

# CHRISTIE'S

RESULT RELEASE PARIS - 29 NOVEMBER 2017 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## BOOKS AND DECORATIVE ARTS

NEW WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR A WORK BY ANTONIO CANOVA



Antonio Canova, Joachim Murat, 1813, setting a new world auction record for the artist at €4,843,250

**Paris** – The Decorative Arts and Book auction week totalled €13,158,563 / £11,711,121 / \$15,555,209 and was led by *The Exceptional Sale* curated by renowned French Designer Hervé Van der Straeten. Furniture, sculpture, porcelain, Asian works of art and ceramic masterpieces from different centuries were well received by international collectors, resulting in a sale total of €7,748,500, surpassing the auction's pre-sale estimate of €4 million.

Top lot of the week was lot 714 in *The Exception Sale*, an highly important sculpture of Joachim Murat by Antonio Canova (1757-1822), setting a new world auction record for Canova, when selling for €4,320,000, quadrupling its pre-sale estimate of €1 million. Part of a pair of sculptures of Joachim Murat and his wife Caroline, sister of the Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte, the two busts were known to have been completed in 1813, but no further records have ever been found. Murat's bust was previously hidden in the private collection of direct descendants of the family and only recently discovered by Christie's specialists.

Further property from the princely Murat collection was offered in *The Collector: Le Goût Français* sale. A total of 26 lots, first time offered at auction, achieved strong prices for gold

boxes, silverware, and objects as well as for another sculpture, this time representing Murat's wife Caroline Bonaparte, sister of Napoleon, which sold for €68,500 as well as a gold box with the emblems of Napoleon I which sold 247,500 against a pre-sale estimate of 30,000-50,000. The entire collection of the Princes Murat realized a total of €4,843,250.

**Simon de Monicault**, Head of Decorative Arts Department commented: "We saw a great appetite from collectors worldwide for unique and rare pieces presented throughout these different sales. Private collections, such as from the Princes Murat attracted strong bidding and resulting in prices which surpassed their pre-sale estimates. We are very pleased to have set a new world auction record for Canova, with the rediscovered unique marble bust of Joachim Murat. Other important lots of the sales included a beautiful Roman marble resting Nymph dating from circa 2nd- 3rd century AD from the private collection of Commander Weiller, selling for €175,000 as well as pair of enameled plaques by the Aeneid Master, selling for €751,500. The success of the *Le Goût Français* auction reflects the enthusiasm for unusual and rare pieces, such as a unique French Revolution chair dating from 1790 – the cover lot - estimated at €3,000-5,000 and selling for €55,000."

The newly appointed Parisian Books and Manuscripts team, led by Adrien Legendre, presented their first auction of *Rare Books and Manuscript*, covering 500 years of literature.

**Adrien Legendre**, Head of Books and Manuscript Department commented after the auction: "We owe this very encouraging result largely to the hard work of the new Parisian team as well as the help of our international colleagues. It has been a pleasure to witness international bidding by phone, online and in the room throughout the sale. From the collection of Baroness Carmen Thyssen-Bornemisza we were very pleased to offer – amongst other lots - the extraordinary copy of Albertus Seba's *Rerum Naturalium Thesauri* that sold for €511,500, establishing the world record price for a copy. Very strong results have been achieved for French literature with important provenance, such as Breton's *Les Vases Communicants* inscribed by Breton to Sigmund Freud in 1932, selling for €150,000, as well as a 12-pages autograph letter signed by Proust, sold to a phone bidder from the US for €40,000. We're also very glad to see the autograph manuscript of the 12 Notations preempted by the Bibliothèque Nationale."

During the two days of auctions 3 lots have been preempted by different French institutions:

**The Collector: Le Goût Français  
29 November 2017, Paris**

- Par le musée de Fontainebleau

Lot 3

SCEAU EN BRONZE

DEBUT XIXÈME SIECLE

Price realised EUR 6,000

Estimate EUR 1,200 - EUR 1,800

Lot 25 A

Nicolas-François Dun (1764-1832)

Portrait du prince Achille Murat (1801-1847); et Portrait du prince Lucien Murat (1803-1878)

Price realised EUR 20,000

Estimate EUR 8,000 - EUR 12,000  
**Livres Rares et Manuscrits**  
**28 November 2017, Paris**

- Par la Bibliothèque Nationale Française  
Lot 519  
BOULEZ, Pierre. 12 Notations. Manuscrit musical autographe signé.[1945].  
Price realised EUR 68,750  
Estimate EUR 25,000 - EUR 35,000

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Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in first half of 2017 that totalled £2.35 billion / \$3 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Christie's offers around 350 auctions annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$100 million. Christie's also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War & Contemporary, Impressionist & Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery.

Alongside regular sales online, Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

*\*Please note when quoting estimates above that other fees will apply in addition to the hammer price - see Section D of the Conditions of Sale at the back of the sale catalogue.*

*\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.*

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Images available on request

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# CHRISTIE'S

*The Collector : Le Goût Français*

Paris, 29 November 2017, Sale #15056

[All sold prices include buyer's premium]

Lot	Description	Estimation (€)	Price realized
15	TABATIERE EN OR AU CHIFFRE DE NAPOLEON IER PAR LEGER-FORTUNE ALEXANDRE RICART, PARIS, 1809-1815	30,000 - 50,000	€247,500 £220,275 \$294,525
31	SERVICE DE TABLE EN ARGENT ET VERMEIL PAR GRANVIGNE ET ODIOT, PARIS, DEBUT XXÈME SIECLE	15,000 - 20,000	€75,000 £66,750 \$89,250
18	BUSTE EN MARBRE REPRESENTANT CAROLINE BONAPARTE MURAT (1782-1839), REINE DE NAPLES	50,000 - 80,000	€68,750 £61,188 \$81,813
355	PAIRE DE JARDINIÈRES MONUMENTALES SIGNATURE DE L'EMAILLERIE DU BOURGET - PARIS ET CIE, VERS 1880	50,000 - 80,000	€62,500 £55,625 \$74,375
316	PENDULE MONUMENTALE "PHAETON SUR SON CHAR" D'EPOQUE EMPIRE	50,000 - 80,000	€62,500 £55,625 \$74,375
171	BUREAU PLAT D'EPOQUE LOUIS XV ATTRIBUE A JEAN-PIERRE LATZ, VERS 1750	50,000 - 80,000	€60,000 £53,400 \$71,400
267	PENDULE BORNE D'EPOQUE CHARLES X	30,000 - 50,000	€60,000 £53,400 \$71,400
335	TABLE DE MILIEU MONUMENTALE D'EPOQUE NAPOLEON III SECONDE MOITIE DU XIXE SIECLE	25,000 - 40,000	€50,000 £44,500 \$59,500
234	JARDINIÈRE EN FAÏENCE DE DELFT DU DEBUT DU XVIIIeSIECLE	8,000 - 12,000	€50,000 £44,500 \$59,500
22	ENSEMBLE DE PLATS EN ARGENT PAR A.AUCOC, PARIS, FIN XIXÈME SIECLE	8,000 - 12,000	€47,500 £42,275 \$56,525

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Les estimations ne comprennent pas les frais acheteurs. Le montant total des ventes inclut la somme du prix marteau plus les frais acheteurs et n'inclut pas les frais généraux, les frais de financement ou les frais liés aux éventuelles demandes de crédits faites par les acheteurs ou les vendeurs.

Estimates do not include the buyer's premium. The total result of the sale include the hammer price plus the buyer's premium but do not include general fees, financing fees nor the fees due to potential credit demands made by buyers or vendors.

# CHRISTIE'S

## The Exceptional Sale

Paris, 28 November 2017, Sale #15055

[All sold prices include buyer's premium]

Lot	Description	Estimation (€)	Price realized
714	ANTONIO CANOVA (1757-1822), 1813 JOACHIM MURAT (1767-1815)	Estimate On Request	€4,320,000 £3,888,000 \$5,184,000
708	MAÎTRE DE L'ÉNÉIDE, LIMOGES, VERS 1530-1535 PAIRE DE PLAQUES	300,000 - 500,000	€751,500 £676,350 \$901,800
717	ENSEMBLE DE PLATS ET ASSIETTES EN OR XXE SIECLE	450,000 - 650,000	€427,500 £384,750 \$513,000
725	AGATHON LÉONARD 1841-1923 LE VAMPIRE OU LA CHAUVE-SOURIS, VERS 1903	100,000 - 150,000	€367,500 £330,750 \$441,000
716	SECRETAIRE EN CABINET D'EPOQUE NEOCLASSIQUE SIGNATURE DE GEORG HAUPT, SUEDE, DATE 1779	250,000 - EUR 400,000	€343,500 £309,150 \$412,200
711	PAIRE DE MEUBLES DU DEBUT DE L'EPOQUE LOUIS XVI ESTAMPILLE DE JEAN-LOUIS-FAIZELOT DELORME, VERS 1770-1780	300,000 - 500,000	€331,500 £298,350 \$397,800
704	IMPORTANTE PAIRE DE VASES COUVERTS 'SOLDATS' CHINE, DYNASTIE QING, EPOQUE QIANLONG (1736-1795)	120,000 - 180,000	€235,500 £211,950 \$282,600
703	LUSTRE D'EPOQUE LOUIS XVI VIENNE, VERS 1770, ATTRIBUE A ANTON MATHIAS DOMANOCK	80,000 - 120,000	€187,500 £168,750 \$225,000
702	NYMPHE COUCHEE EN MARBRE ART ROMAIN, CIRCA II-IIIIE SIECLE APRES J.-C.	80,000 - 100,000	€175,000 £157,500 \$210,000
724	PAIRE DE CANDELABRES D'EPOQUE EMPIRE DEBUT DU XIXE SIECLE	150,000 - 250,000	€162,500 £146,250 \$195,000

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# CHRISTIE'S

*Rare Books and Manuscripts*  
Paris, 28 November 2017, Sale #15051  
[All sold prices include buyer's premium]

Lot	Description	Estimation (€)	Price realized
547	SEBA, Albertus. <i>Locupletissimi rerum naturalium thesauri</i> , Amsterdam	350,000 - 550,000	€511,500 £460,350 \$613,800
548	GOYA Y LUCIENTES, Francisco de. <i>La Tauromaquia</i> , Madrid, 1816	150,000 - 250,000	€175,000 £157,500 \$210,000
523	BRETON, André. <i>Les Vases Communicants</i> , Paris, les Cahiers Libres, 1932	40,000 - 60,000	€150,000 £135,000 \$180,000
543	<i>LIVRE D'HEURES</i> , à l'usage de Paris, en latin et en français, manuscrit enluminé sur vélin [Paris, c. 1460]	30,000 - 50,000	€118,750 £106,875 \$142,500
416	HOBBS, Thomas. <i>Elementorum Philosophiae sectio tertia. De Cive</i> . Paris: 1642	30,000 - 50,000	€68,750 £61,875 \$82,500
519	BOULEZ, Pierre. <i>12 Notations</i> . Manuscrit musical autographe signé, 1945	25,000 - 35,000	€68,750 £61,875 \$82,500
402	<i>LIVRE D'HEURES</i> , à l'usage de Rome, en latin, manuscrit enluminé sur vélin, Bruges, c.1510	40,000 - 60,000	€52,500 £47,250 \$63,000
453	HOFFMANN, E.T.A. <i>Contes fantastiques. - Contes nocturnes. - Contes et fantaisies. - La Vie d'E.T.A. Hoffmann</i> , Paris, Renduel, 1830-1833	15,000 - 20,000	€43,750 £39,375 \$52,500
496	PROUST, Marcel. <i>Lettre autographe</i> signée à un critique, sans date (datable entre 1919 et 1922)	20,000 - 30,000	€40,000 £36,000 \$48,000
405	<i>Heures imprimées.</i> Heures à l'usage de Rom[m]e au long sans requérir, Paris, imprimées pour Nicolas Vivien, sans date, vers 1514	8,000 - 12,000	€38,750 £34,875 \$46,500

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