ANTIQUES And The Arts Weekly

September 26, 2014

Originally Published in *Antiques and The Arts Weekly*, The Bee Publishing Company, Newtown, CT.
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Nye & Co. High-End Estate Sale On iGavel Through September 23

Sterling silver tea/coffee set is just one of many sterling offerings.

Two of the many Chinese porcelain large vases and fish bowls.

A pair of Chinese famille rose porcelain baluster-form vases.

BLOOMFIELD, N.J.— Nye & Company is inaugurating its fall auction season with a high-quality online sale, which is in line with the company's plans for future auctions. "In an effort to make the sales more interesting for bidders," said John Nye, president of the eponymous auction house, "we're increasing average lot values and making sales smaller with better quality offerings." Approximately 600 lots are posted to www.igavelauctions.com through September 23.

The sale includes a wide array of fine and decorative arts from the greater Metropolitan area, but certain rarities stand out from the overall strong group. With the sale of a large private estate from Bernardsville Mountain, N.J., lots of French-inspired furniture is on the market. The pieces are veneered in malachite and/or lapis and are ornamented by gilt bronze mounts. There are pedestals, desks, bookcases and more. A Napoleon III brass-inlaid bookcase is a wonderful survivor from the late Nineteenth Century and of impressive size. Another notable case piece is the Italian micromosaic veneered chest on stand.

Numerous pieces of Chinese hollowware and porcelain plaques from the Eighteenth through the Twentieth Centuries include vases, lamps and fish bowls. Other examples from this greater Philadelphia collector have been offered in the galleries to strong results.

Various consignors sent in period English furniture for the September auction. A family selling its bucolic Bedford, N.Y., Georgian home is selling a satinwood linen press, a partners desk and more. New York furniture includes Chippendale side chairs, a marble top pier table and a Federal tall clock by Mitchell & Mott. There are faithful copies of some iconic pieces, such as a Newport blockfront knee-hole desk and blockfront secretary. A Chippendale-style Boston bombe chest is priced to sell. Several lots of Arts and Crafts-style pieces, a Black Forest figure of a bear humidor and similarly carved dining table round out the furniture offering.

A family with a long New Jersey history that lives on the shore is selling lots and lots of sterling silver, pairs of vases and numerous volumes of antique books. Another collector consigned a Japanese mixed-metals sterling silver cigarette case and match box.

There is too much fine art to mention individually, but suffice to say there is something for everyone. From classic portraiture to contemporary works, bidders have a multitude of choices.

Nye & Company, at 20 Beach Street, offers free auction appraisals every Monday, 10 am to 2 pm. For further information, 973-984-6900 or www.nyeandcompany.com.

Korean Galleries Reinstalled To Mark 25th Anniversary At Newark Museum

NEWARK, M.J. — The Newark Museum is celebrating the silver anniversary of its Korean Galleries with a reinstallation of the gallery space. "Korea, Land of the Diamond Mountains," which opens October 1 in ongoing exhibition, will feature 60 works that represent the museum's holdings of nearly 500 Korean objects, with additional objects on loan from private collections.

The museum has been collecting Korean art since its founding in 1909, displaying special exhibitions featuring Korean art throughout its history. In 1989, the museum established a dedicated gallery space to feature Korean art — one of the earliest institutions in the West to do so.

The reinstalled galleries will showcase works ranging from 57 BCE to the present day. The exhibition will be arranged thematically to explore different elements of ritual life, from Buddhist to Confucian ritual objects, Shamanic as well as courtly works of art and also including works of contemporary art.

"Korea, Land of the Diamond Mountain" will feature gilded wooden sculptures and brightly colored paintings that reveal a distinctly Korean Buddhist art. Ink wash paintings and ceramics and ritual furniture elevate dignified Confucian aesthetics. Polychrome figures of Korean officials riding tigers and horses guide souls in the afterlife, elements of shamanic practice.

Also featured are jadelike celadon ceramics delicately inlaid with black and white slip representing the refined taste and skill of potters of the Goryeo Period (918–1392). Chalices formed from high-fired stoneware during the Gaya and Silla (57 BCE–935 CE) periods that reference Buddhist and earlier burial practices will also be displayed.

Contemporary ritual life in Korea features a thriving art scene. Many present-day Korean artists employ cutting-edge sensibilities and technologies reflecting and inspiring the powerhouse of today's Korean art and industry. For example, mechanized sculptures by Uram Choe possess a lyrical and contemplative quality that is rare in Twenty-First Century art.

Enriching the Korean Collection will be a special, temporary, jewel-box exhibition featuring distinctive donations ranging from imperial gold and jade ceremonial adornment to modern prints and refined embroidery. This exhibition honors generous benefactors to the Korean Collection.

Imperial helmet with phoenix finial, Korea, 1905, Joseon dynasty (1392–1910), wool, fur, jade, amber, gilt bronze, silver. Gift of the estate of Mrs Edward Henry Harriman, 1934.

The museum also will release its first catalog solely devoted to the Newark Museum's Korean Collection. The catalog will showcase and examine highlights of the museum's holdings. Funded by the National Museum of Korea and researched with the support of curators from the National Museum of Korea (Lee Jaejeong, Moon Dongsoo and Kang Kyungnam) as well as Seoul National University Professor Chang Chin-Sung and independent curator Lee Hyelin, the publication celebrates a history of collecting and exhibiting Korean art at the museum.

The Newark Museum is at 49 Washington Street.

For general information, www.newarkmuseum.org or 973-596-6550.

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