

18 September 2020

Auction News

Hanson's auctioneers in Derbyshire to offer Beijing enamel ewer on 24th of September.

A week ago I was sitting in our local pub garden when someone asked me if I had seen the unusual Chinese 'teapot' that had been featured in the Daily Mail newspaper that day and could be worth £100,000.

I was intrigued and on looking it up, I saw this Beijing enamel ewer, which the owner had originally intended to take to a charity shop but had changed his mind when he saw one had sold online.

I had remembered handling the one that Sotheby's had sold in Hong Kong on 08 April 2010, which had gone on to sell for HK\$9.62m (US\$1.23m).

When I got home I contacted Charles Hanson and went to go and see it on Tuesday.

Besides the Sotheby's example, there is one in the Palace Museum, Beijing (Fig 1.) and another in the National Palace Museum in Taipei. There is also a Kangxi prototype in the National Palace Museum. (Fig 2.)

Hanson's placed a full page advertisement in the Antiques Trade Gazette this week, entitled *The ultimate lockdown find*, as the owner, with time on his hands, had gone through a number of old boxes of his parents. The ewer had belonged to his father Ronald Wadsworth, who served in the Far East during the Second World War, where it is believed he had acquired it.

It will be interesting to see if the market accepts it and what it sells for on the day.



A rare Chinese Beijing enamel wine ewer and cover, Qianlong mark and period, 15.5cm long. £20,000-40,000



A Beijing enamel ewer, Qianlong mark and period. Photograph © Palace Museum, Beijing.



A Beijing enamel ewer, Kangxi mark and period, Photograph © National Palace Museum, Taipei.

Sale Diary

- 21 September - Bonhams New York. Fine Paintings and Works of Art.
- 21 September - Bonhams New York. Elegant Embellishments.
- 22 September - Sotheby's New York. Kangxi Porcelain - A Private Collection.
- 22 September - Sotheby's New York. Junkunc: Chinese Jade Carvings.
- 23 September - Sotheby's New York. Important Chinese Art.
- 24 September - Christie's New York. Sacred and Imperial: The James and Marilyn Alsdorf Collection Part 1 & 2.
- 25 September - Christie's New York. Important Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art
- 28 & 29 September - Chiswick Auction, London. Asian Art.
- 30 September - Nagel - Stuttgart. Fine Asian Art.
- 9 October - Sotheby's Hong Kong. Monochrome II.
- 9 October - Sotheby's Hong Kong. Important Chinese Art