from the Estates of Eva and Jerry Gotlib, New York, New York, and Fort Smith, Arkansas. Largely comprised of 19th century decorative arts, the Gotlib Collection represented an elegant and timeless balance of opulence and restraint which appealed to collectors of all varieties worldwide. Other major collections that greatly contributed to the success of the sale were Modern Furniture and Decorative Arts from the Greenwood, Mississippi, and Santa Fe, New Mexico, Estate of Dr. Donald E. Pierce, and a Collection of Modern Furniture and Art Glass from the New Orleans Estate of Dr. Roger Hatchette.

### TOP 20 LOTS

#### #1 ▪ Lot 588 ▪ George Rodrigue ▪ \$173,275.00

The highlight of Neal Auction Company's April 17-19, 2015 *Spring Estates Auction* was **lot 588**, a monumental Blue Dog painting titled "Chairman of the Board" by beloved Louisiana artist George Rodrigue (1944-2013). The painting showcases Rodrigue's well-known sense of humor in its playful depiction of the artist's iconic Blue Dog, seen seated on a stool wearing a polka dot tie—a light-hearted take on the work's title. The painting more than doubled its pre-sale low estimate of \$80,000, selling for \$173,275.00 to a California collector against fierce competition from four telephone bidders and an enthusiastic bidder on the salesroom floor.

The \$173,275.00 realized for "Chairman of the Board" represents a record price for a work by George Rodrigue sold at auction.

#### #2 ▪ Lot 600 ▪ Alexander John Drysdale ▪ \$48,995.00

**Lot 600**, a pair of Alexander John Drysdale (American/New Orleans, 1870-1934) landscapes, "Evening in the Marsh" and "Bayou Landscape," sold for \$48,995.00. The two pendant canvases embody the tonalism of Drysdale's mature style. Through the hazy mist of atmospheric perspective, Drysdale beautifully captures the reflection of light on the ethereal waterways of Louisiana. Against a \$20,000 to \$30,000 estimate, the pair sold to a local collector bidding on the telephone.

Neal Auction Company continues to maintain the record auction price for a single painting by Alexander John Drysdale with “Dawn along the Bayou,” which sold on June 25, 2011 for \$44,215.00.

**#3 ▪ Lot 139 ▪ Louis XVI-Style Gilt Bronze and Mahogany Commode en Encoignures ▪ \$37,045.00**

**Lot 139**, a massive commode en encoignures, which replicates a design created by famed ébéniste Guillaume Benneman (active 1785-1792) for the Salon de Jeux at Compiègne, was acquired by a US collector battling against a competitive telephone bank and absentee bidders. With its high style and Gotlib provenance, the commode attracted widespread attention from international furniture connoisseurs, selling for \$37,045.00, more than four times its \$8,000 low estimate.

**#4 ▪ Lot 147 ▪ Pair of Napoleon III Bronze and Wedgwood-Mounted Marble Urns ▪ \$32,265.00**

Against a modest estimate of \$8,000 to \$12,000, **lot 147**, a beautiful pair of Napoleon III gilt bronze and Wedgwood jasperware mounted white marble urns from the Gotlib Collection, achieved more than four times its low estimate, selling for an impressive \$32,265.00 to a Mid-Atlantic buyer in the salesroom, who trumped eleven telephone bidders and the Internet.

**#5 ▪ Lot 411 ▪ Pair of Antique Louis XV-Style Pedestals ▪ \$20,910.00**

**Lot 411**, a pair of antique Louis XV-style gilt bronze mounted inlaid kingwood pedestals, inspired by an 18th century Jean-François Oeben bureau at Versailles, sold to an Internet buyer for \$20,910.00 against staunch competition from the telephone bank and the salesroom floor.

**#6 ▪ Lot 637 ▪ George Bauer Dunbar ▪ \$20,315.00**

**Lot 637**, a gold leaf over red clay framed work titled “Coin de Lestin” by George Bauer Dunbar (American/Louisiana, b. 1927), attracted widespread attention from the salesroom and telephone bank, selling to a local collector for \$20,315.00. “Coin de Lestin”, a large scale work incorporating draftsman precision and a vibrant color palette, highlights Dunbar’s prominence within the contemporary art scene both regionally and internationally.

**#7 ▪ Lot 410 ▪ Pair of Louis XVI-Style Cabinets ▪ \$19,680.00**

Carrying an estimate of \$10,000 to \$15,000, **lot 410**, a stunning pair of gilt bronze-mounted parquetry cabinets in the Louis XVI-style, sold for \$19,680.00 to an Internet buyer battling telephone bidders, several sizeable absentee bids, and the salesroom floor.

**TIED #8 ▪ Lot 322 ▪ Pair of Chinese Porcelain Rouleau Vases ▪ \$19,120.00**

**Lot 322**, a fine pair of 19th century Chinese blue and white porcelain rouleau vases from a Wrightsville Beach, NC Estate sold to a California phone bidder for \$19,120.00, well over its presale estimate of \$1,000 to \$1,500.

**TIED #8 ▪ Lot 351 ▪ Pair of Napoleon III Bronze-Mounted Sèvres Porcelain Vases ▪ \$19,120.00**

**Lot 351**, a pair of Napoleon III gilt bronze mounted Sèvres porcelain covered vases from the Gotlib Collection, performed remarkably well. With an estimate of \$4,000 to \$6,000, the vases sold for \$19,120.00, having amassed considerable attention from eleven prospective buyers bidding by telephone.

**#9 ▪ Lot 589 ▪ George Louis Vivant ▪ \$17,925.00**

**Lot 589**, “Widgeon Drake” a watercolor still-life by George Louis Viavant (American/Louisiana, 1872-1924), sold for \$17,925.00 to a local collector bidding on the phone against an active salesroom.

Neal Auction Company continues to maintain the record auction price for a work by George Louis Viavant with “Green-Winged Teal,” which sold on November 20, 2010 for \$50,190.00.

**#10 ▪ Lot 657 ▪ Clementine Hunter ▪ \$17,080.00**

**Lot 657**, “The Tour, Melrose Plantation (Self Portrait of Artist Painting on Right)” by beloved Louisiana folk artist Clementine Hunter (1886-1988), more than quintupled its \$3,000 low estimate, selling for \$17,080.00 to a New York collector bidding on the telephone against an active salesroom floor, the telephone bank, and a sizeable absentee bid.

**#11 ▪ Lot 413 ▪ Northern Italian Inlaid Rosewood Commode ▪ \$16,730.00**

Against a presale estimate of \$7,000 to \$9,000, **lot 413**, a beautiful ivory, fruitwood and pewter inlaid rosewood commode, garnered great enthusiasm across all bidding platforms, eventually selling to a Tennessee collector for \$16,730.00

**#12 ▪ Lot 327 ▪ Chinese Coral Figural Group ▪ \$13,145.00**

**Lot 327**, a large Chinese coral group carved with figures atop a phoenix bird performed well, selling for \$13,145.00— more than three times its low estimate, to a gentleman bidding on the telephone.

**#13 ▪ Lot 618 ▪ Alexander John Drysdale ▪ \$12,547.00**

**Lot 618**, an oil wash by Alexander John Drysdale (American/New Orleans, 1870-1934) titled “Expansive Louisiana Bayou Scene,” sold for \$12,547.00 to a local collector, who outbid two phone bidders and the salesroom floor.

**Tied # 14 ▪ Lot 601 ▪ Eanger Irving Couse ▪ \$11,950.00**

**Lot 601**, “Two Hunters,” a small Eanger Irving Couse (American, 1860 - 1936) oil study for a large scale canvas of the same title, which won an exhibition medal at the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam, realized \$11,950.00. “Two Hunters” was acquired by a Southern collector in the room competing against the telephone bank.

**Tied # 14 ▪ Lot 603 ▪ Frederick Judd Waugh ▪ \$11,950.00**

**Lot 854**, “Waves Crashing on Rocks” by celebrated American marine artist, Frederick Judd Waugh (1861-1940), sold for a \$11,950.00 to a telephone bidder, who defeated several salesroom contenders as well as the Internet.

**Tied #15 ▪ Lot 328 ▪ Chinese Coral Figural Group ▪ \$11,352.00**

**Lot 328**, another large Chinese coral figural group carved with a qilin surmounted by a maiden and a phoenix exceeded expectation. Against a presale estimate of \$4,000 to \$6,000, the group realized \$11,352.00, selling to a collector on the phone against competition from the salesroom floor and absentee bidders.

**Tied #15 ▪ Lot 775 ▪ Pair of French Empire Cut Glass Centerpieces ▪ \$11,352.00**

For \$11,352.00, a New York telephone bidder won **lot 775**, a stunning pair of tiered ruby cut glass bowls supported by gilt bronze rearing steeds, from an absentee bidder and several competitors on the phone bank.

**#16 ▪ Lot 656 ▪ George Louis Viavant ▪ \$10,755.00**

**Lot 656**, a 1914 watercolor of a “Woodcock” by celebrated Louisiana naturalist painter George Louis Viavant (1872-1924), sold for \$10,755.00 to an Internet bidder battling an active salesroom and telephone bank.

**Tied #17 ▪ Lot 167 ▪ William IV Mahogany Partner's Desk ▪ \$10,755.00**

**Lot 167**, a monumental William IV carved mahogany partner’s desk, was acquired for \$10,755.00 by an Australian buyer competing against an international telephone bank, the Internet and collectors on the salesroom floor.

**Tied #17 ▪ Lot 171 ▪ Antique Portuguese Carved Walnut Salon Table ▪ \$10,755.00**

**Lot 171**, an ornately carved antique Portuguese carved walnut salon table, attracted a great deal of activity from telephone bidders and the salesroom floor, eventually selling to an absentee bidder for \$10,755.00.

**Tied #17 ▪ Lot 423 ▪ Pair of Napoleon III Bronze-Mounted Chinese Porcelain Vases ▪ \$10,755.00**

**Lot 423**, a fine pair of Napoleon III gilt bronze-mounted Chinese famille rose porcelain vases, achieved an impressive \$10,755.00. The vases, which were from the Gotlib Collection, generated international attention with potential buyers bidding from the phone bank, the Internet, and the salesroom floor. In the end, an international buyer, who flew to New Orleans specifically to attend the auction, triumphed.

**#18 ▪ Lot 86 ▪ Pair of Rococo-Style Gilt Bronze and Porcelain Candelabra ▪ \$10,456.25**

**Lot 86**, a pair of 19th century Rococo-style gilt bronze and polychrome porcelain candelabra from the Gotlib Collection, sold for an impressive \$10,456.25, over ten times the low estimate of \$1,000, to an East Coast buyer, who outbid five other prospective telephone buyers, several sizeable absentee bids, and the salesroom floor.

**#19 ▪ Lot 21 ▪ Louis XV-Style Gilt Bronze Nine Light Chandelier ▪ \$10,455.00**

**Lot 21**, a fine gilt bronze nine-light chandelier in the manner of Jacques Caffieri (French, 1678-1755), was purchased by an Internet bidder for \$10,455.00.

**#20 ▪ Lot 1156 ▪ American Rococo Rosewood Parlor Suite ▪ \$10,370.00**

**Lot 1156**, an American Rococo carved and laminated rosewood parlor suite attributed to John and Joseph W. Meeks, New York, in the pattern commonly referred to as “Stanton Hall,” was purchased by a West Coast buyer for \$10,370.00.

**OTHER NOTABLE SALES**

**Lot 8**, a monumental 19th century Christofle silverplate figural stand, greatly exceeded expectation. Against a \$500 to \$800 presale estimate, the Christofle stand soared to \$7,687.00, selling to a telephone buyer competing against eager bidders on the salesroom floor and through the Internet.

Against an estimate of \$1,000 to \$1,500, **lot 114**, a pair of Meissen porcelain bottle vases from the Gotlib Collection generated excitement with an active salesroom, six telephone bidders, and two sizeable absentee bids. The lot eventually sold to an East Coast buyer for \$8,663.00.

**Lot 220**, two oils on copper depicting “Samson and Dalila” and “Judith and Holofernes” by Peeter Sion (Flemish, 1649-1695), a master in the Antwerp Guild of St. Luke, was purchased for \$8,610.00—

more than sixteen times its \$500 low estimate, by a collector on the Internet battling six telephone bidders and several absentee bids.

*Prices realized include Neal Auction Company's Buyer's Premium. Neal Auction Company's Buyer's Premium is 22% of the hammer price up to and including \$200,000, plus 10% of the hammer price greater than \$200,000. For purchases made by cash, check or wire transfer the buyer's premium is reduced by 2.5% of the 22%.*

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