



IN PURSUIT OF BEAUTY

OBJECTS OF RARITY & HISTORY

At M.S. Rau, we highly value the history and beauty of objects. Third- and fourth-generation owners Bill and Rebecca Rau travel the globe to find the most interesting and beautiful fine art, antiques and jewelry - we seek out those objects whose rarity and history are unlike any other.

The collection that we have amassed during our over 100 years in business rivals the great museums of the world. The only exception is that our items come and go, finding new homes and new stories every day. Such outstanding objects take great effort to find, but we are pleased to have done the hard work for you. If something interests you, simply reach out to your personal Sales Consultant, and we will expeditiously handle the rest. Until then, enjoy the rare treasures on the pages that follow.

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BALTHASAR BESCHEY

1708-1776 | Flemish

The Assumption of the Virgin

18th century | Oil on panel Signed "B. Beschey" (lower left)

Flemish painter Balthasar Beschey composed this vibrantly hued oil that glorifies the Assumption of Mary into heaven. This great painting was inspired by Peter Paul Rubens' *The Assumption of the Virgin*, which he painted in the mid-1620s for the high altarpiece in Antwerp's Cathedral of Onze-Lieve-Vrouwe. Beschey beautifully interprets Rubens' original in the present work, which is rendered with a vivid palette and high degree of technical skill.

The work details the moment when Mary's body is ascending into heaven, soaring upward with the help of a choir of angels. Two of the putti extend a wreath towards her head, a nod to her role as the "Queen of Heaven." Her tomb is depicted below, surrounded by a crowd that includes Mary Magdalene, Mary's sisters and Saint John the Evangelist. Overall, it is a stunning work of art that evokes one of the most famous religious paintings in the whole of art history. #31-1146

Panel: 301/2"h x 201/2"w | Frame: 381/4"h x 28"w





ÉMILE MUNIER

1810-1895 | French

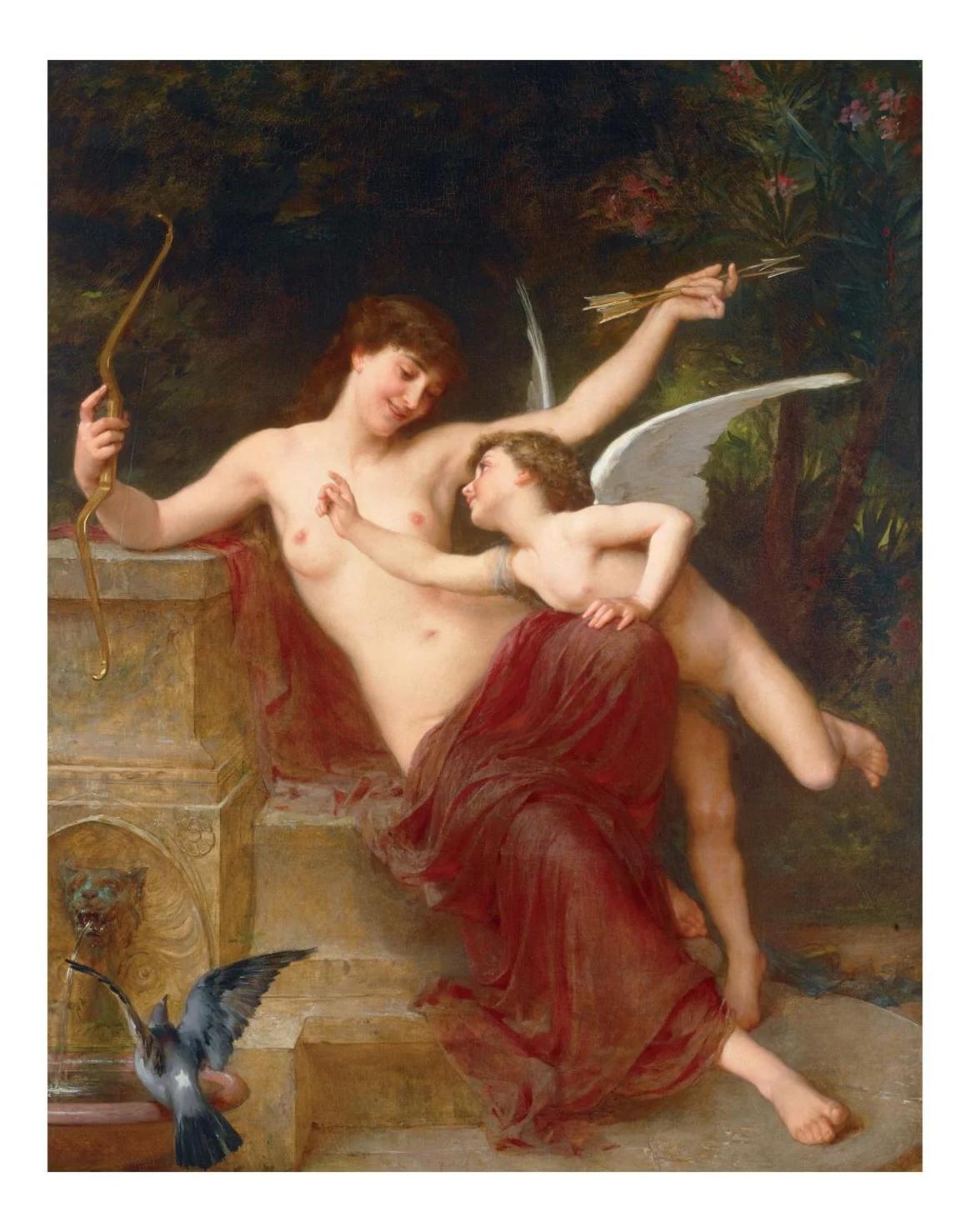
Love Disarmed

Dated 1886 | Oil on canvas Signed "E. Munier 1886" (lower right)

Émile Munier is counted among the greatest Academic painters of all time, and this oil on canvas is one of the most important works that he ever composed. It was painted for and exhibited at the Paris Salon of 1886, the annual exhibition where artists showcased the very best examples of their work. In terms of style, Love Disarmed exemplifies the artist at his finest.

Munier is best known for his allegorical subjects such as this, rendered with exacting precision and incorporating the idealized female nude in classical settings. Monumental in scale and beautifully finished, the composition reflects the influence of his friend and mentor, the Academic master William-Adolphe Bouguereau. In fact, Bouguereau presented his own version of the subject at the Salon of 1886, the same year the present painting was exhibited. #31-1205

Canvas: 671/2"h x 511/4"w | Frame: 711/2"h x 55"w





EUGEN VON BLAAS

1843-1932 | Austrian

The Water Carrier

Circa 1902 | Oil on canvas on board Signed "Eg. de Blaas" (lower right)

Eugen von Blaas' unparalleled skill for genre painting is on display in this exceptional oil. The work captures a young Venetian woman during the course of her chores as she carries a filled water pail. She is the quintessential example of von Blaas' preferred subject - spirited, salt-of-the-earth women who engage in everyday tasks with the worn grandeur of the Italian cityscape as their backdrop.

Von Blaas followed a detailed method of constructing lively genre scenes within an historical framework. His women are striking in their youth and unadorned beauty, feeling as though they have stepped through the annals of time. His favorite setting was Venice, as it provided the artist with a timeless environment, remaining unaltered by the changes brought about by the Industrial Revolution. #31-1101

Canvas: 303/4"h x 161/4"w | Frame: 43"h x 283/4"w







JEAN-PIERRE CASSIGNEUL

b.1935 | French

La Croisette

Oil on canvas Signed "Cassigneul" (lower left)

Vibrant pink blooms fill the foreground of this oil on canvas by Jean-Pierre Cassigneul. The work captures two elegantly dressed women strolling along the Promenade de la Croisette in Cannes, France. It brings together three of the artist's most popular subjects: female models, flowers and the sea. Overall, it is a particularly lovely and serene example of his stylishly modern output.

Cassigneul achieves a sense of harmony through layers of color, which reveal an expressionist influence. Yet, the style is uniquely Cassigneul, particularly in the air of mystery that surrounds his subjects. Full of lightness while exuding a distinctly French spirit, the composition is a lovely work of contemporary French art. #31-1008

Canvas: 31⁷/₈"h x 25³/₄"w | Frame: 39⁷/₈"h x 33⁵/₈"w



JEAN-GABRIEL DOMERGUE

1889-1962 | French

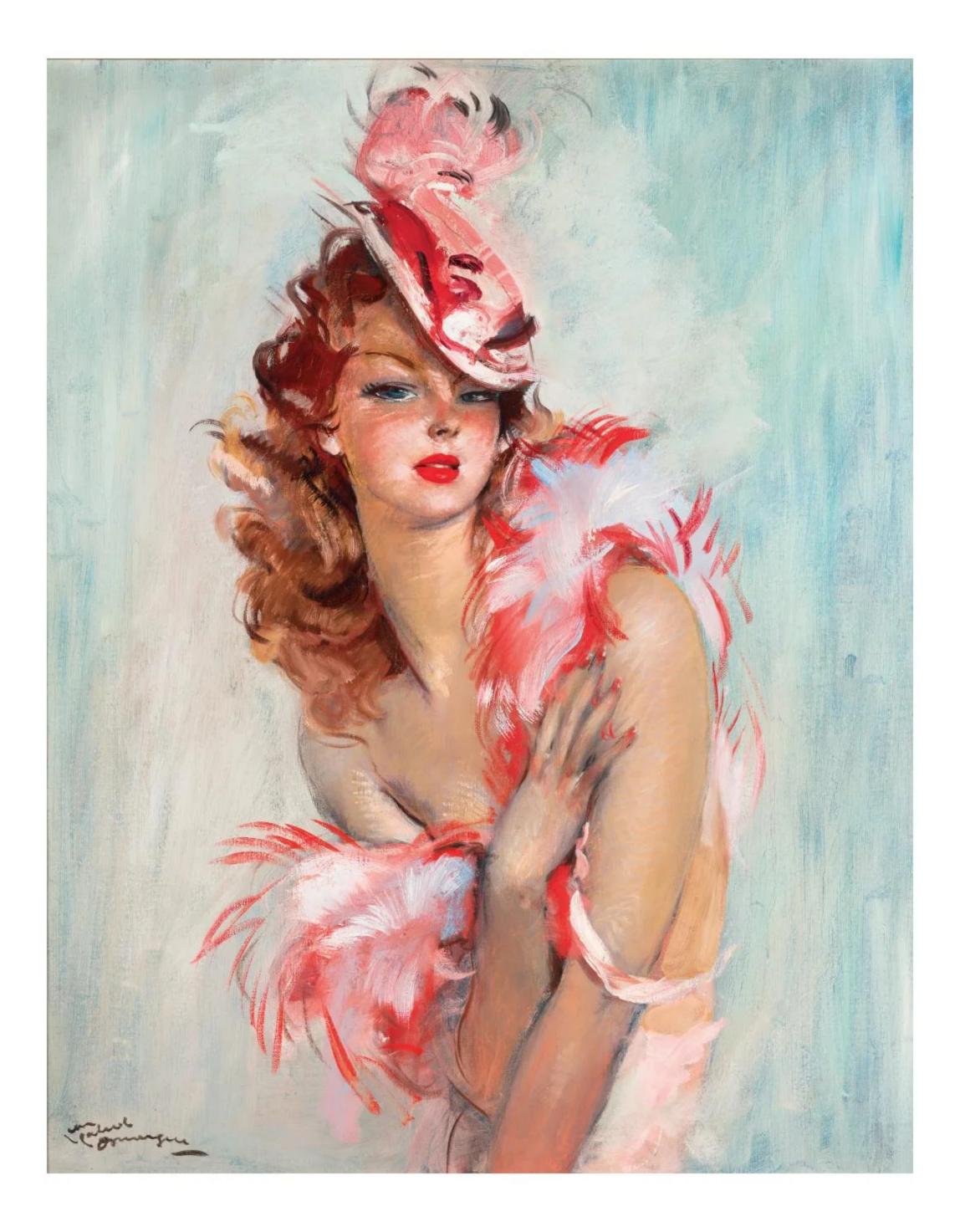
Nadine de Rothschild

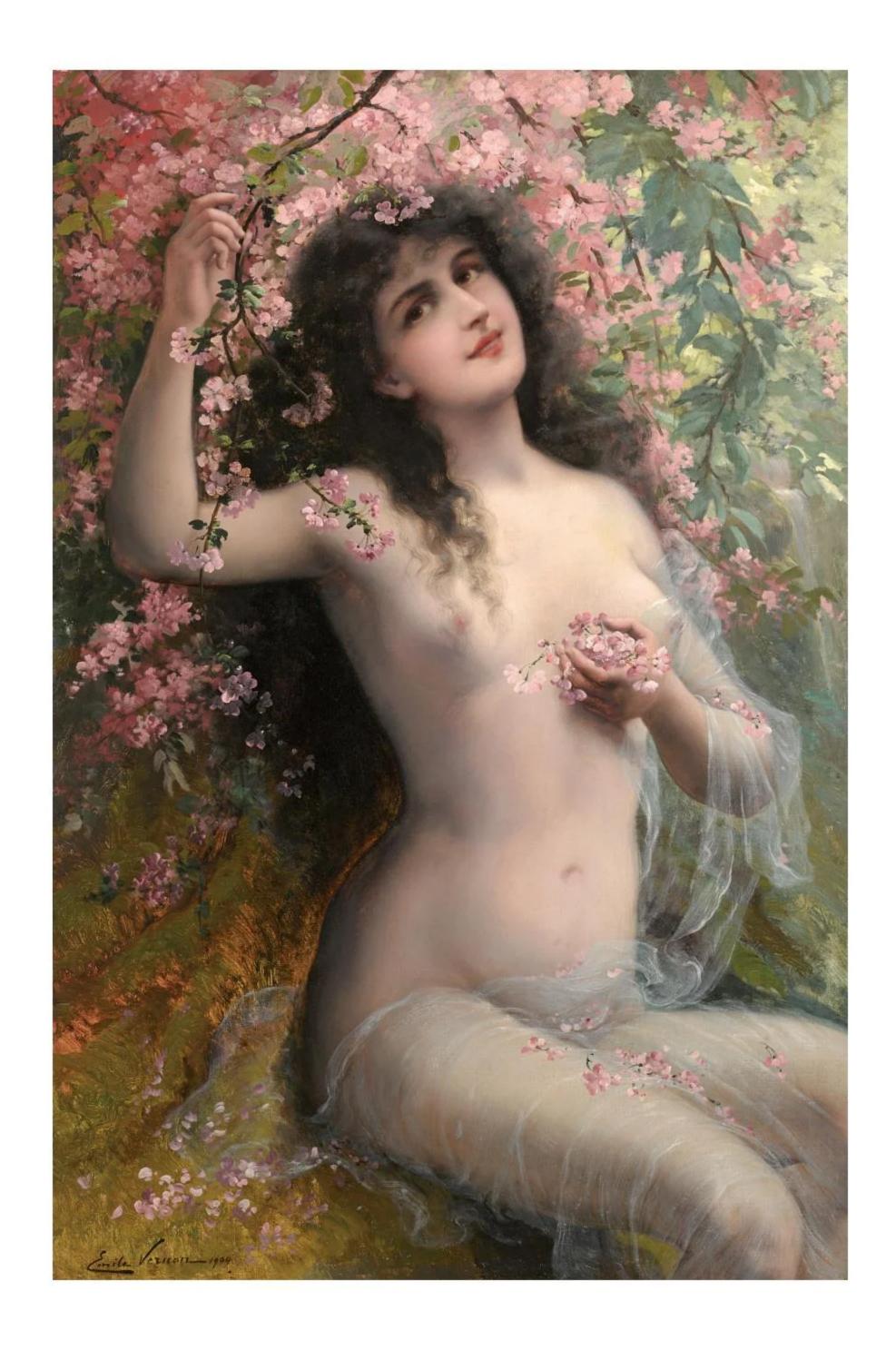
Oil on canvas Signed "Jean Gabriel Domergue" (lower left)

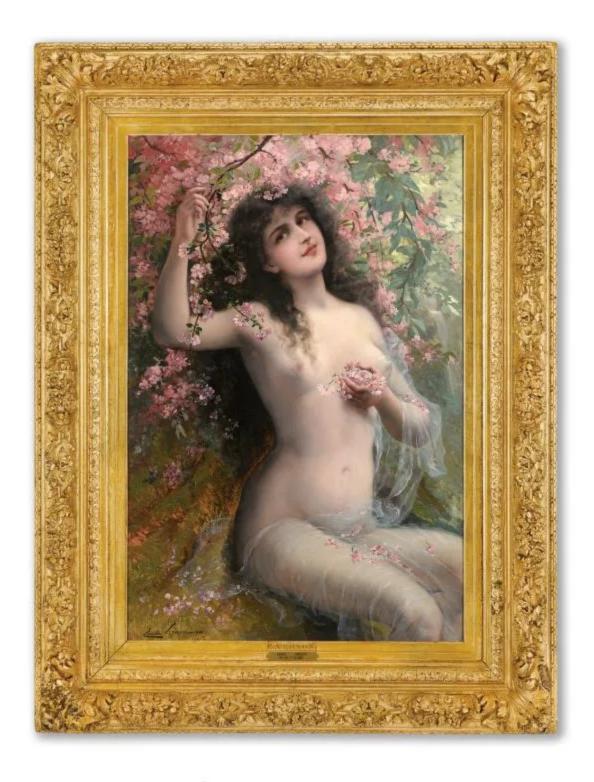
In this oil portrait, Jean-Gabriel Domergue paints one of his favorite models, French actress and future Baroness Nadine de Rothschild. Depicted at the height of her fame and beauty, Nadine embodies the youth, vitality and sophistication she was known for, which made her the perfect subject for Domergue. The artist's specialty was the modern woman who exuded confidence and sensuality, earning him the reputation of "inventor of the pin-up."

Nadine de Rothschild began her acting career largely thanks to Domergue. The artist ran in elite Parisian circles and, as one of Domergue's favorite models, Nadine had access to this branch of society. She became a darling of French cinema, appearing in over 40 films. She eventually retired and married Baron Edmond Adolphe de Rothschild, becoming a baroness. #31-1208

Canvas: 351/2"h x 28"w | Frame: 411/2"h x 34"w







ÉMILE VERNON

1872-1919 | French

Among the Blossoms

Dated 1904 | Oil on canvas Signed "Emile Vernon 1904" (lower left)

This portrait was composed by the Academic painter Émile Vernon. The artist specialized in paintings that paid homage to the female form, excelling in portraits and nudes depicting young women in airy, romantic settings. The present work is classic Vernon, revealing both his mastery over the figural form and his rich palette.

The artist's skill as a draftsman is revealed in his treatment of the gossamer robe that drapes around his subject, which is depicted with a translucency that was difficult for even the most proficient painter to achieve. As a whole, it is exemplary of Vernon's mastery over his genre. #31-1166

Canvas: 36"h x 24"w | Frame: 481/2"h x 361/2"w



BLANCHE HOSCHEDÉ-MONET

1865-1947 | French

Hilly Landscape near Giverny

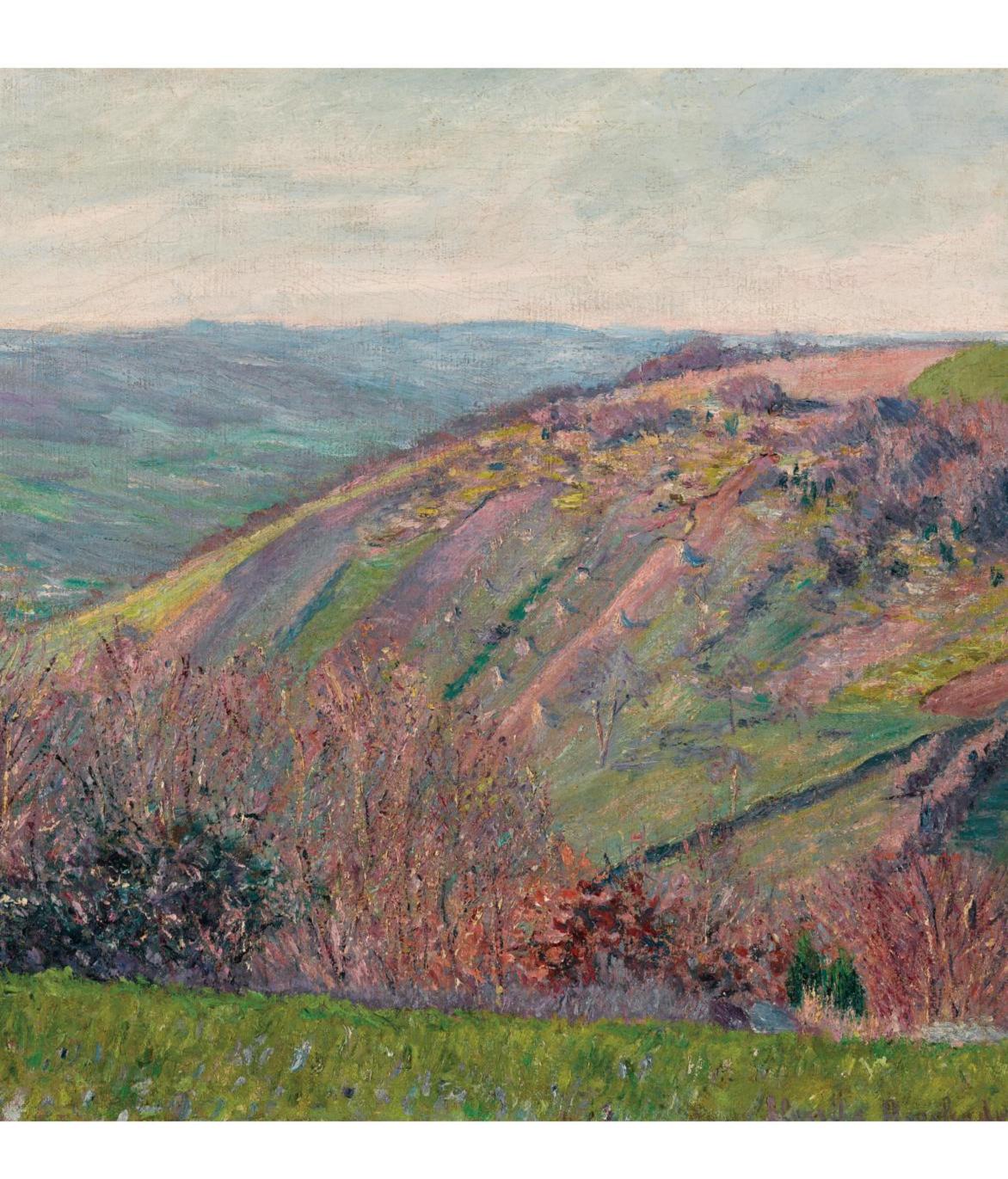
Circa 1890 | Oil on canvas Signed "Blanche Hoschede" (lower right)

The legendary hills of Giverny come to life in this impressionist oil by Blanche Hoschedé-Monet. The lasting influence of her stepfather, Claude Monet, can be felt in the brilliant jewel-toned palette that permeates the canvas. Echoes of Monet's 1889 Creuse Valley series are particularly evident in Hoschedé-Monet's compositional balance and sweeping brushwork, which perfectly capture the atmosphere of this serene French landscape.

Masterfully utilizing both texture and light, the artist creates a wonderful sense of atmospheric perspective through a combination of broken and blended brushwork and a rich impasto. In terms of both subject and execution, it embodies the rural ideal that Monet and his followers sought to capture. #31-1284

Canvas: 173/4"h x 213/4"w | Frame: 25"h x 287/8"w







LOUIS VALTAT

1869-1952 | French

The Flower Vases

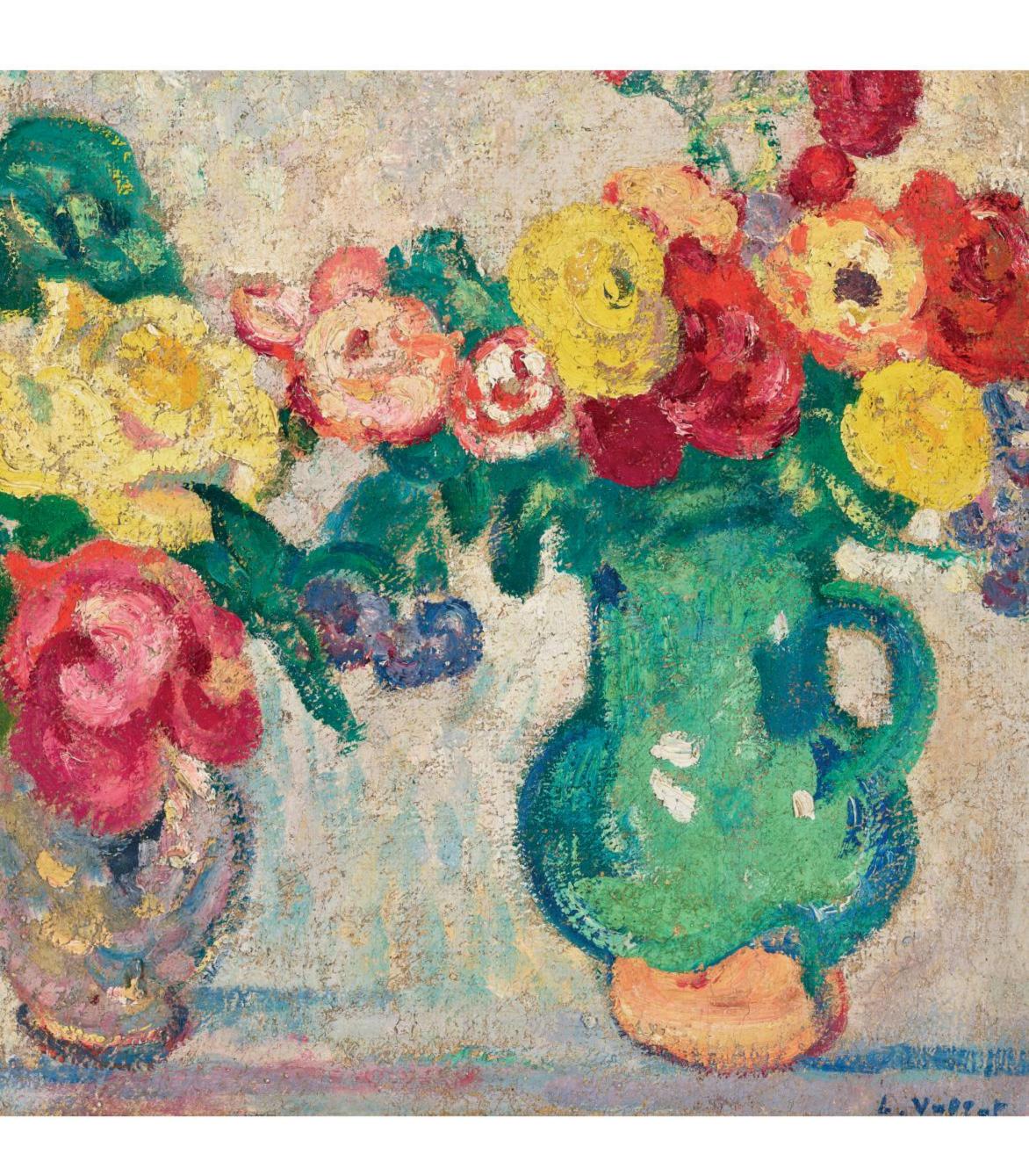
Circa 1910 | Oil on canvas Signed "L Valtat" (lower right)

Vibrantly hued flowers burst forth with color in this Post-Impressionist composition by the French painter Louis Valtat. *The Flower Vases* is a prime example of Valtat's signature style, which was defined by coloristic expression and unyielding originality. Depicting a bouquet of blooming flowers, the oil on canvas is a refreshing take on the traditional still life category.

Valtat's use of a flattened plane and lack of shadow lend the composition a unique brightness that draws attention to his remarkable skill as a colorist. At once bold and compelling, it reflects the avant-garde attitudes that make his works so highly coveted by collectors of modern art. #31-0128

Canvas: 131/8"h x 161/8"w | Frame: 191/2"h x 225/8"w







PIERRE-AMEDEE MARCEL-BERONNEAU

1869-1937 | French

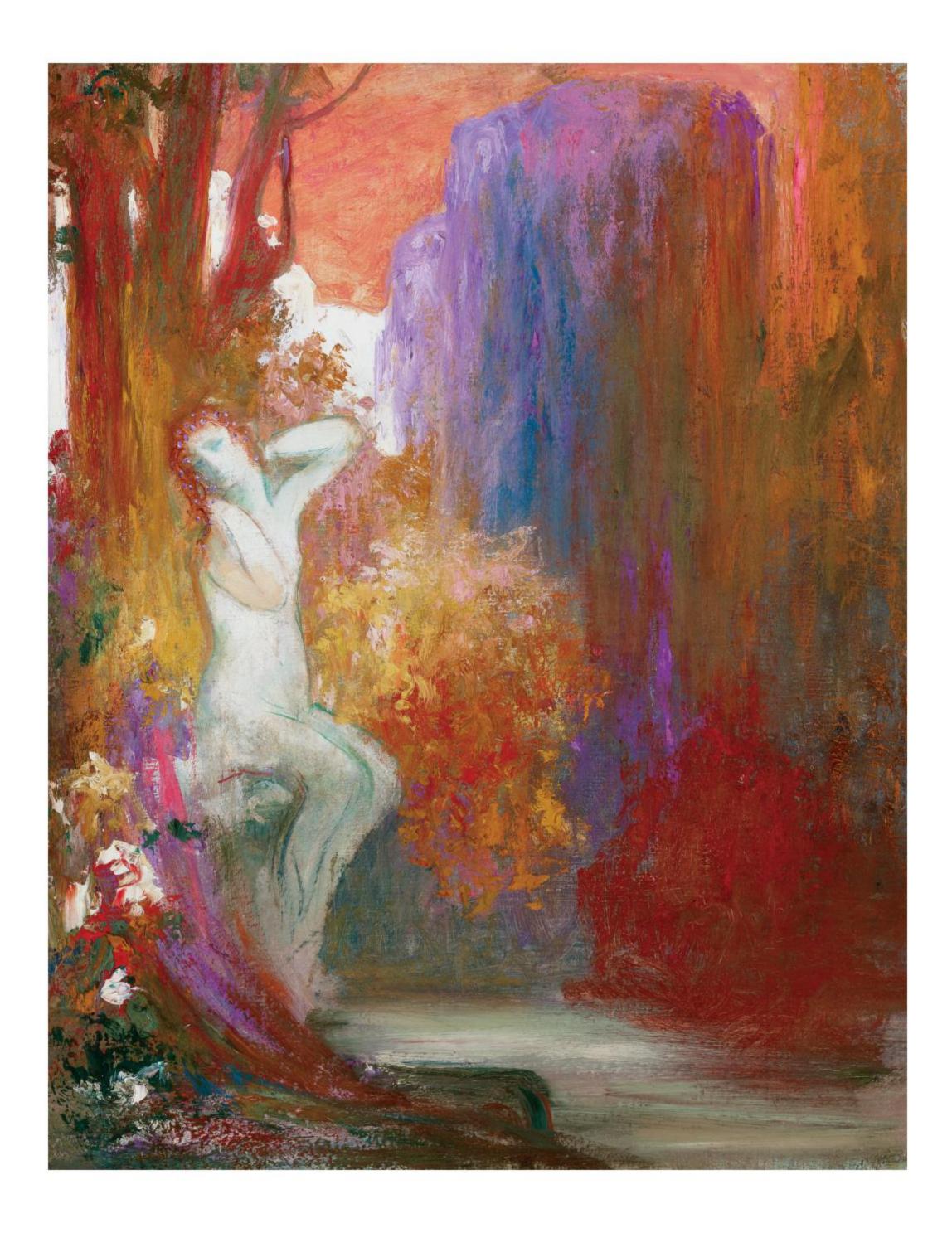
Ondine

Circa 1905 | Oil on canvas Studio stamped (en verso)

A mythological Ondine is the subject of this original oil on canvas by French Symbolist Pierre-Amédée Marcel-Béronneau. A student of the famed Gustave Moreau, Béronneau is celebrated for his ornate scenes and hypnotic figures from history and mythology.

Ondine refers to a female elemental being of ancient origin such as a nymph, mermaid or naiad. In lore, the beings reside near pools, ponds and waterfalls, and are known for their captivating singing voices that are said to have a hypnotic effect on men. Here, in true Symbolist fashion, Béronneau creates a breathtakingly vivid dream world in which this Ondine takes center stage. #30-9256

Canvas: 287/8"h x 235/8"w | Frame: 351/4"h x 301/8"w





LOUIS RÉMY MIGNOT

1831-1870 | American

Sunset on Lake George

Circa 1860 | Oil on canvas

The golden red glow of the setting sun permeates throughout this composition by the great Hudson River School painter Louis Rémy Mignot. Sunset on Lake George showcases the artist's mastery of both light and atmosphere. With his subtle variations of color and shadow, Mignot's composition reveals the alluring and haunting beauty of the unspoiled American landscape.

As a prominent member of the Hudson River School, Mignot sought out sprawling vistas and virgin landscapes such as this. The view of Lake George in northern New York reveals the quiet solemnity and repose that was typical of Mignot's mature style. Like his friend and colleague Thomas Cole, Mignot possessed the innate ability to capture the atmospheric drama of a scene. With its softly blurred edges and intense red palette, Sunset on Lake George reveals the essence of this place, while at the same time maintaining an air of mystery and the Sublime. It is precisely the type of composition that earned him such high praise during his lifetime and that made the Hudson River School painters such artistic revolutionaries. #30-8878

Canvas: 16"h x 241/8"w | Frame: 243/8"h x 341/4"w









FÉLIX ZIEM

1821-1911 | French

Market Place, Venice

Oil on canvas Signed "Ziem" (lower left)

The city of Venice was a favorite subject for French artist Félix Ziem. In this brilliant cityscape, he portrays one of the historic city's many open-air markets, with merchants readying their wares as the sun rises upon a new day. Ziem's paintings reflect the influence of the Barbizon school of painters on the artist, particularly in his use of contrasting light and shadow to bring his compositions to life.

Ziem originally studied to become an architect, and this early passion is clearly reflected in his execution of the architecture of Venice. No other city struck him as did Venice, with its network of waterways and historic buildings. Ziem's infatuation with the city would last throughout his career, and it became the subject of his most desirable and striking paintings. #30-9394

Canvas: 36"h x 261/4"w | Frame: 471/4"h x 37"w



CHARLES CAMOIN

1879-1965 | French

Moulin Rouge

Circa 1904 | Oil on canvas Signed "Ch Camoin" (lower right)

The French painter Charles Camoin captured the legendary Moulin Rouge in this superb oil on canvas. An artist associated with the Fauves, Camoin primarily worked in the south of France, where he produced brightly hued landscapes and still life scenes. This work, by contrast, offers an exceptionally rare urban view of one of the most famous landmarks in Paris, the Moulin Rouge.

Boldly painted with confident black lines and swatches of vivid color, the work reveals the artist's expressionist tendencies, while bringing to life the liveliness of Montmartre. Another rare view of the Moulin Rouge by Camoin can be found in the collection of the Musée du Petit Palais (Geneva). #31-1162

Canvas: 251/4"h x 353/8"w | Frame: 353/4"h x 42"w











ALBERT JANESCH

1889-1973 | Austrian

Self Portrait with the Artist's Wife

Dated 1933 | Oil on canvas Signed "Albert Janesch" (lower right)

This important self portrait by the Viennese painter Albert Janesch is an exceptional example of his distinctive style. Masterfully conceived, the work is a play on the popular *vanitas* genre of painting that hearkens back to Netherlandish art of the 16th century.

As the artist enjoys the simple pleasures of life — a drink in hand while painting with his wife and dog — a skeleton looms in the background as a reminder of man's mortality. The artist seems to urge the viewer with each detail to enjoy life's pleasures while you can. The work is a stunning, highly personal ode to living life to the fullest, as the artist surrounds himself with the items that make his life most satisfying. #31-1115

Canvas: 40"h x 36"w | Frame: 461/4"h x 421/2"w



Laocoön and His Sons

Circa 1870 | Bronze

The Laocoön marble sculpture after which this bronze was modeled unquestionably influenced the lives and works of countless artists, authors, popes, kings and emperors since it was first re-discovered in the early 16th century. Incredibly important to the history of art, this work and its handful of models are prominently displayed in the most prestigious museums around the world, from the Vatican to the J. Paul Getty. The present bronze displays all of the dynamic artistry and expression for which the original is so celebrated.

The story of Laocoön is the iconic tale of the famous Trojan horse. The Greeks, after an unsuccessful ten-year siege of the city of Troy, left a giant wooden horse outside its gates with a small Greek contingency hidden inside. Laocoön, the Trojan high priest, was not swayed by the gift and began to warn the people of Troy to "beware of Greeks bearing gifts." Eager to protect her Greek warriors, Athena sent two sea serpents to kill Laocoön and his twin sons before they could warn Troy of this deception. This dramatic bronze sculpture depicts this epic moment. #30-8796

361/2"h x 251/4"w x 121/2"d





HARRY WINSTON

Diamond Brooch

Diamonds: 33.09 carats | Platinum

Designed by the famed Jacques Timey, this monumental brooch is perhaps the greatest ever made by Harry Winston. The five largest diamonds average 6.62 carats each and all five are the perfect D color as well as internally flawless. 2"h | #31-1104

Brazilian Paraiba Tourmaline Ring

Paraiba Tourmaline: 0.65 carat Diamond accents | 18K white gold

Paraiba tourmalines are among the rarest and most coveted gemstones in the world, and this stone exhibits the highly desirable neon blue color of only the finest examples. #31-0958





Fancy Intense Yellow Diamond Ring

Intense Yellow Diamond: 8.06 Carats White diamonds: 1.00 Carat | 18K white gold

This impressive gem achieves the same color grading as the legendary Tiffany Yellow and the Mouna diamond, the most famous "canary" yellow diamonds in the world. GIA-certified as fancy intense yellow with VS1 clarity. #30-9284



North-South Ring

Diamonds: 7.98 carats Rhodium-plated 18K gold

Known as a North-South ring for its vertical design, this exceptional ring features three rare I-J color rose-cut diamonds. #30-9451





Art Deco-Style Ring

Diamonds: 1.61 carats Black onyx | Platinum

The striking, structural Art Decostyle setting of this ring is set with contrasting stones in a geometric design. #31-0960





Multi-Color Tourmaline Earrings

Tourmalines: 16.53 carats 18K white gold

Delicate pastel hues of green and pink tourmalines are on display in these one-of-a-kind earrings.

11/2" | #30-9698

Untreated Violetish-Blue Ceylon Sapphire Ring

Ceylon sapphire: 2.58 carats Pink sapphires: 2.68 carats | Platinum

The GIA-certified "no heat" Ceylon sapphire in this ring displays a natural and rare violetish-blue hue. #30-9282







TIFFANY & CO.

Tiffany & Co.'s *Chrysanthemum* can be counted among the firm's greatest contributions to the legacy of American silver. First introduced in 1878, the pattern brings together robust Baroque shapes with an Art Nouveau, nature-inspired design. The combination of these two styles quickly made *Chrysanthemum* the most prized of all Tiffany patterns, finding particular popularity among new brides. So coveted was this motif that Tiffany adapted it for use in their holloware pieces, including large serving dishes such as these. All pieces marked "Tiffany & Co."





TIFFANY & CO.

San Lorenzo Silver Flatware Service

Mid-20th century
Marked "Tiffany & Co. Sterling Pat. 1916"

This complete 248-piece sterling silver flatware service features Tiffany's classic San Lorenzo pattern. Inspired by the famed Florentine Church of San Lorenzo, the motif displays a highly architectural design that is evocative of the Renaissance Revival style. From fine piercing to gilt accents, the attention given to the crafting of each piece embodies Tiffany's commitment to extraordinary craftsmanship. The service for 12 is housed in its custom Tiffany & Co. chest. #30-9465

Chest: 231/2"w x 191/4"d x 61/4"h









French Nécessaire de Voyage

Circa 1815

This nécessaire de voyage is almost certainly the work of the highly respected Parisian manufacturer Pierre-Dominique Maire and the silversmith Jacques-Brice Beaufort. Commissioned especially for the noble de Montboissier family, this set is executed in its Empire design that incorporates the de Montboissier crest throughout. The interior is lined with Moroccan leather and contains an impressive array of personal accouterments, all ingeniously fitted in their own compartments in a stunning presentation. Comprised of four levels, the case contains over 50 objects, including brushes, scissors, razors, a flatware set, a mirror and even a candlestick holder. #30-5757

Chest: 17"w x 113/4"d x 61/2"h





JOHN PACE

Year-Going Skeleton Clock

Circa 1850

This complex and very rare year-going skeleton clock is a remarkable example of the ingenuity of mid-19th-century English horology. Lauded for the superb quality and beautiful aesthetic of his clocks, Pace's timepieces have been highly coveted since the 1830s. This clock is a superb example of his mechanical genius, boasting a rare 52-week power reserve contained in an exceptionally beautiful design. This clock once belonged to the famed New Orleans collector Joseph Meraux. #31-0707

111/4"w x 61/2"d x 16"h





French Gold Snuff Box and Watch

Stamped "Sageret à Paris" | Dated 1752

This rare Louis XVI-period 18K gold snuff and watch box was crafted by noted Parisian goldsmith Barnabé Sargeret, and its ingenious design has a dual functionality. While one end of the box holds snuff, the other opens to reveal an integrated watch created by one of the most important Parisian clockmakers of the later 18th century, Charles Dutertre. #30-9266

2"dia. x 13/8"h

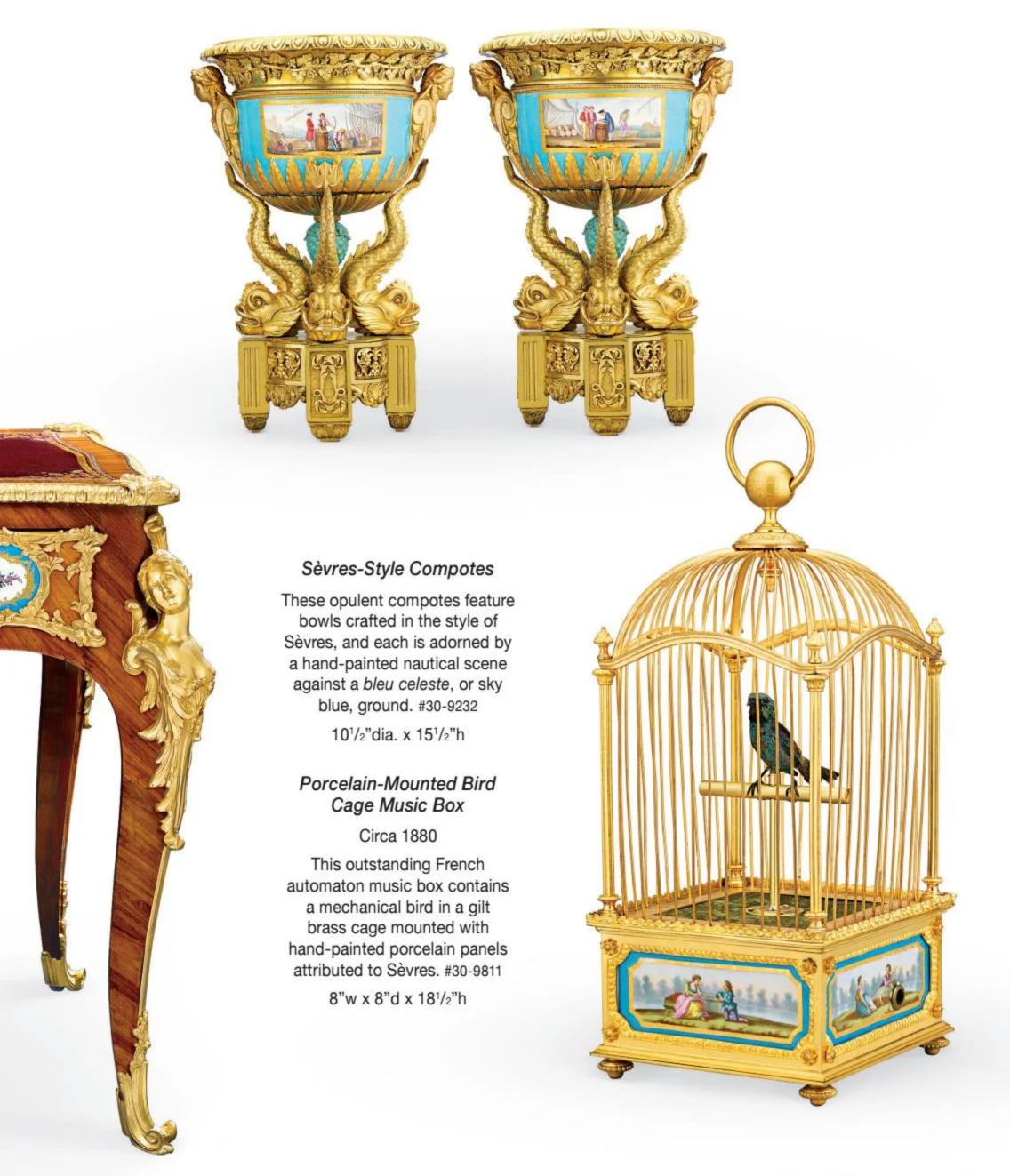


SÈVRES

Long desired by monarchs, emperors and collectors of influence, the porcelain of Sèvres reflects a timeless legacy of beauty and power. The origins of the factory were modest, but it soon became championed by King Louis XV, whose mistress, Madame de Pompadour, became an important and influential patron. By the late 18th century, Sèvres had developed its own distinctive style of decoration. Highly collected by both the crown and the French nobility, the beauty of Sèvres porcelain was and remains a source of national pride. Royal and political patronage continued over successive decades into the 19th century and beyond, including Emperor Napoléon and King Charles X.



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Louis XV-Style Mirror

Circa 1860

This phenomenal Louis XVstyle French mirror features an elegant shape and an undulating, intricately carved giltwood frame. Large mirrors such as this are incredibly rare and difficult to find in such superb condition. #28-9342

42"w x 82"h





Imperial Map Desk of the Habsburg Empire

Circa 1850

This monumental, one-of-a-kind map desk hails from the Imperial Palace of the Habsburg Emperor Franz Joseph I, ruler of both Austria and Hungary from 1848 until 1916. Massive in size, it features 28 flat drawers — seven on each of the four sides — which were used to store not only important maps of the empire, but also architectural drawings of palaces, cathedrals and other civil structures. Biedermeier in style, it is crafted from birch, which was then one of the rarest, most expensive materials used by cabinet makers. It is absolutely, without question, the finest desk of its kind in existence, and it is certainly without peer in terms of engineering, craftsmanship and provenance. #31-0873

125¹/₂"w x 65"d x 35"h





TIFFANY STUDIOS

Louis Comfort Tiffany is internationally recognized as a master of the American decorative arts. Considered to be the driving force behind the Art Nouveau style in America, Tiffany worked with nearly every decorative medium imaginable, even serving as the first Design Director for his father's Tiffany & Co. Yet, it is his personal triumphs in glassmaking that garnered the artist his highest recognition. These Tiffany Studios lighting fixtures display the creativity for which this genius of decorative arts is renowned. Both stamped "Tiffany Studios."

Moresque Turtleback Tile Chandelier

Circa 1910

Crafted in what is known as the Moresque, or Moorish, Turtleback Tile motif, this extraordinarily rare chandelier incorporates three different types of Tiffany Studios glass — leaded, Favrile and turtleback glass. #30-0569

131/8"dia. x 29"h

Nautilus Desk Lamp

Circa 1905

Cast from the model by famed sculptor Louis A. Gudebrod, this desk lamp features a patinated bronze base in the form of a nude siren rising from foamy ocean waves. A nautilus "shell" crafted of opalescent Tiffany glass crowns the highly coveted lighting fixture. #31-0252

5"w x 10"d x 161/4"h



LALIQUE

Founded in 1888 by celebrated glassmaker and jeweler René Lalique, the French firm Lalique was counted among the world's best and most famous Art Nouveau jewelry houses by the turn of the century. René Lalique turned to glass in the first two decades of the 20th century, first producing perfume bottles for renowned French perfumers, and later creating decorative vases, car mascots, paperweights and other vanity items. Today, Lalique Art Nouveau and Art Deco-period pieces remain highly prized by collectors. All pieces marked Lalique.





CAMILLE FAURÉ

One of the most celebrated enamelers of the Art Deco era, Camille Fauré not only championed the art of enamels in Limoges, but also devised new methods for creating these pieces. Richly colored enamels were applied to a copper form covered with silver leaf in layers of varying thickness. These layers range from almost translucent to opaque, letting the silver and copper shine through to dramatic effect. All pieces marked "C. Fauré - Limoges."







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IN PURSUIT OF BEAUTY

OBJECTS OF RARITY & HISTORY

Untreated Tsavorite Garnet Ring

Tsavorite Garnet: 7.88 Carats
Diamonds: 0.57 carat | 18K yellow and white gold
Exhibiting the perfect intense emerald green hue
found only in the finest tsavorites, this gemstone
is AGL-certified as untreated, meaning its coveted

color is entirely natural. #30-9460



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