

8 December 2020

Auction Review

Christie's Hong Kong
30 November 2020

Inspiring the Mind - Life of the Scholar Official

68 Lots, Lots Sold 51. (75% by lot).
Low Estimate- HK\$99m, Sold HK\$116.19m
([US\\$14.9m](#)).

Imperial Glories from the Springfield Museum Collection

12 Lots, Lots Sold 12. (100% by lot).
Low Estimate - HK\$23m, Sold HK\$54.2.
([US\\$6.96m](#)).

The Chang Wei-Hwa Collection of Archaic Jades

75 Lots, Lots Sold 75. (100% by lot).
Low Estimate: HK\$14.23m, Sold HK\$46.24m.
([US\\$5.96m](#)).

Important Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art

98 Lots, Lots Sold 62. (63% by lot).
Low Estimate - HK\$94m, Sold HK\$106.72m. ([US\\$13.76m](#)).

Season Totals: Total Lots: 253, Total lots sold 200. (79% by lot).
Total Low Estimate - HK\$230.47m, Total Sold - HK\$323.35m. ([US\\$41.71m](#)).
2020 Spring Season Total: HK\$99.52m. Lots: 140, Total Sold 89 (64%)

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Solid results for Christie's Hong Kong where sales perform well against their estimates, with nearly 80% overall sold by lot and two white glove sales.

With interesting, high quality consignments this season and a much more stable market than in July, Christie's sold more than three times the previous season with a total turnover of HK\$323.35m ([US\\$41.71m](#)). This result is not that far off what Christie's achieved in the (Covid free) 2019 autumn season, where they turned over a total of HK\$370.96m ([US\\$47.86m](#)) from around the same number of lots.



Lot 3001. An extremely rare and fine large Ding 'lotus' bowl, late Northern Song-early Jin dynasty, 11th-12th century, 31.5cm diameter, sold for HK\$27.85m. (Estimate HK\$6-8m).



Lot 3003. A fine and rare yangcai 'poppy' cup, Yongzheng mark and period, 9.1cm diameter, sold for HK\$8.65m. (Estimate HK\$7-9m).



Lot 3015. A magnificent large and rare gilt-bronze seated figure of a crowned Buddha, Ming dynasty, 16th century, 72cm high, sold for HK\$9.25. (Estimate HK\$7.5-9m).

The most significant individual result of the all the sales was lot 3001, the extremely rare and fine late Northern Song-early Jin dynasty large Ding 'lotus' bowl. It had not appeared at auction since 1931 where it was sold at Sotheby's London on 6 May for £150. It had been consigned to the sale by the family of the renowned collector William Cleverly Alexander (1840-1916). It was consigned to the current sale with the designation '*The Property of a Distinguished Lady*' with an estimate of HK\$6-8m.

The last large Ding 'lotus' bowl similar to this one had been offered with Christie's in Hong Kong in November 2014 and had sold for HK\$25.88m (US\$3.33m). It was slightly smaller at 27.8cm diameter and the carving was not quite as fine as the example just sold. However, in the current market, HK\$27.85m (US\$3.59) is a really good result.

Another top result of the day was for lot 2908, the magnificent and exceptionally rare large Qianlong period white carving of Shoulao and deer, which was part of the *Imperial Glories from the Springfield Museums* sale. All twelve lots of this sale sold and most above their estimates, as was the case with this figure, which sold for HK\$10.45m (US\$1.34m) against its estimate of HK\$5-7m.

The highest selling lot of furniture in the sale *Inspiring the mind - Life of a scholar official*, was lot 2844, the magnificent and extremely rare Qianlong period carved zitan hexagonal table. It was previously offered at Sotheby's Hong Kong in October 2014 in the sale of *Heirlooms of Chinese Art from the Hosokawa Clan*, where it sold for HK\$15.64m (US\$2m). This time around it sold at just over its top estimate at HK\$20.65m (US\$2.66m).

The Chang Wei-Hwa Collection of Archaic Jades part two featuring Xia, Shang and Western Zhou dynasties pieces was another run away success, with every lot selling and again most above their pre sale estimates. The sale totalled HK\$46.24m (US\$5.96m) against a low estimate of HK\$14.23m. The top selling lot of the sale was lot 2707, the highly important late Shang dynasty inscribed 'Marquis Mi' jade ge-halberd blade, which sold for double the mid estimate at HK\$6.5m (US\$838,617).



Lot 2908. A magnificent and exceptionally rare large white jade carving of Shoulao and deer, Qianlong-Jiaqing period, 27.2cm high, sold for HK\$10.45m. (Estimate HK\$5-7m).



Lot 2844. A magnificent and extremely rare carved zitan hexagonal table, Qianlong period, 93cm high, sold for HK\$20.65m. HK\$16-20m.



Lot 2707. A highly important inscribed 'Marquis Mi' jade ge-halberd blade, late Shang dynasty, 29.8cm long, sold for HK\$6.49m HK\$2.5-4m

Some Great Cloisonné Enamel Results from the Springfield Museums

Photographs © Christie's.



2907



2905



2909



2901



2903



2911

Lot 2907. An imperial cloisonné enamel 'champion' vase, Kangxi period, 29cm high, sold for HK\$5.5m. (Estimate HK\$1.2-1.8m).

Lot 2905. A massive imperial cloisonné enamel 'taotie' hu-form vase, Yongzheng-Qianlong period, 64.7cm high, sold for HK\$8.65m. (Estimate HK\$3-5m).

Lot 2909. A large imperial cloisonné enamel baluster vase, Qing dynasty, early 18th century, 48.8cm high, sold for HK\$4.37m (Estimate HK\$2.4-3.5m).

Lot 2901. A very small imperial 'qilin and lions' vase, Qianlong mark and period, 11.2cm high, sold for HK\$6.85. (Estimate HK\$1.2-1.8m).

Lot 2903. A massive cloisonné enamel double-lozenge form censer and cover, Qing dynasty, 18th/19th century, 67.5cm wide, sold for HK\$1.75m HK\$6-8m).

Lot 2911. A superb imperial cloisonné enamel 'taotie' fangding-form censer, Qianlong period, 46.5cm high, sold for HK\$4.75m (Estimate HK\$2.4-3.5m).

Bonhams Hong Kong

1 December 2020

Photographs © Bonhams

Eternal Resonance: Music in Chinese Art

52 Lots. Lots Sold 37. (71% by lot)

Low Estimate: HK\$11.25m. Sold HK\$21.23m

Fine Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art

60 Lots. Lots Sold 37. (61% by lot)

Low Estimate: HK\$34.18m. Sold HK\$22.54m

Total Lots: 112. Total lots sold 74. (66% by lot).

Total Low Estimate: HK\$45.43m Total Sold - HK\$43.77m.

Photographs © Bonhams.

Bonhams first sale dedicated to music in Chinese art achieved a successful result, selling nearly twice the lower estimate at HK\$21.23m (US\$2.73m), with 71% selling by lot.

The highest selling lot of the sale was lot 13, the important and rare 'Taigu Yuanyin' 'Confucius-style' huanghuali and zitan-inlaid 'hundred-patch' guqin, which sold for HK\$5.12m (US\$660,000) (Estimate HK\$1.5-2m).

All the contemporary works of furniture, calligraphy and sculpture that were commissioned for the sale sold well beyond their estimates and the stand out lot of this group was lot 14, the unique nanmu lacquered qin table, qinzhuo. It was designed by Jerry J.I Chen and featured a highly original multi-coloured lacquered top panel in greens, blues and orange. It sold for HK\$627,000 (US\$80,000) against a pre-sale estimate of HK\$200,000-300,000.



Lot 13. 'Taigu Yuanyin', an important and rare 'Confucius-style' huanghuali and zitan-inlaid 'hundred-patch' guqin, 117cm long, sold for HK\$5.12m. (Estimate HK\$1.5-2m).



Lot 34. A fine blue and white 'dancers and musicians' brushpot, bitong, Chenghua mark, Kangxi period, 18cm diameter, sold for HK\$577,500. (Estimate HK\$500,000-800,000).



Lot 51. Vincent Fang (b.1969). Juha Tai (Chrysanthemum Terrace), October 2020, Edition 1/4, signed by the artist, 175cm long, sold for HK\$315,000. (Estimate HK\$120,150,000).



Lot 14. A unique nanmu lacquered qin table, qinzhuo, designed by Jerry J.I. Chen, 110cm long, sold for HK\$627,500. (Estimate HK\$200,000-300,000).

Some Highlights from the Fine Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art

Photographs © Bonhams



Lots 153 & 154. Two very rare yellow-glazed anhua 'dragon' saucer dishes, late Tianshun/early Chenghua period, 18.8cm and 18.9cm diameter respectively, sold for HK\$2.5m and HK\$1.81m respectively. (Estimate HK\$600,000-800,000 each).



Lot 113. A rare archaic silver-inlaid bronze tripod wine vessel and cover, *zun*, Mid Qing dynasty, 23cm high, sold for HK\$1.75m. (Estimate HK\$150,000-250,000).



Lot 126. A huanghuali round-corner tapered cabinet, *Yuanjiaogui*, Mid Qing dynasty, 111cm high, sold for HK\$877,500m. (Estimate HK\$300,000-500,000).



Lot 142. A rare and large cloisonné enamel 'three rams' vase, *zun*, 17th/18th century, 68cm high, sold for HK\$2.15m. (Estimate HK\$2.5-3.5m).



Lot 106. A rare archaic inscribed ritual food vessel, *ding*, Early Western Zhou dynasty, 21 cm high, sold for HK\$1.87m. (Estimate HK\$1.2-2.2m).

Sotheby's Hong Kong A Selection of Qing Imperial Porcelain

Date: 26 November 2020.

Lots offered: 23.

Lots sold: 18.

Percentage sold: 78% by lot.

Lot Estimate: HK\$5.71m. Sold HK\$8.36m (US\$1m).

Top 5 lots:

Photographs © Sotheby's



Lot 119. A rare cloisonné imitation white-ground famille rose vase, Qianlong seal mark and period, 24.4cm high, sold for HK\$2.14m. (Estimate HK\$400,000-600,000).



Lot 104. A superb pair of pink-ground famille rose 'twelve beauties' vases, Daoguang seal marks and period, 27.5cm high, sold for HK\$1.76m. (Estimate HK\$1.5-2m).



Lot 108. An extremely rare inscribed Yixing Jun-imitation 'peach' waterdropper, Qing dynasty, Yongzheng period, 14.3cm long, sold for HK\$819,000. (Estimate HK\$200,000-300,000).



Lot 106. A rare pair of iron-red holy water vases, Qing dynasty, Qianlong period, 21.3 and 22cm high, sold for HK\$693,000. (Estimate HK\$200,000-300,000).



Lot 110. A ruby-ground famille rose lantern vase, Shendetang hall mark, Qing dynasty, Daoguang period, 19.8cm high, sold for HK\$378,000. (Estimate HK\$200,000-300,000).

Sotheby's Hong Kong China - 5000 Years

Date: 26 November 2020.

Lots offered: 520.

Lots sold: 379.

Percentage sold: 72% by lot.

Lot Estimate: HK\$21.11m. Sold HK\$37.82mm (US\$4.87m).

Top 5 lots:

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Lot 529. A huanghuali folding chair, 52.8cm by 64cm by 89.5cm, sold for HK\$2m. (Estimate HK\$200,000-300,000).



Lot 528. A huanghuali four-shelf bookcase, *shuge*, 90cm by 45.1cm by 176cm, sold for HK\$756,000. (Estimate HK\$600,000-800,000).



Lot 459. A fine and extremely rare coral-red ground famille rose altar vase, Qianlong seal mark and period, 25.4cm high, sold for HK\$5.13m. (Estimate HK\$800,000-1,200,000).



Lot 460. An iron-red 'sanduo' bowl, Yongzheng mark and period, 14.8cm, diameter, sold for HK\$819,000. (Estimate HK\$150,000-200,000).



Lot 762. A large tianhuang boulder nine elders' seal, Qing dynasty 6.5cm high, sold for HK\$693,000. (Estimate HK\$250,000-200,000).