

Discovering GREATNESS

20 EXCEPTIONAL ACQUISITIONS

NO 125435

PATEK. PHILIPPE & C^{IE}. GENEVE

M.S.  Rau
FINE ART • ANTIQUES • JEWELS



Rare and distinct acquisitions of extraordinary quality from the M.S. Rau collection.

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Captivating Color

Orangy-Yellow Sapphire Ring

15.83 carats | Platinum and 18K yellow gold

A rare 15.83-carat orangy-yellow sapphire shines in this beautiful ring. The brilliantly cut gem is GIA certified, and its highly saturated golden hue is complemented by two white diamonds totaling 1.10 carats in its platinum and 18K yellow gold setting. Sapphires of this color are quite rare, especially one weighing over 15 carats. #31-1472



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20 EXCEPTIONAL ACQUISITIONS

At M.S. Rau, we are always in search of the remarkably rare and uniquely beautiful. Discovering these one-of-a-kind pieces and bringing them to you is our never-ending passion. For this catalog, entitled *Discovering Greatness*, we have carefully curated a selection of 20 of our most exceptional recent acquisitions. Each item possesses an unmatched beauty and rarity, backed by more than 100 years of experience finding and offering the very best fine art, antiques and jewels.

We hope you and your family are well, especially in this challenging time, and that you enjoy the objects on the pages that follow. Our gallery is open, and your personal Sales Consultant is available to assist you in discovering your own exceptional acquisition.



Mesmerizing Opals

Graduated Ethiopian Opal Bead Necklace

584.00 carats

Thirty-three monumental Ethiopian opal beads totaling approximately 584.00 carats comprise this exceptional necklace. The graduated gems exhibit a high level of translucence and extraordinary play of color. Opals are not cut into beads often, as they are usually found in thin layers; deposits that are large enough to be shaped into a bead are extremely rare. Thirty-three matching beads of this size and exceptional quality are almost never found.

The gems are set with emerald beads totaling 41.40 carats and black onyx roundels. #31-1319

27" length





Touchon & Co. for Tiffany & Co.

Swiss

Rattrapante Chronograph Minute Repeater Pocket Watch

Circa 1910 | Platinum

Marked on movement, dial and case "Tiffany & Co."

Marked on case and movement "Touchon & Co."

A study in classic design, this highly complicated pocket watch was crafted by the celebrated Touchon & Co. for Tiffany & Co. It features multiple complications, including a rare rattrapante or split-second chronograph, allowing its wearer to record multiple time intervals, and a minute repeater, adding to the watch's complexity. Encased in platinum, the open face timepiece tells the time on a brushed silver dial with both Roman and Arabic numerals and blued steel hands.

Established in 1907, Touchon & Co. was only in business for 14 years. However, during that time the company earned a reputation for creating timepieces of extraordinarily high quality, rivaling the likes of even Patek Philippe. #31-1546

2" dia.





Patek Philippe

Swiss

Chronograph Pocket Watch

18K yellow gold

Signed on clock face, movement and case "Patek Philippe & Cie Genève"

Crafted by Patek Philippe, a firm known for their incomparable precision timepieces, this chronograph pocket watch is a marvel of horological design. Housed in its 18K yellow gold open face case, the watch has both a visual and functional appeal, complete with a 30-minute register and subsidiary seconds. The enamel dial has an outer 1/5 seconds track that can be used with the chronograph function, which is activated through a button in the winding crown and locked with a bolt at the 11 o'clock mark. Inside, the fully jeweled movement ensures that the timepiece remains in exceptional working order. #31-1266

2¹/₄" dia.



No 125435

PATEK, PHILIPPE & CIE. GENEVE.



Annibale Gatti

1828-1909 | Italian

The Master Light of All Our Seeing

Circa 1887 | Oil on canvas

Signed "A. Gatti" (lower right)

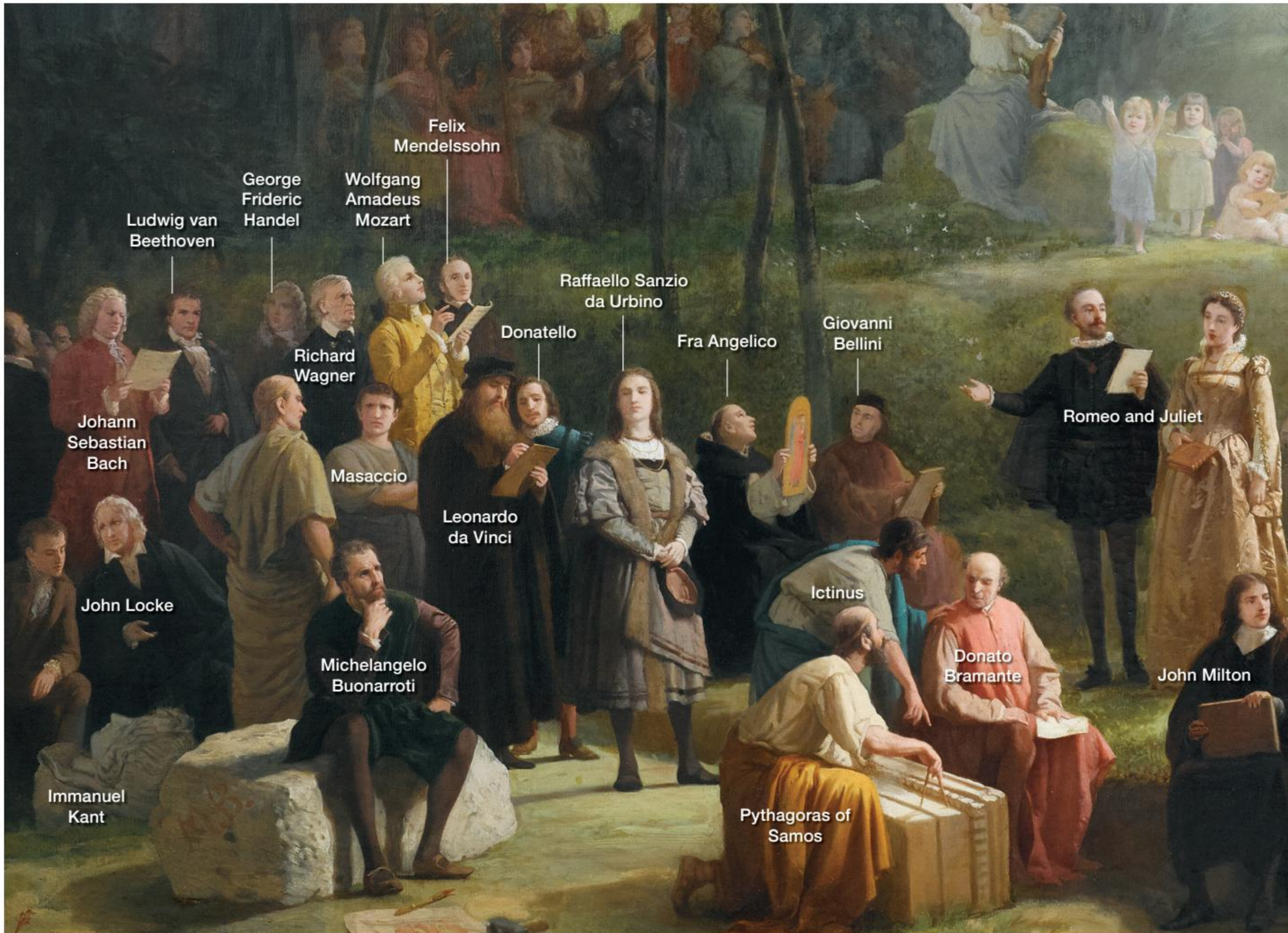
This monumental painting composed by Italian fresco painter Annibale Gatti captures some of the greatest creative and scientific minds in world history. In all, over 40 legendary figures are depicted, from Beethoven to Bach, da Vinci to Michelangelo, Shakespeare to Homer and Whitman to Thoreau. Gatti's masterpiece is a wondrous celebration of the achievements of humankind.

This work was painted in homage to Sidney Lanier, one of the most influential American poets of the 19th century and is presented in its extraordinary hand-carved custom giltwood frame. #31-0259

Canvas: 45"h x 64³/₄"w | Frame: 59¹/₂"h x 79¹/₂"w

Key figures outlined on pages 10-11





Felix Mendelssohn

George Frideric Handel

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Ludwig van Beethoven

Raffaello Sanzio da Urbino

Donatello

Fra Angelico

Giovanni Bellini

Romeo and Juliet

Richard Wagner

Johann Sebastian Bach

Masaccio

Leonardo da Vinci

Ictinus

Donato Bramante

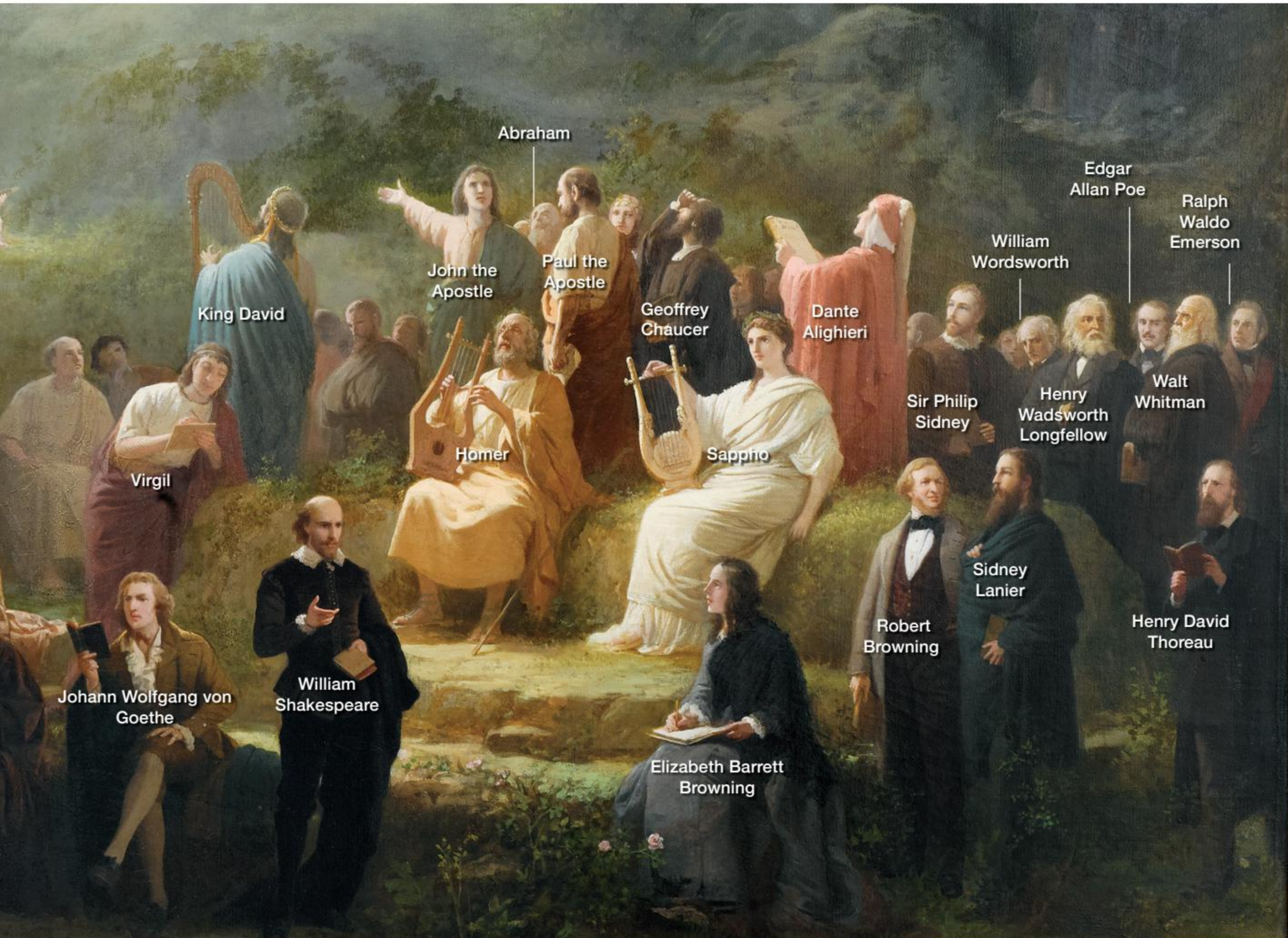
John Milton

John Locke

Michelangelo Buonarroti

Immanuel Kant

Pythagoras of Samos



Abraham

John the Apostle

Paul the Apostle

Geoffrey Chaucer

Dante Alighieri

Edgar Allan Poe

Ralph Waldo Emerson

William Wordsworth

King David

Homer

Sappho

Sir Philip Sidney

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Walt Whitman

Virgil

Sidney Lanier

Robert Browning

Henry David Thoreau

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

William Shakespeare

Elizabeth Barrett Browning



Montague Dawson

1895-1973 | British

The Boundless Ocean - The South Australian

Circa 1933 | Oil on canvas

Signed "Montague Dawson" (lower left)

Montague Dawson demonstrates his skill for capturing the dynamism of the seas in this oil on canvas. The work brings to life the historic clipper ship *South Australian* as it battles the waves on the open sea. Dawson possessed an incomparable talent for rendering ships at sea with energy and vitality, and he perfectly captures the speed and grace of this historic ship in the present work. Depicted against the might of the ocean, the sailing vessel appears to rise up on the waves as it glides effortlessly through the water.

The grandson of marine painter Henry Dawson, Montague Dawson was a naturally gifted artist. By the early 1900s, he was considered the greatest living marine painter, and his patrons included the British Royal Family, Dwight D. Eisenhower and Lyndon B. Johnson. #31-1513

Canvas: 20"h x 24"w | Frame: 26¹/₄"h x 30¹/₄"w





John Henry Amsheiwitz

1882-1942 | British

Death's Arrest

Circa 1912 | Oil on canvas

An allegorical scene by John Henry Amsheiwitz comes to life in this monumental oil on canvas. Exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1912, *Death's Arrest* is exemplary of the artist's work, which is marked by deeply saturated hues, neoclassical imagery and an enigmatic narrative. The result is a work that is equally thought provoking and aesthetically arresting.

In the scene, a young troubadour is shadowed by a cloaked figure representing death, while a court jester, cupid and beautiful maiden float at the bottom of the canvas in a dreamlike haze. The artist seems to urge the viewer with each detail to enjoy life's simple pleasures while one can. Large in size and theatrical in subject, it is one of Amsheiwitz's finest creations. #31-1114

Canvas: 75¹/₄"h x 55¹/₄"w | Frame: 87"h x 66⁷/₈"w





Frank Sinatra

1915-1998 | American

Pastel Squares

Dated 1987 | Oil on canvas

Signed "F. Sinatra 87" (lower right)

Many are familiar with Frank Sinatra's best-selling records and Hollywood films, but fewer know that he was also a life-long lover of art and a talented painter. This original oil is a colorful example of the legendary crooner's abstract works. Not only does it reveal his love of modern art, but it is also an exceptional example of American minimalist painting, a movement that celebrated color and form over subject.

Today, Sinatra memorabilia, particularly such personal objects as his paintings, are highly prized both by those who love his music and appreciate fine art. #31-1535

Canvas: 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ "h x 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ "w | Frame: 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ "h x 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ "w





Masterful Pietre Dure

Italian

Pietre Dure Plaque

Circa 1900 | Hardstones

An extraordinary “painting in stone,” this rare Florentine pietre dure is an exceptional example of the art form. The charming classroom tableau is composed from different kinds of polished marble and stone in place of paint. The multi-colored pieces were carefully chosen for color and pattern, cut with the utmost precision and carefully inlaid onto a stone base to form the composition. Displaying remarkable realism and intricacy, this scene masterfully incorporates dramatic contrasting light and shadows along the crisp architectural lines of the classroom, creating the perfect *trompe l’oeil* effect. #31-1321

Plaque: 15¹/₄”h x 21¹/₂”w | Frame: 20”h x 26¹/₂”w





Alfred Boucher

1850-1934 | French

L'Hirondelle Blessée (The Wounded Swallow)

Dated 1890 | White marble

Signed "A. Boucher" (on base)

The winged figure of Psyche is the subject of this marble by the great French sculptor Alfred Boucher, who exhibited the work at the Paris Salon of 1898 to great acclaim. Perfectly proportioned, it displays all of the grace and allure of Boucher's very best marble creations. The work evokes the classic Greco-Roman standards of beauty that experienced a revival during the 18th and 19th centuries in Western art when artists sought to perfect the human form. Celebrated for his portrait busts and allegorical figures such as this one, Boucher is particularly renowned for the naturalism and romanticism of his sculptures. #31-1482

16 $\frac{1}{2}$ "w x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ "d x 32"h





Rare Double-Sided Portico Clock

French

Michel-Francois Nicolas Piolaine

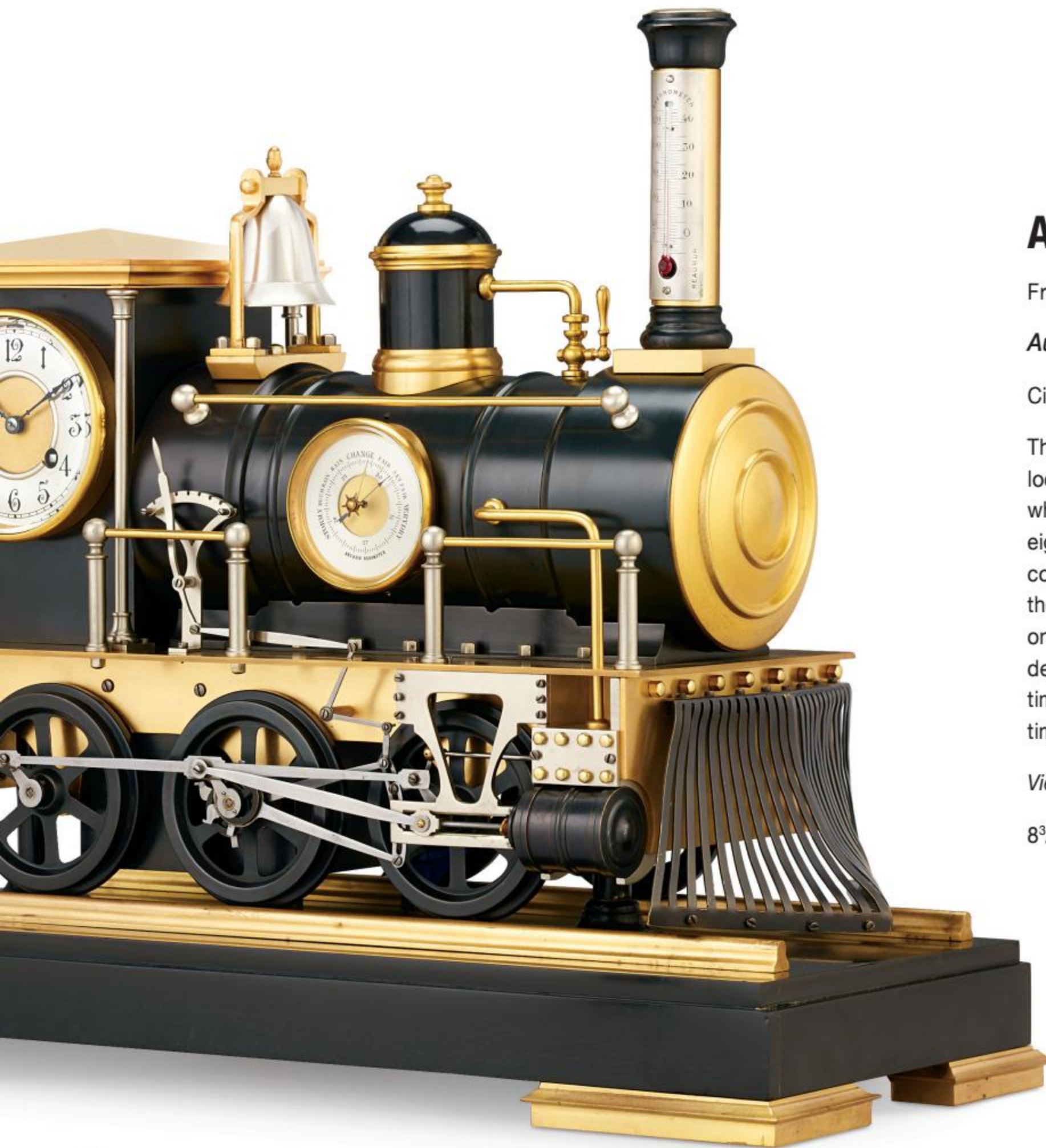
Dated 1828 | Ormolu bronze

Movement marked "Piolaine a Paris, Novembre 1828,
Rue St. Denis No. 398"

This quarter-striking, double-sided neoclassical clock is among the most complex portico clocks ever created. Crafted by Michel-Francois Nicolas Piolaine of Paris, the timepiece is massive in size and masterfully constructed with two nearly identical clocks on each side. It operates through a complicated two-week movement that strikes the quarters and hours on two bells, and it includes sweep second hands, a calendar function and center pendulum. In almost all other known double-sided clocks, the movement and pendulum are hidden, adding to this work's complexity. To create just one clock of this caliber would have been an impressive feat, but this double-sided example represents a truly rare accomplishment. #31-1220

15"w x 8¹/₈"d x 31"h





Age of Industry

French

Automaton Industrial Locomotive Clock

Circa 1895 | Silvered and gilt bronze

This rare industrial clock takes the form of a locomotive. The automaton timepiece's wheels spin when wound, causing the train to come alive. The eight-day movement strikes on a gong, and the complex design incorporates both a barometer and thermometer. French industrial clocks such as this one were made for captains of industry and were designed to showcase the new technologies of their time. They are among the most creative and diverse timepieces of the era. #31-1279

View a video of this clock at msrau.com/31-1279.

8³/₄"w x 20¹/₄"d x 17"h





Evans of Handsworth

English

St. James Palace Skeleton Clock

Circa 1885 | Brass

Depicting St. James Palace in London, this two-train fusée architectural skeleton clock is a remarkable specimen of English clockmaking. Crafted by the firm of Evans of Handsworth, Birmingham, the rare architectural model became popular around the golden anniversary of Queen Victoria's reign. The complex timepiece features a rare brass triple-layer frame, a characteristic found only in the most important Evans timepieces. Set upon its original rosewood marquetry base beneath its custom glass dome, this clock is not only visually stunning but also a mechanical triumph. #31-1448

View a video of this clock at msrau.com/31-1448.

11½" w x 8" d x 22½" h





Camille Fauré

French

Forest Vase

Circa 1925 | Enamel on copper

Signed "C. Fauré - Limoges - France" (near base)

A group of graceful deer adorn this charming vase by Camille Fauré, one of the most celebrated decorative artists of the Art Deco era. The deer frolic through a forest in autumn, highlighting Fauré's deep appreciation for nature, which is reflected in the firm's best pieces. This vase employs a technique involving hand-applied enamel on a copper form that gives the finished product a luminous painterly quality unique to Fauré. #31-1228

8"dia. x 11¹/₄"h





Wedgwood

English

Pandora's Box Encaustic Krater

18th century | Black basalt
Signed "Wedgwood" (on base)

This krater vase is decorated in Wedgwood's famed encaustic style with rich terracotta red and white enamel against a black basalt base. In the late 18th century, Wedgwood developed this innovative technique combined with a neoclassical style to honor ancient Greek red-figure pottery, which was experiencing newfound popularity throughout Europe. The Hellenistic theme continues with a detailed scene illustrating the myth of Pandora's Box on one side and a flowering anthemion on the reverse. The krater is topped by a pierced lid, allowing it to be used as both a vase for displaying floral bouquets and a vessel for containing fragrant potpourri. This vase represents the very best of 18th-century European tastes. #31-0221

10"dia. x 16¹/₄"h





Hermann Ratzersdorfer

Austrian

Viennese Rock Crystal Ornamental Charger

Circa 1875 | Rock crystal, gilded silver and enamel
Maker's mark (on reverse)

A showcase of the artistry and craftsmanship for which Vienna was famed, this charger by Austrian master craftsman Hermann Ratzersdorfer is comprised of 25 meticulously hand-carved rock crystal panels. The rock crystal is mounted within gilded silver with cobalt blue, red, green and white enamel detailing. Set against a rich gold background, the crosspieces feature molded grotesques, putti, arabesques and stylized foliate tendrils and blossoms.

Natural rock crystal, or pure quartz, was highly prized during the 18th and 19th centuries when it was considered one of the most precious and expensive materials in the decorative arts. #31-1446

13"dia. x 1½"h





Imperial Artistry

Japanese

Meiji-Period Shibayama Lacquer Tray

Circa 1870 | Lacquer, mother of pearl and coral

This Shibayama lacquer tray represents the mastery of Japanese craftsmen in the art of lacquer work. Gold lacquer borders the intricately laid design, which features an avian motif executed in mother of pearl, coral and other natural materials against a woven background. Shibayama refers to the labor-intensive decorative art of carving and inlaying precious materials into lacquer. The materials are precisely set in a lacquer base in high relief, creating an exceptional three-dimensional effect. #31-1214

27 $\frac{1}{2}$ "w x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "d x 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ "h





Joseph Moore

American

Moore Insurance Patent Desk

Patented 1882 | Walnut

The ultimate compact office, this monumental cabinet desk, known as the "Moore Insurance Desk," was patented by Joseph Moore and the Moore Combination Desk Company in 1882. From the exterior, it appears to be only a standing desk with a tooled leather writing surface. Once opened, the desk reveals a complete and fully organized personal office with dozens of compartments and drawers.

Moore's cabinet desks were status symbols of the period representing wealth, importance and prosperity. #30-8545

View a video of this desk at msrau.com/30-8545.

Closed: 50"w x 43"d x 51½"h | Open: 102"w x 31"d





François Linke

French

Louis XV-Style Writing Desk

Late 19th century

Stamped "Ct. Linke/Serrurerie/Paris" (lock plate) and signed "F. Linke" (bronze mount)

Superior craftsmanship and elegant bronzework characterize this tambour front rolltop writing desk by François Linke, the most important French ébéniste of his time. Linke is celebrated for designing innovative furnishings by infusing the Rococo style with the Art Nouveau trends of Paris, and this Louis XV-style desk exemplifies his highly original style. Beautifully embellished with Linke's trademark doré bronze mounts and rich inlay, this desk is an inspired interpretation of the lavish Rococo style. #31-0872

35"w x 20¹/₄"d x 39¹/₂"h





Ironclad Protection

Italian

Northern Italian Hobnail Safe

Circa 1800 | Iron

This fully functioning Italian hobnail safe was once one of the most secure means by which valuables could be stored. Weighing hundreds of pounds, the structure is covered with thick iron plates, polished iron straps, "hobnail" rivets and decorative iron mounts. The locking mechanism is highly complex, utilizing a total of five keys and one hook that must be manipulated precisely using hidden keyholes to open the safe successfully. Due to its complexity, it would have required upwards of six individuals to be present at one time in order to open the safe and access its contents. #31-1473

View a video of this safe at msrau.com/31-1473.

38"w x 22"d x 55"h





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