

Press Release

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NEAL AUCTION COMPANY'S LOUISIANA PURCHASE AUCTION ACHIEVES \$3.1 MILLION

- ∞ William Henry Buck painting exceeds \$344,000
- ∞ Record prices set for Regional artists including: Ida Kohlmeyer, Marion Souchon, Alberta Kinsey, Captain William Lindsay Challoner and the Vargas Family
 - ∞ A pair of Belter armchairs achieve an auction record of \$55,800
 - ∞ Tiffany chair sells for \$50,000 – ten times its presale low
 - ∞ Record price set for a House of Representatives Armchair
- ∞ 18th century American furniture results prove Southern market is just as strong as Northern market
 - ∞ Record price set for a Chippendale birch chest of drawers at \$38,200
 - ∞ George III silver poultry dishes soar at \$38,800

October 6, 2006 – Neal Auction Company's September 30 and October 1 **Louisiana Purchase Auction**, featuring fine and decorative arts and antiques, witnessed considerable success. With standing-room-only salesrooms and registered absentee, Internet and phone bidders from around the country and from as far away as Europe and Asia, the sale achieved \$3,100,000.

***FINE ART** · Neal Auction Company's Louisiana Purchase offerings of fine art was exceptional this sale with many artists achieving outstanding prices for their works, including William Henry Buck, Walter Inglis Anderson, Knute Heldner, Ida Kohlmeyer, Marion Souchon, Alberta Kinsey, William and Ellsworth Woodward, Marie Atkinson Hull and Captain William Lindsay Challoner.*

The highlight of Neal Auction Company's Louisiana Purchase Auction was an outstanding oil painting by **William Henry Buck (American/New Orleans, 1840-1888)** titled **"Three Cabins Along the Shoreline."** With competing bids coming in from around the room and on the telephones, the painting finally sold for \$344,800. During a tense lull in the bidding, the auctioneer teased "Giving it away at this price" and the bidding recommenced with fresh vigor, selling to a gentleman within the room.

Alford teased: "Giving it away at this price."



Lot 334. William Henry Buck, Three Cabins Along the Shoreline, oil on canvas, 18 by 30 in., \$344,800

Captain William Lindsay Challoner (British, 1852-1901, active New Orleans, 1882-1887) achieved a record auction price with [lot 332](#), a painting of the ill-fated **USS Maine**, which realized \$28,200, selling to a descendant of the artist.



Lot 332. Captain William Lindsay Challoner, USS Maine Passing Morro Castle as she Enters into Havana Harbor, Cuba, 16 by 28 in., \$28,200.
RECORD AUCTION PRICE FOR THE ARTIST

[Lots 607](#) and [608](#), two 1930s oils by **Knute Heldner (Swedish/New Orleans, 1886-1954)** titled "**Impressionist Landscape with a Man in a Boat**" and "**Plantation of the Three Oaks**" also sold very well at \$9,400 and \$7,000 respectively; but [lot 615](#), a very small oil on board depicting a "**Black Man Herding Cattle**" achieved an exceptional price, selling for \$18,000.



Lot 615. Knute Heldner, Black Man Herding Cattle, 12 by 15 ¼ in., \$18,000

Another record at auction was an impressive **Ida Kohlmeyer (American/New Orleans, 1912-1997)** abstract oil titled **“Fantasy, No. 2”** ([lot 652](#)) which achieved \$25,900.



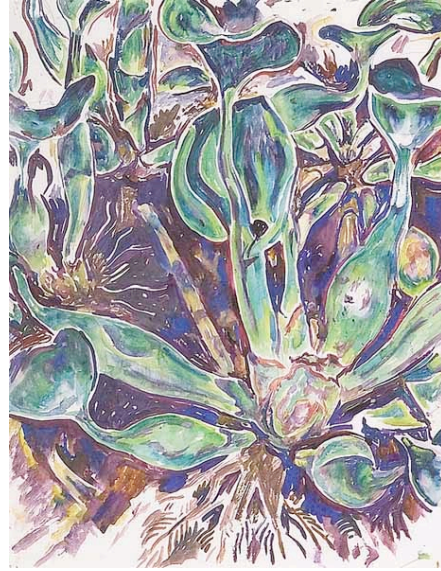
Lot 652. Ida Rittenberg Kohlmeyer, Fantasy, No. 2, 58 by 58 ½ in., \$25,900
RECORD PRICE FOR THE ARTIST

The Woodward brothers, **William (American/New Orleans, 1859-1939)** and **Ellsworth (American/New Orleans, 1861-1939)**, also achieved respectable prices with **“Washburn House”** by William Woodward ([lot 620](#)) selling for \$18,200 and **“Camas Pond”** by Ellsworth Woodward ([lot 622](#)) achieving \$8,200.

Given the devastating loss of many Walter Inglis Anderson works in Ocean Springs during Hurricane Katrina, it came as no surprise that the five **Walter Inglis Anderson (American/Mississippi, 1903-1965)** watercolors offered on September 30th performed exceptionally well. [Lots 629-633](#) sold in order at \$14,100, \$11,800, \$47,000, \$14,100 and \$13,000.



Lot 631. Walter Inglis Anderson, Gobbler: Oldfields Series, watercolor, 25 by 19 in., \$47,000



Lot 629. Walter Inglis Anderson, Water Hyacinth, watercolor, 11 by 8 ½ in., \$14,100

Lot 660, Marion Sims Souchon's (American/Louisiana, 1870-1954) oil "The Shoplifter" also performed impressively, achieving a record price for the artist at auction with \$14,400.



Lot 660. Marion Souchon, The Shoplifter, oil on canvas, 21 ½ by 27 ½ in., \$14,400
RECORD PRICE FOR THE ARTIST

Alberta Kinsey (American/Louisiana, 1875-1968) also realized a record price with her oil, lot 934, depicting "Clementine Hunter's Cabin, Melrose Plantation," which sold for \$10,000.



Lot 934. Alberta Kinsey, Clementine Hunter's Cabin, Melrose Plantation, 17 ½ by 21 in., \$10,000
RECORD PRICE FOR THE ARTIST

Another lot worth mention is **lot 944**, Marie Atkinson Hull's (American/Mississippi, 1890-1980) watercolor, "Old State Capital, Jackson, Mississippi," which brought an impressive \$9,400.



Lot 944. Marie Atkinson Hull, Old State Capitol, Jackson, MS, 30 ½ by 22 in, \$9,400

The Vargas Family wax figures offered on September 30th did exceptionally well also, achieving record prices with **lot 585**, a **Figure of a Mexican Parrot Vendor**, selling for \$3,800 and **lot 586**, a **Vegetable Seller and Her Son**, selling at \$4,900.

19th CENTURY AMERICAN FURNITURE · *As anticipated, Neal Auction Company's Louisiana Purchase offerings of 19th century American furniture performed very well, with several lots greatly exceeding expectation.*

Selling remarkably well *at ten times its low presale estimate* was **lot 153**, an **American Art Furniture Chair** attributed to **Louis Comfort Tiffany**, circa 1880, which realized an admirable \$50,500. And against a presale estimate of \$4,000-\$6,000, **lot 443**, a mid-19th century **American Carved Oak House of Representatives Armchair** attributed to Bembe & Kimmel beat all previous record prices, selling for \$18,800.



Lot 153. An Important American Art Furniture Carved Mahogany Upholstered Chair, attributed to Louis Comfort Tiffany/Associated Artists, New York, ca. 1880, \$50,500



Lot 443. A Rare American Carved Oak House of Representatives Armchair, mid 19th c., attributed to Bembe & Kimmel, New York, \$18,800
RECORD PRICE

Neal Auction Company's Belter and Meeks offerings also performed commendably, with an exceptional pair of Belter armchairs reaching a world record price. **Lot 451**, A **mid-19th C. Rococo Carved Rosewood Meridienne**, attributed to John Henry Belter, sold very well at \$17,600 while **lot 452**, its companion, a **Pair of American Rococo Laminated and Carved Rosewood Armchairs**, achieved the record-setting price of \$55,800. The following lot, number **453**, a single **Parlor Chair** with the same Belter attribution, realized a respectable \$9,400. **J. & J.W. Meeks Makers, New York**, received strong interest as well, with **lot 456**, a ca. 1835 **Rosewood Secretary Bookcase** selling for \$12,300.



Lot 452. A Pair of American Rococo Laminated and Carved Rosewood Armchairs, attributed to John Henry Belter, New York, \$55,800

18th CENTURY AMERICAN FURNITURE • *Rarely offered below the Mason Dixon Line, Neal Auction Company's September 30th offerings of 18th century American Furniture confirmed that the Southern appetite for fine examples is comparable to that of the Northern marketplace.*

Further feeding this appetite, Neal Auction Company's upcoming December 2 and 3 Holiday Estates Auction will feature collections of important American Chippendale and Federal furniture and decorative arts as well, including a Massachusetts Chippendale serpentine front tiger maple chest of drawers, a Charleston Federal inlaid mahogany settee, a pair of Philadelphia silver canns made by Robert Musgrave for Declaration of Independence signer Thomas Mc Kean, and many others.

Lot 303, a **Good American Chippendale Birch Oxbow Chest of Drawers**, from Salem, Massachusetts, ca. 1770-1790, with Israel Sack provenance, sold for \$38,200 to a telephone buyer, making it the highest recorded price for a birch Chippendale chest of drawers. **Lot 320**, an **American Mahogany and Satinwood Inlaid Bowfront Chest of Drawers**, ca. 1800, from Portsmouth New Hampshire, also performed exceptionally well, selling at \$20,600 amid considerable attention from within the room and on the telephone.



Lot 303. An American Chippendale Birch Oxbow Chest of Drawers, ca. 1770-1790, Salem, MA, \$38,200

AMERICAN FURNITURE FROM THE SOUTH • *Neal Auction Company, which boasts world record prices for Southern Regional Furniture, performed remarkably well with their September 30th offerings.*

Lot 306, an **American Rococo Carved Rosewood Half Tester Bed** from Prudent Mallard, New Orleans, sold well at \$42,300, while its companion piece, a Mallard **Rosewood Duchesse**, **lot 307**, also sold respectably at \$12,900. Against a presale

estimate of \$8,000-\$12,000, **lot 310**, a **ca. 1800 Southern Huntboard in the Hepplewhite Taste** sold for \$21,100. And finally, worth noting was **lot 347**, a **late 18th/early 19th century Louisiana Walnut Petite Armoire** which achieved \$21,100.



Lot 310. A Southern Walnut, Pine and Poplar Huntboard in the Hepplewhite Taste, ca. 1800, North Carolina, \$21,100

SILVER *The market for good quality, rare silver has never been stronger as evidenced by Neal Auction Company's offerings on September 30th.*

Silver's star lot during Neal Auction Company's Louisiana Purchase Auction was **lot 215**, a **ca. 1806 Pair of George III Royal Sterling Silver Poultry Dishes by Richard Cooke, London**, estimated at \$10,000 - \$15,000. Amid fierce bidding in the room and on the phones, the auctioneer skillfully challenged her audience — Find another pair! — and the pair dutifully sold for \$38,800.

LeBlanc challenged the room: "Find another pair!"



Lot 215. A Fine Pair of George III Royal Sterling Silver Poultry Dishes and Covers, by Richard Cooke, London, ca. 1806, \$38,800

Also performing well, and in keeping with Neal Auction Company's earlier offerings of 18th century American Furniture (lots 303 and 320), **lot 399, A Rare Philadelphia Coin Silver Coffeepot, ca. 1800, by James Musgrave**, sold exceptionally well at \$8,200.

SOUTHERN SILVER · *Southern Silver made its way home during Neal Auction Company's annual Louisiana Purchase Auction with each lot returning to its state of origin.*

Lot 396, a **ca. 1830 Mississippi Coin Silver Waste Bowl by Emile Profflet** exceeded \$6,200 against a presale estimate of \$3,000-\$4,000, selling to a Mississippian. Tennessee Coin Silver, also well-represented on the 30th, made its way back home as well. Prices realized were impressive with **lot 402**, a **ca. 1850 Tennessee Coin Silver Creamer by J.S. Curtis** achieving \$4,700 and **lot 403**, a **Tennessee Coin Silver Covered Sugar by James Reed**, realizing \$4,400.

MAPS & HISTORICAL ITEMS · *Always strong in this category, Neal Auction Company had considerable success with their offerings during their annual Louisiana Purchase Auction this month.*

Lot 422, **Henry Overton, A New & Correct Map of the Trading Part of the West Indies, 1759, London** sold for \$14,100 while **lot 423**, a map by **Guillaume Delisle, Carte de la Louisiane et du Cours du Mississipi, Paris, 1718**, sold for \$6,800.



Lot 422. [Henry Overton], A New & Correct Map of the Trading Part of the West Indies, including the Seat of War between Gr. Britain and France, 22 by 39 ½ in., \$14,100

Also noteworthy was **lot 1012**, a **Rare 1865 Gold Rush Era Steamship Sign** which achieved \$7,600.

DECORATIVE WORKS OF ART · *Never lacking in quality decorative objects, interest at Neal Auction Company's Louisiana Purchase Auction was great with several objects achieving notable prices.*

Lots 148 and 149, a matching pair of **American Ormolu and Patinated Metal Six-Light Gasoliers** sold for \$22,300 and \$22,900 respectively, while a large pair of **Jacob Petit Pot-Pourri Vases**, **lot 510**, also sold very well at \$14,700. Highly attractive Nesle, Inc. lighting fixtures are worth mention, as they hammered in at six times their presale estimates. **Lots 229 and 230**, **Pairs of Regency-Style Two-Light Sconces**, with silvered brass scroll arms and shell-form wooden back plates, estimated at \$500-\$750, each sold for \$3,055.



Lot 149. A mid-19th C. American Ormolu and Patinated Six-Light Gasolier, \$22,900



Lot 510. A Mid-19th C. Pair of Large Paris Porcelain White, Imperial Purple and Gilt Pot-Pourri Vases, by Jacob Petit, \$14,700

For more information about a specific lot, please contact the Consignments Department at +1 504.899.5329 or visit Neal Auction Company's website at www.nealauction.com to view their online catalogue.

Press inquiries: please call Bettine Carroll at +1 504.899.5329.

*Prices realized include Buyer's Premium and are rounded to the nearest \$100. Estimates do not include Buyer's Premium.