

Auction #163 Report

Our 20th February Fine Sale of jewellery, watches, art and antiques turned up some impressive results. The room was packed in addition to hundreds taking part online. A large sapphire ring, lot 48, achieved £3500 hammer against an estimate of just £250-£350. This was amongst many quality pieces in the jewellery section. Our specialty the wristwatches once again stole the show with the Panerai/Rolex WWII German frogman's watch going for £30,000 hammer. Two fine vintage Heuer watches - the gold-cased Carrera, and the Monaco "Steve McQueen" 1970, went for £11,000 and £6500 respectively. British military watches sold well above estimate, the highest being £5100 hammer for the Jaeger le Coultre model lot 242. Overall the world of vintage watches is as exciting as ever, and a hot collectables market. In the toy section there was a series of very scarce Britains model horse and jockeys with original boxes. These tripled their estimate overall, the highest hammer being £290 for a single model. Famous name ceramics and glass such as Clarice Cliff, Daum Nancy, and Lalique are extremely popular. An example from each of those sold four to five times above estimate in this auction. A Victorian board game, lot 709, the Circle of Knowledge went for £2300 hammer against an estimate of £300 to £500. A fascinating early broadsheet newspaper illustrating the 'Triumphant Reception' of William of Orange into London 1697 was estimated at just £100-£200: The hammer went down at £3300 ! A signed, framed photograph of Charles & Diana 1984, estimate £600-£800, went for £2000. This was the most sought-after in a small series of royal autographs. The last big surprise of the sale was lot 887, six pieces of pale jade, estimate £80-£120, sold for £2600. It seems a couple of pieces were quite early, but Chinese art often causes a stir.

The next auction will be Coins & Collectables, 16-17 March. Lookout for the online catalogue soon. This sale includes some extremely rare gold sovereigns.

Our next Fine Sale is scheduled for 12 & 13 June, with consignment open until 3rd of May.



The WWII frogman's watch made £30,000 hammer