

Works of Art, Furniture and Decorative Arts Highlights

Wednesday 9 September 2015, London

London – Roseberys 9 September auction of Antiquities, Works of Art and Antique Furniture accomplished avid interest and excellent prices.



*19th century Sèvres ormolu mounted
porcelain vases*

Sold for: £8,856

The second day of Roseberys September Fine Art auction saw Roseberys' first dedicated auction of Antiquities which realised expectations in this difficult market with vigorous bidding in the room, on the telephone and via Roseberys' in-house bidding platform RoseberysLive. One highlight being a Roman life size carved marble lower leg modelled in the round with realistically rendered musculature

which exceeded its £1,000-1,500 estimate. Two bidders on the internet and on the telephone bid back and forth until a European gallery was successful, it sold for £3,075 [[Lot 875](#)].

The Decorative Arts & Modern Design section of the auction was met with broad interest across the board and in particular three French bronzes received fierce bidding during the auction. A bronze model of a man and woman entitled 'Carthage' by celebrated French sculptor Theodore Riviere attracted interest from British and international collectors. Riviere received classical training at the School of Fine Arts in Toulouse and also at the National School of Fine Arts in Paris. His influences came from fellow French sculptor Alexandre Falguiere who won the noteworthy Prix de Rome in 1859. Riviere took inspiration from French romantic literature, often depicting lovers embracing, an example on which sold on the telephone to a British collector for £1,968 [[Lot 58](#)].

Featured French sculptor Albert Carrier- Belleuse proved that the popularity in the market for such classic decorative sculpture was not a one off as a gilt bronze and ivory figure of a lady wearing elaborate dress reading from an open book by entitled 'Liseuse' also prompted multiple interest. Born in Aisne, France Belleuse began his career as a student of David d'Angers and studied for a short period at the Ecole des Beaux- Arts. He worked for Mintons in England between 1850 and 1855 and also in Brussels in 1871, his experiences outside of France resulted in his sculptures becoming more versatile in subject matter and style. Between the years of 1864 and 1870 Auguste Rodin worked for Belleuse as his creative assistant. It has been noted that Rodin accompanied Belleuse to Brussels in 1871 to assist with the creation of his sculpture for the Brussels Stock Exchange. The bronze sold for £1,599 [\[Lot 73\]](#).

Continuing the trend, a further French bronze sculpture by Eugene Delaplanche entitled 'La Musique' depicting a semi-nude maiden playing a violin with drapery at her waist completed the hat trick by the French sculptors in the Decorative Arts section. A pupil of Duret, Delaplanche was also awarded the Prix de Rome in 1864. His depictions of naturalistic amorous figures and scenes gained him international recognition with his sculptures adorning collections and museums throughout Europe and the United States. 'La Musique' sold to a European collector on the internet for £1,660 [\[Lot 74\]](#).

Proving that fine quality is always desirable the Works of Art section saw success with a stunning pair of 19th century Sèvres ormolu mounted porcelain vases with matching oval comport. The iconic Sèvres is famous for its production of high quality porcelain during the 19th century. They remained popular with French and international society during frequent changes in fashion and style during the century, the porcelain with extensive designs and gilding often in a Napoleonic style further adopted to aid the promotion of the ruler. Painted with scenes of ladies and swains in pastoral setting, and landscapes to the verso, within raised paste gilded cartouches, the vases are stunning examples of the Sèvres ormolu style. After much interest the vases sold to an internet bidder for £8,856 [\[Lot 912\]](#).

Ormolu design proved popular amongst furniture buyers also, with an early 20th century French ormolu mounted kidney shaped writing table, in the Louis XVI style captivating

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bidder and becoming a highlight of the antique furniture section. The superstructure with shaped top was mounted with an oval portrait plaque flanked by trophies of war and laurel leaves, the detailed design is in keeping with its Louis XVI elaborate style and overt grandeur. With two bidders on the internet the successful buyer was a European collector, securing the table for £5,166 [[Lot 1224](#)].

A further highlight from the antique furniture section came from a pair of Howard & Sons arm chairs. Howard and Sons of Berners Street in London were the foremost upholstery makers in the 19th century; they collaborated with specialist companies such as Gillow and Maple and Co on design projects. Howard and Sons exhibited at the Great Exhibition in 1851 and smaller shows in Crystal Palace, America and France. Renowned for their excellent quality and interior decorating, they also obtained a Royal Warrant and supplied several Royal residences with carved antique items, often with upholstery including library chairs, stools, chaise lounges and day beds. Howard and Sons expert design has seen their furniture hold their ground and increase in popularity of late despite the difficult current climate in the furniture market. After determined bidding from the internet, in the room and on the telephone the chairs were sold to a European antiques firm for £6,765 [[Lot 1170](#)].

Full results from the auction are available online at www.roseberys.co.uk

~Ends~

About Roseberys

Roseberys is a privately owned auction house operating at the heart of the fine art market for more than 25 years.

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