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Rafael Osona Auctions Posts Strong Prices Across Categories



President John F. Kennedy’s family dining table and ten of his American Windsor chairs sold for \$65,000.

NANTUCKET, MASS. — On Saturday, August 3, Rafael Osona Auctions conducted an Americana, fine arts and marine auction that was highlighted by the sale of John Fitzgerald Kennedy’s family dining table and ten Windsor pine dining chairs for \$65,000. Anyone who might have thought that the Kennedy mystique was fading was clearly not on Nantucket on Saturday, August 3.

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were certainly the most famous lots in the annual auction, the highest price went to a painting by Anne Ramsdell Congdon (1873–1958) that sold for \$87,500. It was followed by an oil on canvas, “Portrait of the *US Corvette Ranger* in Full Sail on the Open Sea,” by the contemporary English artist Tim Thompson (b 1951). The 36-by-48-inch signed work sailed away at \$55,575.

Another top fine art lot was a mixed media on paper work by Milton Avery (American, 1885–1965). Titled “Haircut,” the 30-by-32-inch, 1963 work was signed lower left and sold at \$45,000. From a different century, a pair of Nantucket portraits: Captain Robert Joy (1793–1862) and Sally Hussy Joy (1797–1882), oil on pine panels, were unsigned. The pair of 27-by-23-inch portraits sold for \$29,250.

Topping the furniture category was a Connecticut River Valley cherry chest on chest of drawers, Greenfield, Mass., circa 1780, that realized \$28,080. Captain Elihu Goodman Arms was a captain in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, and after the war, he owned an inn in Greenfield; the piece descended in the original family.

Another interesting offering came in the form of a polychromed engraved portrait of a full-rigged ship on starboard tack with sails set on calm

Auction Action In Nantucket, Mass.



Tim Thompson (England, b 1951), “Portrait of the U.S. Corvette *Ranger* in Full Sail on the Open Sea,” oil on canvas, signed lower left, 36 by 48 inches, sold for \$55,575.



A pale Celadon jade “Shouxing” group topped the Asian category when it sold at \$22,230.



Milton Avery (American 1885–1965), “Haircut,” 1963, mixed media on paper, signed lower left, 30 by 22 inches, sold at \$45,000.



Pair of Nantucket portraits depicting Captain Robert Joy (1793–1862) and Sally Hussy Joy (1797–1882), oil on pine panels, 27 by 23 inches, sold for \$29,250 for both.

blue tinted sea, circa 1830s. Engraved on a piece of sperm whale panbone with a later surface applied gold painted theater columns and the initials H.M. (Herman Melville?) in the sky, coming from the collection of William J. Boylhart, it sold for \$32,760

A rare baleen and cane Nantucket lightship basket, circa 1850, by Samuel Crawford (b 1827) went to \$14,040. It

sported a round form with a swing handle, rare baleen staves, four interior concentric rings in the base and it had an original paper label on the bottom that read “Made by S.C. Crawford, Nantucket, Mass.”

From New England to Asia, several fine pieces of jade and bronze were among the top lots. A very fine pale celadon jade “Shouxing” group sold at \$22,230; a Mogul-style pale

celadon jade vase and cover sold for \$20,475; and two Sino-Tibetan gilt bronze Bohisattva figures, Nineteenth Century, each figure seated on double lotus pedestal and clad in princely attire, went to \$10,830 for both.

Other fine art works included a sentimental favorite by Edgar W. Jenney (Nantucket, Twentieth Century) “Miss Gladys Wood’s Living Room,” watercolor on paper of an interior scene of 139 Main Street, Nantucket, which realized \$9,945. Frank Swift Chase (1886–1958), “Inner Harbor,” oil on artist board, with a pencil study on verso, 8 by 10 inches, sold for \$9,360. A pair of Nineteenth Century watercolors: “His Britc. Majs. Frigate *Macedonian*,” with legend: John S. Carden Esqr, Commander; Captured by the U.S. Frigate *United States* Steph. Decatur Esqr. Commander; and “The U.S. Frigate *Constitution*,” with legend: Isaac Hull Esqr. Commander Capturing his Brit. Majs. Frigate *Guerriere*. James R. Dacres Esqs. Commander sold for \$17,550. Each was 21¼ by 30¼ inches.

All prices reported include the buyer’s premium. For information, 508-228-3942 or www.rafaelosonaauctions.com.



Anne Ramsdell Congdon (American 1873–1958), “The Old Mill,” 1940, oil on Masonite, signed and dated lower right, 19 by 23½ inches, realized \$87,750.

Birmingham Museum Memorializes Civil Rights Movement In Art Exhibit

BIRMINGHAM, ALA. — Nearly 50 years after the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church bombing in Birmingham, the Birmingham Museum of Art memorializes the Civil Rights Movement in a contemporary art exhibition on display through November 17.

“Etched In Collective History,” organized by the Birmingham Museum, includes more than 60 works by 30 artists from Alabama and across the United States who have created during the Civil Rights era through today. Working in various media ranging from photographs and prints to painting and sculpture, these artists interrogate, depict and memorialize the Civil Rights Movement.

“Etched in Collective History” places two generations in a visual and artistic dialogue that does not always happen in the real world. Rarely do the two generations share gallery space in general, much less gallery space where the focus is the Civil Rights Movement,” said Jeffrey Hayes, the Andrew W. Mellon curatorial fellow of African American art at the Birmingham Museum of Art. “The symbolic dialogue is an encouragement for real world conversations between people who experienced the turbulent 1950s and 1960s, those



Sanitary workers assembling for a solidarity march, Memphis, March 28, 1968; Ernest Withers, photographer.

who have only heard, read or seen photographs of the period, and those who do not know the history.”

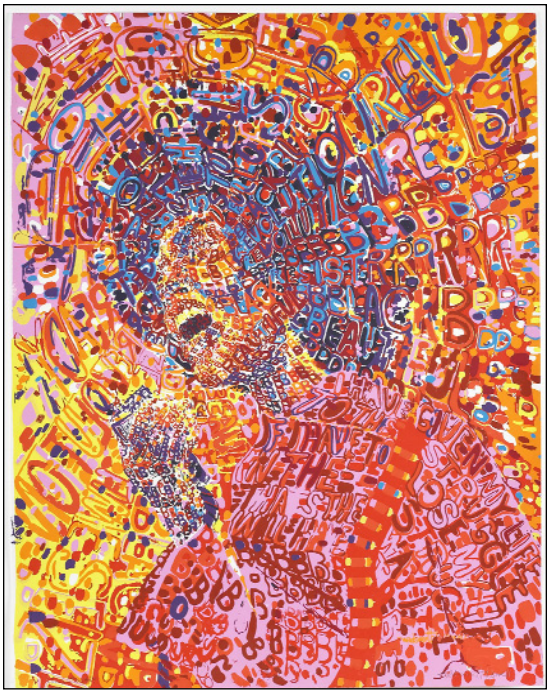
“Etched In Collective History” is on view in conjunction with a citywide commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Movement. Participating artists include Shinique Smith, Theaster Gates, Thornton Dial, Jefferson Pinder, Kerry James Marshall and Emma Amos.

“We are so fortunate to have this superstar roster of contemporary artists coming from around the world to

Birmingham to share their reflections of the movement,” says Gail Andrews, R. Hugh Daniel director of the Birmingham Museum of Art. “The exhibition is truly unprecedented, as this collection of work tells vivid stories of the Civil Rights Movement in ways in which it has never been told.”

The Birmingham Museum is at 2000 Rev Abraham Woods Jr Boulevard (formerly 2000 8th Avenue North).

For additional information, www.artsbma.org or 205-254-2565.



Wadsworth A. Jarrell Sr (b 1929), “Revolutionary,” 1972, color screen print on wove paper. ©Wadsworth A. Jarrell

Kate Stiassni’s Textiles Open At Art Quilt Gallery Sept. 10

NEW YORK CITY — The Art Quilt Gallery will begin its fall exhibition season with works by Kate Stiassni. Her textile show “Spaces in Between: Contemporary Textiles” will be on view September 10–October 19, with an opening at the gallery September 9, 6 to 7:30 pm.

Her unique vision produces spectacular results. Fabric is her paint, and her mastery of the medium with the use of hand dyed fabric gives her work a richness and depth of color that makes her strong and distinctive graphic compositions sing.

The artist said, “The choice of working with textiles came very naturally to me. I love the supple and tactile nature of fabric and its ability to absorb rich colors. I strive to

express energy and movement within my work. Yet I also try to create spaces that allow the eye to pause or pivot in its journey. I think of my work as having Spaces in Between, and I’m fascinated by how these spaces can change from one viewing — or viewer — to the next.”

Stiassni received a BA from the University of Vermont, and has studied architecture, art and design at Columbia University School of Architecture, Parsons School of Design and the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. She has also studied with internationally renowned fiber artists Carol Taylor, Nancy Crow, Terry Jarrard-Diamond, Carol Soderlund and Jan Myers-Newbury. Her work has been included in

juried exhibitions and art galleries throughout the United States.

Stiassni will be showing 15 works, and there will be a gallery talk on Thursday, October 3, at 6 pm.

The Art Quilt Gallery is at 133 West 25th Street, hours are 11 am to 6 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, 212-807-9451 or www.artquiltgallery.com.



Kate Stiassni, “A Tall Order,” 2013, machine pieced and quilted with hand dyed fabrics, cotton threads and cotton and wool batting, 38 inches high by 48 inches wide.

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