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COLLECTOR'S NEWS

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Editorial

25th Anniversary Sale

The date February 1, 2006 marks the 25th Anniversary of Hampshire Antiques Ltd. on Granville Street. For a modest, small business in a continually fast changing world, this represents a significant milestone for us and we are commencing the celebrations starting this Friday, October 21 by having a Huge SALE. It has taken me 25 years to accumulate a vast stock of varied merchandise all of which (excluding rental items) will be on sale with a minimum of 25% to 50% off. A sale like this only comes along once in every 25 years and we urge you to come in or 'phone in' to take advantage of these very special savings.

This anniversary sale comes at a good time for us. We have been offered two fairly large estates and simply don't have the room for them unless we clear out a lot of our older inventory. It means too that we can go in a slightly different direction with the store. Current trends in antiques and art have largely shifted from the 19th century to the 20th except for very special items. For us to be around for another 25 years we have to follow the market. The market is telling us now to find eye catching decorative, unusual or exceptionally rare high quality items to make a sale. So this will be my major project in the New Year to find them.

Renovations

We've had some enquiries as to how our renovations are coming along which we announced in the Spring edition of Collector's News. We were all ready to proceed when the City of Vancouver came along and stole the money earmarked for that purpose. Not content with raising the property taxes 20% last year on our building, they raised them 50% this year and, there is, we are told, a good chance of another increase next year.

This has put all our plans 'on hold'. So we are now in a stationary mode until the dust clears enough for us to make long term decisions. It should be mentioned that in Vancouver the City taxes commercial property at a rate of 6 times residential. The Canada average is three times residential. We could actually move to the Burnaby side of Boundary Road and pay half the taxes the Vancouver side does just across the street for the same square footage! To alleviate the burden on commercial property owners in Vancouver, it would only take raising residential property taxes around \$75 per year to correct the imbalance and bring commercial property taxes in line with the rest of the country. In the meantime, many businesses will face financial hardship because they cannot raise prices to cover the rate increases. This is a real estate market that is in a state of flux with many observers feeling that a correction in it is just around the corner. Time will tell.

The Market in Review

There have been no runaway general trends in collectables like the Moorcroft and Chintz splurges of past years, instead the market has become very selective with the big money going to the very best in any category. Decorative and unusual pieces fetch a large amount of interest and the heritage of emerging nations with financial clout like China and India is being bought back at a voracious rate with ever escalating prices for prime examples. A 15th century blue and white Chinese Vase fetched 14 million pounds at auction in England earlier this year.

In Vancouver, the market has a strong focus on jewellery and high end Canadian art. Decorative items are selling regardless of age with a new world trend of mid 20th century designer furniture finding strong acceptance here. It goes well with modern, new interiors with its sleek lines. It is also starting to become very expensive and million dollar prices for signed furniture is no longer confined to those of the previous two centuries. The new collector with money has largely shifted emphasis in both art and furnishings away from antique 'brown' furniture and traditional landscapes to mostly vintage and modern. A lot of us antique dealers need to get a new education because many of these things we are unfamiliar with and do not understand. This is a fundamental fashion shift and is going into uncharted territory. Given the huge amounts of money involved some individuals are taking it very seriously indeed so I'm thinking it's going to be around for quite a while. Stay tuned.



'La Sirena' by Josephine Augusta Elisabeth PLUIM-MENTZ (1906-85)

A great image of a child on the beach by this Indonesian/Dutch artist. Pluim-Mentz exhibited in the Hague & Montreux, France. OIL ON BOARD. Signed and inscribed verso. 32" x 24". Dated 1959.

\$28,000.00 CDN \$23,800.00 USD



Hand Painted Porcelain portrait of a Pekingese

Artist signed C1920-40. Noritake, Japan. In contemporary gilt frame.

\$1,500.00 CDN \$1,275.00 USD



'English Harbour Scene' by Harold Hall (19th century British)

A fine Oil Painting on Masonite (?) of a sunny harbour scene probably in the Midlands. Signed lower right. Dimensions excluding frame: 16" x 20". Circa. 1920.

\$6,500.00 CDN \$4,995.00 USD



Unusual triple tier Mahogany TABLE with 2 copper plant pots

USA. c.1930-50. 14.75" long, 25.25" wide & 37.5" high.

\$750.00 CDN \$638.00 USD



We are holding onto this GLOBE/COCKTAIL CABINET as a Movie Rental for now but have several vintage Table. Globes for Sale.



This Telescope is for Rental Only, but we do have a more modern version for sale at \$450



This is a fabulous Rosewood POLE SCREEN with a Needlework Panel. England. Circa. 1850 \$3,850



This Georgian Mahogany TILTTOPTABLE with birdcage movement is typical of the values in our Anniversary Sale. Originally priced at \$5,950 it has been reduced to \$2,975. We will take another 25% of this low price for our Anniversary Sale!!



A BORSATO FIGURINE of a Lady with a parasol. Italy. Signed to base.
As is. c. 1950. 8.5" high.

\$1,200.00 CDN \$1,020.00 USD



Superb pair of Sterling Silver CANDLE
STICKS Sheffield 1839. 9.5" tall.

\$4,500.00 CDN \$3,825.00 USD



SEVRES Porcelain & Bronze 19th century
BOWL FOR RENTAL ONLY

\$5,500.00 CDN \$4,675.00 USD



**'Russian Soldier on the March' by E.A. LANCERAY
(1848-86)**

A signed BRONZE FIGURE from Russia Depicting a soldier taking a glass of vodka on the march. This is most likely a 20th century recast and circa. 1950. 20" high.

circa. 1860s and are most unusual and extremely hard-to-find making these quite a coup for us to sell.

\$6,950.00 CDN \$5,908.00 USD



Pair of Victoria oval decorative PRINTS Prob. USA. circa 1850.

\$650.00 CDN \$553.00 USD



Brass Lamps with glass shades. Prob. N. American & c.1940 13.8" high.

\$495.00 CDN \$420.75 USD



A PYROGRAPHY PLATE of a Victorian Lady

Prob. England. circa 1870s.

\$650.00 CDN \$552.50 USD



MINIATURE Sterling Silver & Leather CARRIAGE CLOCK

French 8-day type movement. Hallmarked London, 1879. 3.5" height (including handle).

\$1,500.00 CDN \$1,275.00 USD



Pair of old Brass CARRIAGE LAMPS with Prince of Wales feathers etched on the glass. 22" high. Early 20th century.

\$695.00 CDN \$590.75 USD



A PYROGRAPHY PLATE after Fuselli

Belfast gall. sticker verso. English. Late 19th century.

\$650.00 CDN \$552.50 USD

JUST ARRIVED! 80+ Piece LIMOGES PORCELAIN DINNER SET

including serving pieces \$495, Anniversary Sale 25%!