

LA GAZETTE DROUOT

INTERNATIONAL



NUMBER 48
JUNE 2015

EDITORIAL



Stéphanie Perris-Delmas
EDITORIAL MANAGER

It will go down as an outstanding event in the annals of the art market – a famous house sale in the line of the ever-glorious Beychevelle, Ferrière and Castel Duino dispersions. But this "Chosen Pieces" auction staged at Drouot on 15 June could also be a fine exercise in nose-thumbing... Because Princess Mimie de Beauvau-Craon has decided to entrust Remy le Fur and his Paris auction house with selling forty-five masterpieces from her family collection, housed in the 18th-century Château d'Haraoué, near Nancy. This château was "ruled over" for a while by one Laure, President of Sotheby's France and wife of the seventh Prince de Beauvau-Craon. In June sixteen years ago, for the first time on French territory, Sotheby's sold the collections of the Château de Groussay, owned by Charles de Beistegui. As we know, this feat of arms, which foreshadowed the end of the auctioneers' monopoly, was achieved by Laure de Beauvau-Craon. When the saga of the art market meets the roller coaster of the European aristocracy!

Editorial Director Olivier Lange | **Editor-in-chief** Gilles-François Picard | **Editorial Manager** Stéphanie Perris-Delmas (perris@gazette-drouot.com) | **Distribution Director** Dominique Videment
Graphic Design Sébastien Courau | **Layout-artist** Sophie Josse (zegilil@gazette-drouot.com) | **Sales Department** Karine Saison (saison@gazette-drouot.com) | **Internet Manager** Christopher Pourtalé
Realization Webpublication | **The following have participated in this issue:** Sylvain Alliod, Tom Dyer, Anne Foster, Chantal Humbert, Dimitri Joannidès, Caroline Legrand, Robert Lorenzelli, Xavier Narbaitz, Claire Papon, Sophie Reysat | **Translation and proofreading:** 4T Traduction & Interprétariat, a Telelingua Company 93181 Montreuil. | **La Gazette Drouot** - 10, rue du Faubourg-Montmartre, 75009 Paris, France. Tél : +33 (0)1 47 70 93 00 - gazette@gazette-drouot.com. This issue of *La Gazette Drouot* is a publication of @uctionspress. All rights reserved. It is forbidden to place any of the information, advertisements or comments contained in this issue on a network or to reproduce same in any form, in whole or in part, without the prior consent of @uctionspress. © ADAGP, Paris 2015, for the works of its members.

PRICES INCLUDE BUYER'S PREMIUM

7 AND 8 JUNE HD >

Hercules' sword by Biennais

Different venue, same level of excellence... Father and son Maîtres Rouillac will this year be hosting their unmissable garden party at the Château d'Artigny, 15 km from Tours. Several bids of over a million are expected at this new edition, notably for a 17th-century lacquer cabinet and a mechanical table made by Louis XV's cabinetmaker, Jean-François Oeben (see *Gazette International* 47). There will also be a lively battle for a remarkable sword "of the French court", from the First Empire/French Restoration period (1809-1819) with a gold and lapis lazuli mount, known as a "Hercules" sword because of the superb chased gold mythological decoration on the hilt and guard (€200,000/300,000). This rare work by the Emperor's goldsmith, Martin-Guillaume Biennais (1764-1843), is thought to have been given in around 1814 by the King of Spain to the Duke of San Carlos, José Miguel de Carvajal, a Spanish diplomat who took part in the secret negotiations for the Treaty of Valençay, which restored Ferdinand VII to the throne. Between 1823 and 1828, Don Carlos gave the ceremonial sword to his future son-in-law, Comte Charles de l'Espine, and it has remained in the family until now.

Caroline Legrand

GAZETTE DROUOT

DROUOT