

VAN HAM

Press release



Follow-up report on the Classic Week

Decorative Art 1 June 2021 | **Fine Jewels & Watches** 1 June 2021 | **Fine Art** 2 June 2021

Successful Classic Week despite corona restrictions

The three Classic Week sales yielded a total result of some 4 million euros. In Fine Art, the discovery of a painting by Lionello Spada resulted in a remarkable award, while in Fine Jewels & Watches a radiantly beautiful Fancy Intense Yellow diamond ring excited bidders. European Applied Arts was able to sell a monumental marble bust of Napoleon I to the highest bidder, thus returning it to its French home.

Fine Art

With the discovery of **Lionello Spada's** authorship of the painting *Samson and Delilah*, Van Ham unearthed a hidden treasure. The international connoisseurs did not fail to recognise the work's extraordinary quality and waged a thrilling bidding war in an attempt to acquire the painting. Ultimately an Italian collector prevailed, obtaining the work for the handsome amount of 270,900 euros.

In his painting *The Letter Reader*, Dutch Baroque artist **Jacob Ochtervelt** demonstrated his skill. The meticulous depiction of the materiality of the exquisite fabrics effectively brings out their luminous texture. The price for this masterful genre scene climbed rapidly: with a result of 161,250 euros, it yielded more than eight times its estimate.

Emilie Preyer is considered a mistress of still lifes – her works are quite distinct. *Still Life with Fruits* – an apricot, plums and grapes – rose both in the bidders' favour and in terms of its price. With his offer of 51,600 euros, Belgian collector left his competitors behind.

June 2021

VAN HAM Kunstauktionen
Anne Rinckens
Press and Public Relations
Hitzelerstraße 2
50968 Cologne | Germany
Tel. +49 (221) 92 58 62-110
Fax +49 (221) 92 58 62-4
a.rinckens@van-ham.com
www.van-ham.com

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Fine Jewels & Watches

A **Fancy Intense Yellow diamond ring** not only shines on the cover of the jewellery catalogue, the attractive gem also impressed bidders at the sale with its quality and intense colour. A bidder from Northern Germany recognised this, too, and may now call the ring his own for 25,800 euros. **Loose diamonds** are still considered a safe investment as well, and so numerous unmounted gems also changed owners at the sale. Bids were particularly high for a set of **14 loose brilliant cut diamonds** in excellent quality and was acquired by a German online bidder for 55,470 euros.

A 'production error' made the **Rolex Daytona** wristwatch on offer a special collection item: in the so-called 'cream dial' the bright white paint on the dial turns into off-white, cream or even pink. This 'mishap' makes this version of the Daytona one of the most coveted variations of the modern Rolex production. The result of 83,850 euros exceeded the estimate five-fold. The highlight of a comprehensive Southern German pocket watch collection was a **museum-quality pocket watch** by **William Ilbery** which was produced in London around 1800 for the Chinese market. Today, too, especially bidders from the Far East were interested in this rare and elaborately designed pocket watch, so in the end it went to a Chinese retailer for the princely sum of 70,950 euros.

Decorative Art

The colossal **marble bust of Napoleon I as Mars Pacificus** measures about one metre in height. Modelled after the larger-than-life sculpture of Napoleon by Antonio Canova, today it is displayed at Apsley House in London. The marble bust now goes to a private collector in Paris for 41,280 euros.

In 1790 the Danish crown prince and later King Frederick VI ordered a large dinner service set from the Royal Porcelain Factory in Copenhagen which was to bear not only the name but also the motifs of the *Flora Danica*, the extensive herbarium and encyclopaedia of Denmark's flora. Divided into three lots at Van Ham, the 193 parts from the **Flora Danica porcelain set by Royal Copenhagen** were acquired by a Chinese customer for a total of 50,310 euros.

Thus, despite the numerous restrictions and uncertainties on account of corona, Van Ham celebrated a successful start of the season, not least because more than 1,500 online bidders participated live in the sales on four international Internet platforms.

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Highlights of the Classic Week on 1 and 2 June 2021



Lionello Spada (1576–1622)
Samson and Delilah
Oil on canvas | 152 x 193 cm
Result: 270,900 euros



Jakob Ochtervelt (c. 1635–c. 1709)
The Letter Reader
Oil on canvas | 91.5 x 78.5cm
Result: 161,250 euros



Emilie Preyer (1849–1930)
Still Life with Fruits
Oil on canvas | 17.5 x 23 cm
Result: 51,600 euros



Fancy Intense Yellow diamond ring
750/- white, yellow gold | 1 diamond,
c. 3.84 carats | 88 cut diamonds,
c. 1.1 carats total
Result: 25,800 euros



William Ilbery pocket watch
London | Around 1800 | Gold, translucent
polychrome enamel, trimmed with
diamond roses | Ø 58 mm
Result: 70,950 euros



Rolex Daytona
Switzerland | 2002
Cal. 4130, automatic chronograph
Result: 83,850 euros



**Gift snuff box with monogram of
Emperor Franz Joseph I of Austria**
Hanau | Around 1860
Carl Martin Weishaupt & Söhne
Gold, silver | c. 4.5 x 9 x 7 cm
Result: 18,060 euros



'Flora Danica' porcelain set
Royal Copenhagen
Model J.C. Bayer | Porcelain | Adorned in
colours and gold | Altogether 193 parts
Total result: 50,310 euros



Bust of Napoleon I as Mars Pacificus
Modelled after a work by Antonio Canova
Marble | Height c. 93 cm
Result: 41,280 euros

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Van Ham – About us

Van Ham Kunstauktionen, founded in 1959, is a family run business, managed in the second generation by Markus Eisenbeis. Annually, approximately 20 internationally renowned auctions take place in the fields of Modern Art, Post War & Contemporary Art, Fine Art, Decorative Art, Fine Jewels & Watches and Art & Interior. With 34 curated Online Only auctions in 2020, Van Ham is the market leader in Germany. In the same year, Van Ham achieved the highest annual result in its history with around 40 million Euros. Regularly achieved auction records make Van Ham one of Germany's leading auction houses.

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