

Zisha Teapots and Chinese Seals Round Out Gianguan Auctions July 10 Sale.

NEW YORK, New York May 19, 2017

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(ArtfixDaily.com) When it comes to Chinese works of art, western collectors often overlook small treasures like *Zisha* teapots and seals that are an integral part of the aesthetic. There is, nevertheless, a strong market for these delightful treasures and Gianguan Auctions is presenting deep collections of both at its June 10 sale.

Highlights of the *Zisha* (purple clay) teapots include Lot 159, Gu Jingzhou's high profile, bamboo reed pot with a mouse finial and a caterpillar on the spout by. It has three artists marks and is valued at upwards of \$5,000.

Lot 166, with five artist marks, also from Gu Jingzhou, is round, compact and decorated with ruyi. It has a snub snout and generous curved handle. Bidding starts at \$800.

Lot 167, by Yang Youlan is incised with a poem and pine and crane motif. It has two artist's marks, and will fetch about \$500.

Several Qing Dynasty tea pots prove their durability with style. Lot 274, for instance, has a round high profile and is decorated with lotus leaves and quatrefoil birds amid foliage. Lot 275, a burnished reddish-brown pot of medium profile by Yongfang has a domed lid and a Buddhist lion finial while its body is decorated with lions at play and the shou symbol. It carries the Kangxi imperial dragon mark. Lot 276 has an unusual relief carved cloth wrapper and the artist mark of Li Huifang. Lot 169 is a spirited pig shaped pot with a coin spout, bearing the Qianlong six character mark. The "purple clay" teapots range in value from \$300 to \$2,500.

The collection of Chinese seals, a favorite of businessmen and scholars, ranges from spare stone columns of *shoushan* and icy *furong* to carved free-form stones. For example, Lot 93, by Qing artist Wu-Kai, has a dragon-tortoise knob, and is dated 1831. Lots 90 and 96 are substantial *Tianghuang* square pedestals with a qilin atop. Of rich golden color, the hefty seals run \$600 to \$2,500.

Notable among the scholars' objects is a massive songhua stone square double ink-well with a double grinding surface and recessed water pools, reminiscent of Double-Happiness. It is inscribed with a four-character seal in Manchurian and Han Characters Seal Script: Huang Di Zhi Bao, Imperial Treasure. It is Lot 278, expected to command upwards of \$2,000.

For details on the *Zisha* teapots and Chinese seals, please visit the Gianguan Auction catalog www.gianguanauctions.com.



Gu Jingzhou's high profile, bamboo reed pot with 3 artists marks. Lot 159, Gianguan Auctions, June 10.



Zisha teapot by Yang Youlan, with 2 artist's marks. Lot 167, Gianguan Auctions, June 10 sale.



Large double well seal. Lot 278, Gianguan Auctions, June 10 sale.

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Zhu Da Painting Leads Gianguan Auctions June 10 Sale

NEW YORK, New York May 19, 2017

[Tweet](#) ([ArtfixDaily.com](#)) When Gianguan Auctions convenes the Saturday, June 10th sale, collectors will bid on iconic artistic statements from China's famed painters and the anonymous artisans who crafted high concept carved jades and Buddhist art.

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"Bird in a Lotus Pond," by Zhu Da (Bada Shangren) leads the day. The sharp edged and spare portrayal of a long beaked bird on a broken branch, caught between pond below and flowers above comes to the podium with a \$1.5 Million valuation. It is Lot 80, signed with the Zhu Da characters that resemble the signs for laughing and crying, has one artist seal and is of the period.

It is followed with important works by Qing Dynasty painter Shi Tao, Zheng Xin (Ban Qiao), Yuan Yao, Xu Beihong, and Qi Biashi, to name a few.

The carved jade highlight is a massive jar that has survived intact from the Han Dynasty (221-206 BC). Staggering in its complexity, the milky white jade is covered in sinuous carvings of eighteen coiling, crouching, weaving *qilins*, the ancient hoofed, fire breathing chimera said to appear in the presence of a sage or illustrious leader. 11" tall, weighing in at 20 pounds, Lot 120 carries a pre-sale estimate of \$1.5M.

The Buddhist art dates back to the early days of Buddhism in China. The earliest work is a Northern Wei (386-535AD) stone Bodhisattva, seated with ankles crossed and hands in mudras "fear not" and "charity," backed by a mandorla and positioned atop a base flanked by lions. The mottled figure with some remaining pigment is Lot 148, valued at \$40,000 or above.

Two hundred years later, during the Northern Qi (550-557 AD) period, an anonymous artist carved a marble statue of a slender standing Buddha that has been passed down through the generations. In a frontal stance, with a columnar posture marked by a curved profile, and a long robe with parallel U-shaped folds, the image is typical of the period. The figure stands 33" tall and is valued at more than \$60,000.

The field of Buddhist art runs deep. Details will follow on Artfix Daily. In the meantime, all properties in Gianguan Auction summer sale on June 10, please visit www.gianguanauctions.com.



"Bird in a Lotus Pond," by Zhu Da (Bada Shangren). Lot 80. Gianguan Auctions, June 10 sale.



Han Dynasty jade jar carved with 18 qilins. Lot 120. Gianguan Auctions, June 10 sale.



Northern Wei (386-535AD) mottled stone Bodhisattva with some original pigment. Lot 148. Gianguan Auctions, June 10 sale.

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Qi Baishi, Xu Beihong, Zhu Da, Shi Tao & Yuan Yao Paintings At Auction June 10

NEW YORK, New York May 22, 2017

[Tweet](#) ([ArtfixDaily.com](#)) A stellar collection of Chinese scholarly and popular paintings comes to the podium on Saturday, June 10, at Gianguan Auctions, NYC.

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[Pin it](#) The day's marquee is work is "Bird in a Lotus Pond" by Zhu Da (Bada Shanren), the Ming prince turned monk turned professional artist whose works are currently in great demand. The ink on paper portrays an isolated, long beaked bird on a broken branch, caught between pond below and flowers above. It is signed in characters that resemble signs for laughing and crying, and has one artist seal. It is Lot 80, expected to go off at more than \$1.5M.

The remarkable slate of historic works includes "Scholar in the Mountain," by Qing Dynasty painter Shi Tao. Dated 1686, inscribed and signed, with one artist seal, the work contrasts the lasting grandeur of nature with the ephemeral life of mortals. It is Lot 111, opening at \$200,000.

"Stormy Wind and Waves," by Yuan Yao, dated 1754, inscribed and signed, depicts a small boat making its way through the channel of a mountain river. It has one artist seal. Positioned at Lot 139, bidding starts at \$100,000.

Another 17th century ink on paper titled "Bamboo," was created by Zheng Xin (Ban Qiao). The two dominant stalks in the foreground are interspersed with calligraphy. The painting is inscribed, signed and bears two artist seals. Lot 108 opens at \$150,000.

Modern master, Xu Beihong's 1943 work "Two Horses Drinking Water" is a powerful portrayal of the pair at rest, untethered and comfortable, perhaps a graphic parable. It is inscribed and signed Beihong and has two artist seals. Lot 202, it is valued at \$80,000 or above.

Qi Baishi's vibrant "Rooster and Young" brings the traits of fidelity and punctuality to the fore as the dynamic animal, proud in its yellow and black plumage and red cockscomb, shows two downy young he is master of the roost. Signed, with three artist seals, the opening bid on Lot 90 is \$80,000.

For the complete slate of Chinese scroll paintings, many with animals and plants depicting harmony, good fortune, health, please visit the online catalog at www.gianguanauctions.com. The price range for the paintings runs from \$5,000 up.

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清 郑燮(板桥) (1641 - 1705) 风神秀竹图 水墨纸本立轴 1697 年作



齐白石 (1864 - 1957) 慈父图 设色水墨纸本立轴 款识: 九十三岁白石 钤印: (齐大) (借山馆主者) (杏子坞人)