

30 October 2020

Auction Review

Sotheby's Hong Kong
09 September

Monochrome II

124 Lots, 83 Lots Sold (67% by lot).

Low Estimate: HK\$169.08m, Sold HK\$341.65 (US\$44.07m)

Important Chinese Art

62 Lots, 41 Lots Sold (66% sold by lot).

Low Estimate - HK\$144.22m, Sold HK\$92m (US\$11.87m)

Season Totals. Lots: 186, Total Sold 124 (66% by lot).

Low Estimate: HK\$313.3m (US\$40.41m),

Sold HK\$433.65m (US\$55.94m)

2020 Spring Season: Total Low Estimate = HK\$308.44m

Total sold = HK\$469.71m. Total Lots: 181, Total Sold 133 (73%)

Photographs © Sotheby's.

Huanghuali furniture shines at Sotheby's Hong Kong Monochrome II sale.

For the second season in a row, Chinese furniture has excelled at Sotheby's Hong Kong sales. Of the 24 lots offered in this sale, all but one sold for a total of HK\$208.21m against a pre-sale estimate of HK\$62.13m. This was an incredible result and accounted for nearly 2/3 of the sale which realised HK\$341.65m (US\$11.87m).

Most of the lots were designated as coming from an important private collection and a number were purchased from Peter Lai Antiques in 1990, as well as from auction in New York and Hong Kong mainly in 1994 and 2003.

The most significant change in the market for Chinese furniture took place at the Robert Hatfield Ellsworth sales in New York in March 2015. For the first time, prices continuously realised many multiples of their presale estimates as mainland Chinese collectors competed for the top lots. This trend has continued over the last five years, especially at single owner offerings in New York, London and Hong Kong.

The highest price realised in ceramics in this sale was lot 19, the exceptionally rare Yongle period jadeite-green glazed jar and cover. There are only five other examples known in this glaze and the pair to this jar (without a cover) is in the Palace Museum, Beijing. It sold for HK\$17.72m (Estimate HK\$10-15m).



Lot 75. A rare and large pair of huanghuali square-corner display cabinets, *wanligui*, 17th century, 193cm high, sold for HK\$57.21m. (Estimate HK\$4-6m).



Lot 5 A huanghuali recessed-leg long table, *Qiaotouan*, Ming dynasty,, 17th century, 267cm wide, sold for HK\$17.11m. (Estimate HK\$3.5-4.5m).



Lot 47. A pair of huanghuali rectangular corner-leg tables, *Tiaozhuo*, Ming dynasty, early 17th century, 120cm wide, sold for HK\$19.53m. (Estimate HK\$2-3m).

Qing monochromes was another area where some pieces sold at multiples of the estimates, such as lot 37, the rare Yongzheng seal mark and period robin's-egg mallet vase. This shape is particularly rare in a robin's egg glaze and it sold for HK\$5.01m against a HK\$1-1.5m presale estimate.

Another outstanding result of the sale was lot 16, the extremely rare and important Western Han dynasty Jade 'twin bird' stem cup which sold for three times the mid estimate at HK\$21.95m (Estimate HK\$6-8m).

The various owner sale was a more difficult sale and sold HK\$92m against its low estimate of HK\$144.22m. However there was some strong individual results such as lot 3617, the large Qing dynasty, Yongzheng period soapstone 'Heshuo Bao Qinwang Bao' (Treasure of the Prince Bao of the First degree) dragon seal. This seal that had belonged to Hongli, who was later to become Emperor Qianlong and the title of Prince Bao of the First degree was bestowed upon him in the 11th year of the Yongzheng reign (1732). This seal is notable for its large size and the quality of its carving. It depicts five dragons emerging and disappearing amongst scrolling ruyi clouds.

The top selling lot of ceramics was lot 3622 the extremely fine and rare Yongzheng mark and period famille rose 'peach' bowl, offered from the Alan Chuang Collection of Hong Kong. This sold for between the estimate at HK\$26.79m (Estimate HK\$25-35,000).

The second highest selling ceramic lot was lot 3608, the blue and white Ming dynasty, Yongle period moonflask. The quality of the painting and the colour of the underglaze-blue on this flask is first rate and it also sold between the estimate for HK\$16.51m (Estimate HK\$15-20,000).

One strong result in the more mid-range area of the market was for lot 3602, the Qing dynasty, 18th century underglaze-blue and copper red vase painted with a scene of the Seven Sages of the Bamboo Grove. The scene depicts one figure seated playing the qing, whilst another group play chess on a table hewn from a tree stump. The quality of the painting is particularly fine and has a subtle if understated use of copper red.

Sotheby's total for this season was HK\$433.65m ([US\\$55.94m](#)) against a low estimate of HK\$313.3m with 124 of the 186 lots selling (66%). This is very much on a par with the spring season which sold total of HK\$469.71m ([US\\$60.48m](#)).



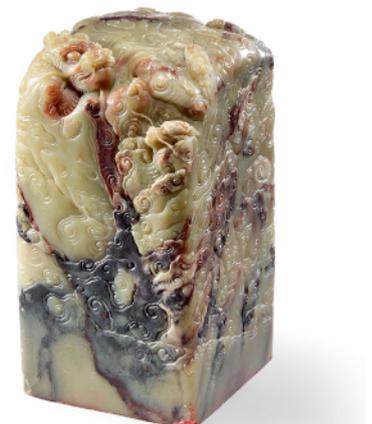
Lot 19. An exceptionally rare jadeite-green glazed jar and cover, Ming dynasty, Yongle period, 12cm diameter, sold for HK\$17.72m. (Estimate HK\$10-15m).



Lot 37. A rare robin's-egg glazed mallet vase, Yongzheng seal mark and period, 16.1cm sold for HK\$5m. (Estimate HK\$11.5m).



Lot 16. An extremely rare and important jade 'twin bird' stem cup, Western Han dynasty, 11.3cm high, sold for HK\$21.95m. (Estimate HK\$6-8m).



Lot 3617. A large soapstone 'Heshuo Bao Qinwang Bao' 'dragon' seal, Qing dynasty, Yongzheng period, sold for HK\$6.46m. (Estimate HK\$4-5m).



Lot 3622. An extremely fine and rare famille rose 'peach' bowl, Yongzheng mark and period, 14.3cm diameter, sold for HK\$26.79m. (Estimate 25-35m).



Lot 3608. An outstanding blue and white moonflask, Ming dynasty, Yongle period, 29.5cm high, sold for HK\$16.51m (Estimate HK\$15-20,000)

Seven Lots of Lacquer from the Kaisendo Museum

The Important Chinese Art sale ended with a group of seven lots of lacquer from the Kaisendo Museum in Yamagata Prefecture, Japan. They were collected by Mr Kenzo Hasegawa (1886-1957), the owner of a famous silk workshop in Kaminoyama and all sold for well above their estimates, totalling HK\$5.7m (US\$735,000), against a presale estimate of HK\$2m.

Highlights were:

Lot 3657. A rare carved cinnabar lacquer five-tiered box and cover, Yuan dynasty, 26cm high, sold for HK\$1.13m (Estimate HK\$600,000-800,000).

Lot 3658. A mother-of-pearl inlaid lacquer foliate tray, Ming dynasty, 15th-16th century, 25.5cm, sold for HK\$403,000 (Estimate H\$80,000-120,00).

Lot 3660. A large carved cinnabar lacquer 'dragon' box and cover, Qing dynasty, Qianlong period, 36.6cm, sold for HK\$945,000 (Estimate HK\$400,000-600,000).

Lot 3662. A rare cinnabar lacquered Yixing 'boys' teapot and cover, Qing dynasty, Qianlong period, 14.3cm, sold for HK\$2.14m (Estimate HK\$240,000-300,000).



Lot 3602. A fine and large underglaze-blue and copper red 'seven sages of the bamboo grove' vase, Qing dynasty, 18th century, 48cm high, sold for HK\$4.77m (Estimate HK\$800,000-1,000,000).

Top Lots at Sotheby's Hong Kong



Lot 75. A rare and large pair of huanghuali square-corner display cabinets, *wanligui*, 17th century, 193cm high, sold for HK\$57.21m. (Estimate HK\$4-6m).



Lot 53. An exceptional and rare huanghuali six-post canopy bed, Ming dynasty, 17th century, 7.6cm diameter, sold for HK\$23.16 (Estimate HK\$20-30m).



Lot 16. An extremely rare and important jade 'twin bird' stem cup, Western Han dynasty, 11.3cm high, sold for HK\$21.95m (Estimate HK\$6-8m).



Lot 3622. An extremely fine and rare famille rose 'peach' bowl, Yongzheng mark and period, 14.3cm diameter, sold for HK\$26.79m. (Estimate 25-35m).



Lot 47. A pair of huanghuali rectangular corner-leg tables, *Tiaozhuo*, Ming dynasty, early 17th century, 120cm wide, sold for HK\$19.53m (Estimate HK\$2-3m).

Christie's Hong Kong
The Pavilion Sale
Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art

Date: 8 October 2020.

Lots offered: 256.

Lots sold: 160.

Percentage sold 62% by lot.

Sold HK\$29.53m (US\$3.8m).

Top 5 lots:

Photographs © Christie's



LOT 333 | PROPERTY FROM AN IMPORTANT ASIAN COLLECTION

A PAIR OF GREEN ENAMELED AND IRON RED-
DECORATED 'PEACH BLOSSOM' JARDINIÈRES

KANGXI PERIOD (1662-1722)

Price realised ⓘ

HKD 2,125,000

Estimate ⓘ

HKD 180,000 - HKD 250,000

Each: 12 in. (30 cm.) diam. (2)



LOT 431

A RARE LARGE HUANGHUALI TRAVELLING SCHOLAR'S
BOOKCASE, TUSHUXINGGUI ⓘ

Price realised ⓘ

HKD 875,000

Estimate ⓘ

HKD 700,000 - HKD 900,000

29 7/8 in. (76 cm.) high, 30½ in. (77.5 cm.) wide, 16 1/8 in. (41 cm.) deep



LOT 334

A RARE AND EXCEPTIONAL SMALL PINK-GROUND
FAMILLE ROSE MOONFLASK

QIANLONG FOUR-CHARACTER SEAL MARK IN IRON-RED AND OF THE PERIOD
(1736-1795)

Price realised ⓘ

HKD 4,000,000

Estimate ⓘ

HKD 2,600,000 - HKD 3,500,000

6 1/8 in. (15.5 cm.) high



LOT 347

A LARGE FAMILLE ROSE LIME-GREEN GROUND DOUBLE-
GOURD VASE

QIANLONG SIX-CHARACTER SEAL MARK IN IRON RED AND OF THE PERIOD
(1736-1795)

Price realised ⓘ

HKD 1,250,000

Estimate ⓘ

HKD 1,000,000 - HKD 1,500,000

15¼ in. (38.8 cm.) high, box



LOT 264 | THE JUUYI STUDIO COLLECTION

A WHITE JADE 'SUN AND WAVES' CARVING
QING DYNASTY, 18TH CENTURY

Price realised ⓘ

HKD 650,000

Estimate ⓘ

HKD 300,000 - HKD 500,000

5 in. (12.5 cm.) wide, box

Sotheby's New York Online
The Hundred Antiques:
Fine & Decorative Asian Art

Date: 30 September 2020.

Lots offered: 176.

Lots sold: 133.

Percentage sold 75% by lot.

Sold \$1.04m.

Top 5 lots:

Photographs © Christie's



PROPERTY OF A LADY

← 1171 **1172** 1173 →

A CELADON JADE FIGURE OF GUANYIN, 19TH / 20TH CENTURY

Estimate: 800 - 1,200 USD

LOT SOLD: 119,700 USD
(66 bids, reserve met)

Height 5¾ in., 14.6 cm



PROPERTY FROM A SOUTHERN INSTITUTION

← 1030 **1031** 1032 →

A FAMILLE-NOIRE 'BIRD AND FLOWER' PEAR-SHAPED VASE, THE PORCELAIN 18TH CENTURY, THE ENAMELS LATER-ADDED

Estimate: 8,000 - 12,000 USD

LOT SOLD: 30,240 USD
(19 bids, reserve met)

Height 16½ in., 41.9 cm



PROPERTY FROM A MARYLAND PRIVATE COLLECTION

← 1114 **1115** 1116 →

A RED GLASS MALLET VASE, YONGZHENG MARK AND PERIOD

Estimate: 10,000 - 15,000 USD

LOT SOLD: 25,200 USD
(11 bids, reserve met)

Height 8¾ in., 22.2 cm



PROPERTY FROM A SOUTHERN INSTITUTION

← 1036 **1037** 1038 →

A LARGE FAMILLE-NOIRE 'MAGPIE AND PRUNUS' YENYEN VASE, THE PORCELAIN 18TH CENTURY, THE ENAMELS LATER-ADDED

Estimate: 20,000 - 30,000 USD

LOT SOLD: 23,940 USD
(10 bids, reserve met)

Height 28½ in., 72.4 cm



PROPERTY FROM THE ESTATE OF ANDREW HARTNAGLE

← 1100 **1101** 1102 →

A PAIR OF MASSIVE FAHUA-GLAZED FIGURES OF SEATED LIONS, QING DYNASTY

Estimate: 30,000 - 40,000 USD

LOT SOLD: 21,420 USD
(5 bids, reserve met)

Height 40¾ in., 103.5 cm