

NEAL AUCTION COMPANY'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY ESTATES AUCTION ACHIEVES \$2.6 MILLION

With strong bidding in all categories, Neal Auction Company's December 1 and 2, 2007 Holiday Estates Auction was a huge success.

FINE ART

Neal Auction Company's Holiday Estates offerings of fine art were outstanding this December with results underscoring the current market strength and collector's enthusiasm for high quality pieces.



E. I. COUSE

A remarkable early painting by the highly sought after western artist **Eanger Irving Couse (American, 1866-1936)** lead the day. Hidden from public view since its 1907 exhibition at Knoedler Gallery in New York City, Neal Auction Company's Couse painting titled "The Evening Camp" created a stir when it hit the auction block last month. With

western art dealers, private western art collectors and a western art museum competing on the telephones against several private clients who flew in from Colorado and New Mexico in order to bid in person, "The Evening Camp," sold amongst fierce competition to a long-standing local collector of southern art. Against a presale estimate of \$150,000 to \$250,000, **lot 352, Eanger Irving Couse's** 1905 oil painting titled "The Evening Camp," sold for \$257,000.00, making it the most expensive Couse painting to have been sold in years.

FRANÇOISE AUGUSTE BIARD

Also witnessing fierce competition from the telephone bank but selling to a local collector within the salesroom was a French painting by **Françoise Auguste Biard (1798-1882)**, a court painter during the reign of King Louise-Philippe. Though best known for his portraiture, Biard's preferred subjects were scenes of social and political history. Depicting Carnival revelers in a melee with officers of the municipal guard, **lot 282**, Neal Auction's **Françoise August Biard** painting was an enigmatic mix of both. **Lot 282**, "A Carnival Scene," one of the many items being offered over the next several months from the Wyndham Canal Place Art Collection, hung prominently within the Hotel's famous 11th floor lobby for years where it was admired by locals and tourists alike. Against an attractive presale estimate of \$12,000 to \$18,000 the painting saw competition between four phone bidders, two absentee bids, and a collector within the room. The Biard painting sold for \$73,500.00.



ANDRES MOLINARY

Lot 392, Neal Auction Company's **Andres Molinary (American/New Orleans, 1847-1915)**, "Portrait of Confederate General Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard," also fared notably well. Against a presale estimate of \$12,000 to \$18,000, the handsome young general achieved an impressive \$48,175.00 – a record price for a portrait by the artist.

Neal Auction Company maintains the record price for a Molinary sold at auction; "Lake Shore" sold in December 2005 \$94,500.00.



COLIN CAMPBELL COOPER

Lot 367, a dated 1921 watercolor and gouache by **Colin Campbell Cooper (American, 1856-1937)**, titled "The Cathedral on Jackson Square, New Orleans," performed estimably by more than doubling its low estimate of \$20,000 and selling to a local collector within the room for \$44,650.00.

JOHN JAMES AUDUBON

Neal Auction Company's history of selling **John James Audubon (American, 1785-1851)** engravings at auction is virtually unmatched. December's **Audubon** offering featured **lot 388**, "Black-Bellied Darter," No. 64, Plate CCCXVI, from *Birds of America*. With lots of interest from the telephone the piece realized \$29,400.00, the second highest price ever paid at auction for the work; the first being an example with royal provenance from the Magnificent Sachsen-Meiningen sale in New York several years ago.



JOAQUIM MIRÓ

Lot 283, Neal Auction Company's **Joaquim Miró Argenter (Spanish, 1849-1914)**, oil on canvas titled "Sitges," also realized the second highest price ever achieved at auction for a work by the artist. With seven active telephones, Neal Auction Company's Miró oil realized

\$26,450.00. The painting, a highly characteristic production of the school of Catalan Luminism, showcased Miró's personal blend of realistic naturalism, with an emphasis on powerful local color and a luministic brilliance of sky, sea and ground.

WALTER INGLIS ANDERSON



Neal Auction Company has an accomplished history of selling Walter Inglis Anderson works at auction and continues to maintain the world record price for a work by the artist. "*Study for the Mural of the History of the South*" sold on December 3, 2003 for \$162,000.00.

It is little surprise, therefore, that **lot 342**, a small unsigned pair of drawings by **Walter Inglis Anderson**

(American/ Mississippi, 1903-1965), depicting "Convolvulus" (of the Morning Glory family) would perform characteristically well. With substantial interest, the small, unsigned pair sold for \$22,325.00.

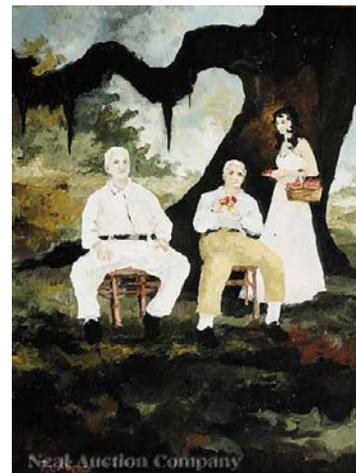


JOHN FREDERICK HERRING, JR.

Lot 500, John Frederick Herring, Jr.'s **(British, 1820-1907)**, "Horses in a Barnyard," likewise, performed notably during Neal Auction Company's Holiday Estates Auction. With several competing phone bids, the painting sold for \$21,150.00.

GEORGE RODRIGUE

Stirring considerable interest were Neal Auction Company's two **George Rodrigue (American/ Louisiana, b. 1944)** paintings. The first, **lot 447**, titled "Roses for You: Traditional Series," achieved \$18,800.00 with fierce competition from four telephone and two absentee bidders. The second, **lot**



813, titled "Bayou Morning #1," also performed well, selling for \$14,700.00 with two phones and one absentee bid competing.

FRANCOIS BERNARD



According to Grace King in her important 19th c. social history *Creole Families of New Orleans*: "Not to know the names of the married Longer ladies is regarded in the Creole city as proof of unpardonable social ignorance."

Lot 415, a Francois Bernard (French, b. 1812, active New Orleans, 1856-1875), portrait of "Angèle Longer (Mrs. Evan Jones McCall)," saw considerable local interest. Against a presale estimate of \$7,000 to \$9,000, the legendary beauty's likeness sold for \$16,800.00.

Neal Auction Company continues to maintain the world record price for a work by Francois Bernard with "Portrait of two Chitimacha Indians" which sold in October 2000 for \$63,250.00.



CLYDE CONNELL

Lot 366, a very special 1979 Clyde Connell (American/Louisiana, 1901-1998), drawing titled "Song from Bistineau: Swamp Song Series," reached a world record price this sale, achieving \$14,100.00.

Speaking of her Swamp Song Series, Connell explained:

Well, I called them Swamp Songs because this is kind of a swamp, and there are so many sounds, and not only sounds, but sights that remind me of songs that you hear. At night there was a bird singing. He went "tukaloo, tukaloo, tukaloo," just last week, and I said that's not a bird calling, that's a song he's singing.

AMERICAN FURNITURE

Neal Auction Company's December 1 and 2, 2007 annual Holiday estates Auction featured many very important examples of 19th century American furniture including many pieces by premier makers including John Henry Belter, Alexander Roux, Anthony Quervelle, John Meads and J. & J.W. Meeks.



JOHN HENRY BELTER

Leading Belter lots included **lot 100**, a mid 19th c. **Rare American Carved and Laminated Rosewood Dresser**, bearing the label "J.H. Belter Patent August 19, 1853," which realized an impressive \$47,000.00 against significant interest on the telephones. Perhaps the rarest form among patented Belter furniture, Neal Auction Company's example employed an innovative spring locking mechanism (for which Belter received a patent in 1860) which enabled the user to lock all four drawers by turning the key in just the top drawer keyhole.

Lot 93, a **Fine American Carved Rosewood and Laminated Armchair**, attributed to J. H. Belter, New York, also performed commendably selling for \$22,325.00 to a collector within the salesroom.



Lot 90, Neal Auction Company's c. 1850-1860 **New York Rococo Carved and Laminated Rosewood Sofa**, in the design commonly referred to as the "Bird" pattern, also performed well, achieving an impressive \$23,500.00 against two active phones and competition within the room.

ALEXANDER ROUX

With several absentee bids, interest within the salesroom and seven active telephones, **lot 841**, a mid 19th century **American Renaissance Carved and Burled Walnut Sideboard**, attributed to Alexander Roux, New York, achieved \$37,600.00 – more than five times its presale low estimate of \$7,000.



ANTHONY QUERVELLE

Also selling commendably was **lot 44**, Neal Auction Company's early 19th century **Fine American Mahogany "Grecian" Sofa**, attributed to Anthony Quervelle, Philadelphia. With a presale estimate of \$4,000 to \$6,000, the elegant sofa sold on the telephone for \$22,912.50.



JOHN MEADS

More than doubling its low presale estimate, **lot 91**, an early 19th century **American Classical Mahogany and Brass Inlaid Secretary Bookcase**, attributed to John Meads, Albany, New York, sold impressively. Against five phones, one absentee bid and the salesroom floor, the piece — similar to one in the Minneapolis Institute of Arts collection — sold for \$22,325.00.



J. & J.W. MEEKS

Lot 92, a mid 19th century **American Rococo Carved Rosewood Duchesse**, attributed to J. & J.W. Meeks, New York, performed typically well, achieving \$16,450.00.

The rococo dressing table or "duchesse" is considered a rare form for the Meeks and was likely a specialty item produced by the New York maker for the Southern market.

EUROPEAN FURNITURE

Neal Auction Company's offering of English and Continental Furniture also fared well with interest coming from overseas on many lots.

Lot 496, a circa 1765-1780 **Pair of George III Carved Giltwood Mirrors in the Chippendale Taste**, doubled its presale low estimate. With interest within the room and on three telephones, the pair of mirrors sold for \$30,550.00.

Also greatly exceeding its presale estimate of \$6,000 to \$8,000 was **lot 251**. The **Fine Set of Eight Regency Mahogany and Ebonized Klismos Chairs**, c. 1800, reached \$23,500.00 against three telephones and one left bid.



Lot 798 saw considerable interest from abroad. With three active telephones from Europe, the 18th century **French Régence Carved Walnut Table with a Rouge Marble Top**, sold to a collector within the salesroom for \$22,325.00.

CLOCKS

Neal Auction Company's December Holiday Estates Auction featured several important clocks which garnered lots of interest.

Against a presale estimate of \$18,000 to \$25,000, **lot 830**, took the vanguard. The circa 1895 **Waltham Clock Company Rococo Revival Carved Walnut Nine Tube Tall Case Clock**, retailed by Smith Patterson Company and playing Whittington and Westminster chimes, sold for \$51,700.00 to a telephone buyer.

Also performing well was **lot 246**, a circa 1895 **Walter Durfee Colonial Revival Carved Mahogany Nine Tube Tall Case Clock**, retailed by Tiffany & Co., reached \$24,675.00 against considerable interest.



SCULPTURE

Lot 286, a small **Boris M. Frödman-Cluzel (Russian, b. 1874)**, bronze titled "Dancer with Drum," which was inscribed "S. Petersburg, 1911," on the base achieved a whopping \$23,500.00. Against a presale estimate of \$2,500 to \$3,500, the 9 ¼ inch bronze inspired considerable national and international interest.

ART POTTERY



Lot 357, a 1912 **Newcomb College Art Pottery Transitional Glaze Plaque**, decorated by Anna Frances Simpson with a landscape of moss-laden live oak trees, in dark blue and green underglaze, sold for \$19,975.00; while lot 355, a 1909 **Newcomb College Art Pottery High Glaze Vase**, decorated by

Henrietta Davidson Bailey, with daisies in blue, green and yellow underglaze, achieved \$12,925.00.



MEMORABILIA

Lot 658, a July 1, 1969 **Apollo 11 Final Flight Plan**, signed on the title page by Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins, performed well above expectation. With an estimate of \$2,500 to \$3,500 Neal Auction Company's Apollo 11 Flight Plan achieved \$22,325.00 — a record price for an unflown example.

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BOCAGE AUCTION

Neal Auction Company's December 1 and 2, 2007 **Holiday Estates Auction** was followed by an on-site auction at **Bocage Plantation** in Darrow, Louisiana on December 8, 2007. The **Bocage Auction**, which began with the sale of the Historic Antebellum Mansion on 100+/- acres and concluded with the sale of the Historic Home's Entire Contents of fine art and furnishings, was a tremendous success. The home and acreage, which was auctioned by Neal Auction Company's President and Founder, Neal Alford, on behalf of Albert Burney Properties of Distinction sold for \$2,365,000.00; while the afternoon session of the home's historic contents achieved a total of \$500,000.00, with many of the home's furnishings achieving exceptional prices.

For more information about Neal Auction Company's **Bocage Auction**, please refer to the attached press release.

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For more information about **Neal Auction Company's Holiday Estates Auction**, please visit www.nealauktion.com

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Prices Realized include Neal Auction Company's standard Buyer's Premium as reflected in their Conditions of Sale.

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