



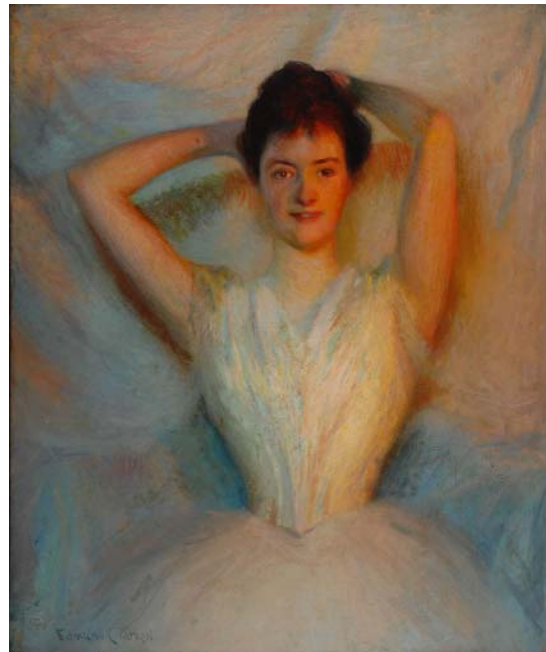
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American Paintings, Prints & Books Set To Hit Copley's Auction Block



John James Audubon, "Snowy Heron or White Egret," engraved, printed and colored by R. Havell Jr, 1835, 37½ by 25¼ inches, framed (\$20/30,000).



Edmund C. Tarbell, "An Opal," circa 1891, oil on canvas, 35 by 30 inches, framed (\$100/200,000).

BOSTON, MASS. — On July 15 and 16, Copley Fine Art Auctions will present its annual sporting sale, showcasing 660 lots of American decoys, paintings, prints and books.

This year's auction will feature American paintings and prints, including Andrew Newell Wyeth's "The John Address House" (\$60/90,000). Wyeth's palette of natural greens, blues and browns explores the dynamic between this Pennsylvania farm and the nature enveloping it.

Another major artist highlighted in the auction is Edmund C. Tarbell. "An Opal," an intimate and engaging portrait of Tarbell's sister-in-law, Lydia Hatch, exemplifies his style and the influence of the French Impressionists upon it

(\$100/200,000).

A friend of Tarbell's, Frank W. Benson is often credited with helping to establish American sporting art as a distinct genre. In his watercolor "Canada Geese" (\$60/80,000), he emphasizes the grace of the geese's flight by portraying their landing in open water as a dynamic diagonal against a primarily horizontal and static background.

Ogden M. Pleissner will also be represented by several works. One of America's finest watercolorists, Pleissner enjoyed capturing the mood of European scenery. In "The Gondolier" (\$35/45,000), he evokes a tranquil and serene atmosphere along a canal in Venice. Pleissner creates the impression of early morning

solitude with the lone gondolier and his boat, juxtaposed against the architectural details of Santa Maria della Salute in the misty background. A smaller watercolor titled "Near Albufeira" depicts a scene of Portugal (\$10/20,000).

In addition to these American paintings, the sale will offer a collection of 15 Frank W. Benson etchings from the artist's great-grandson. Notable pieces in this collection are "Old-Tom" (\$10/15,000), "Dark Pool" (\$1/2,000), "The Bridge" (\$2/4,000), "Harbor" (\$400/600) and a rare pencil drawing of three Canada geese titled "Geese in Flight" (\$3/5,000).

Another prominent collection with items available in the sale is that of Dr George



Andrew Newell Wyeth (1917-2009), "The John Address House," 1943, watercolor on paper, 22 by 30 inches, framed (\$60/90,000).



Ogden M. Pleissner, "The Gondolier," 1968, watercolor on paper, 18 by 28 inches, framed (\$35/45,000).

Edmund Gifford Jr. Himself a naturalist, he collected works by John James Audubon and Mark Catesby. Prints of particular interest are "White Curlew" (\$800-\$1,200) by Catesby and "Snowy Egret" drawn from nature by Audubon and printed by R. Havel (\$20/30,000). This Audubon print depicts a grand Charleston, S.C., plantation in its background.

The auction will conclude with an impressive collection

of sporting books. Many come from a private library that features collectable English binders, first editions and numerous copies of Izaak Walton's *Compleat Angler*.

Adding to the days' festivities, a cocktail reception and preview will kick off the auction on July 14 at 5 pm.

Copley Fine Art Auctions, LLC is at 268 Newbury Street. For more information, www.copleyart.com or 617-536-0030.

www.AntiquesandTheArts.com

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