

20th Century Asian Artists and American Modern Masters Lead Michaan's First Auction of 2018

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ALAMEDA, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES, December 19, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- 20th Century Asian Artists and American Modern Masters Lead Michaan's [First Auction](#) of 2018

The art of [Chinese painters](#) Liu Jiyou and Huang Leisheng will ignite bidding at Michaan's January 13 Gallery Auction, which opens with fine jewelry and timepieces. The excitement extends well into the fine art category where Robert Motherwell, Dale Chihuly, and California's Millard Sheets are featured. Liu Jiyou (1918-1983) is best known for spirited works in which traditional Chinese painting techniques are invigorated by a modern, global point of view. Most often centered on animals and figural compositions, Jiyou's paintings are striking for their freshness, achieved by quick brushwork and naturalistic rendering of lively subjects. Several fine works by Liu Jiyou will be sold on January 13, at estimated prices ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000. Also offered are paintings by Huang Leisheng (b. 1928) and Li Kuchan (1899-1983), student of Qi Baishi. Zhao Shao'ang (1905-1998), greatly admired for his way with birds and flowers, is another featured Chinese painter. Masami Teraoka (b. 1936) and Tsubaki Chinzan (1801- 1854, Edo Period) are among the Japanese artists highlighted in the sale. Collectible Asian treasures include cloisonné pieces, bronze objects such as the 17th century brush rest (\$1,000-\$1,500) and the set



of Qing Dynasty seals (\$800-\$1,000), and textiles like the embroidered ladies' silk robe (\$800-\$1,200). Satsuma, Imari and famille rose porcelains are featured. Photos of all lots in the January sale will be available online at www.michaans.com, and bidders may inquire further with Asian Art specialist Harry Huang (harry@michaans.com).

Robert Motherwell (1915-1991), bold pioneer of Abstract Expressionism, is a giant figure in the history of American modern art. His hand-colored lithograph "Burning Elegy" is estimated at \$40,000 to \$60,000 in Michaan's January auction. For glass collectors, who have found important works in many of Michaan's recent monthly auctions, January's highlight is the Chihuly vase (\$8,000-

\$12,000). California artists have become especially popular with Michael's bidders, and the singular talent of Millard Sheets (1907-1989) is in focus this month with his "Irish Gypsies," watercolor and gouache, estimated at \$5,000-\$7,000. Another fine watercolor, "Daffodils" by Paul de Longpré (1855-1911), is offered at \$3,000-\$5,000. A 1971 view of Paris, "Landscape Pont Neuf," by Lai Kui Fang (b. 1936), was included in the 1972 catalog of Santa Clara's Triton Museum of Art. The oil on board is in very good condition and is estimated at \$6,000-\$8,000.

One of January's leading auction items is the large etched bronze dining table (\$8,000-\$12,000) from the Mid-century design team of Philip and Kelvin Laverne. Laverne tables, highly sought by collectors and interior designers, had excellent auction momentum throughout 2017 at Michael's. This stunning Etruscan-inspired piece, a rare find, will attract many bids. Also outstanding is the bronze sculpture of a stagecoach, emblem of the enterprise and optimism that drove settlers across the American continent to the far West. Mounted on a marble stand, it is signed "C.M. Russell" (\$2,000-\$3,000).

Fine diamonds, jade, colored gemstones and gold are always top sellers at Michael's, where the jewelry selection ranges from one-of-a-kind period estate pieces to coveted designs from fine jewelers such as Tiffany and Shreve. Featured in January are a golden beryl and diamond ring by Oscar Heyman (\$2,000-\$3,000), the Arceau wristwatch by Hermès (\$1,000-\$1,500) and Cartier's 18k gold "Love" bangle (\$3,000-\$5,000). For more information about January's highlights and to view the complete 2018 [auction calendar](#), please visit www.michaans.com.

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