

Post sale report for Tuesday 4th December 2012 Antiques and Fine Art Sale

By Nick Burns Auctioneer & Valuer

This was an interesting auction which offered a broad selection of items which included property removed from Old Milton, Kingussie, Inverness-shire.

Good pre-sale interest resulted in numerous condition report and additional image requests which followed through to some extremely good results of which I shall highlight four.

Lot 74 was a **George III period mahogany breakfront bookcase**, consigned in good condition, from client who were downsizing. What was nice about this piece was the neat proportions and the colour. Our pre-sale estimate was £3,000-5,000 it sold for **£8,000** and was underbid by numerous telephone bidders.

Lot 171A was a **fine example of 19th century micromosaic work by one of the finest makers of the period, Joachim Barberi, Professor of Mosaics based in Rome**. The subject of dog alerting two ducks by a pool was well handled and in extremely good condition given that it was still in its original leather covered velvet lined case. What was even more exciting about this lot was the fact the makers calling card was still present in the case under the mosaic panel, more often than not this is lost to history, this was extremely appealing to collectors and may commented on this. We had seven telephone lines on this lot and interest from the live bidding platform with bids fielded from the USA and Europe. Our pre-sale estimate was £2,000-3,000 and we were confident that having sold other examples in the past that we would achieve this, the final price of **£6,100** was a good result and our vendor was present in the room to see it being sold. They were delighted with the result especially since they had not considered it to be of any value, it was brought to their attention that it was of value by specialist Nick Burns on a routine valuation.

Lot 259 was an interesting **portrait of Cedric Jacob of Jacob's Biscuits, it was painted by William Charles Penn (1877-1968)** and was dated 1931, boldly painted it was certainly of the period and showed the sitter in a relaxed pose holding a shotgun probably painted on his estate. With one or two small condition issues we gave it a pre-sale estimate of £300-500, this did not deter interested parties and the final bid went to **£900**.

Lot 351A was a **Chinese gilt bronze gourd-shaped vase, formed in two pieces, bearing Xuande mark for the period of 1426-35, but later in date**. With the current market conditions for Chinese works of art being strong we were able to generate good interest in this lot. Numerous bids were received via the live bidding platform which saw the pre-sale estimate of £200-300 eclipsed by the result of **£4,900**.