

# Copley's Winter Sale Returns To Charleston February 12



**Ruddy duck decoy by John Williams (1857-1937), circa 1890 (\$120/140,000).**

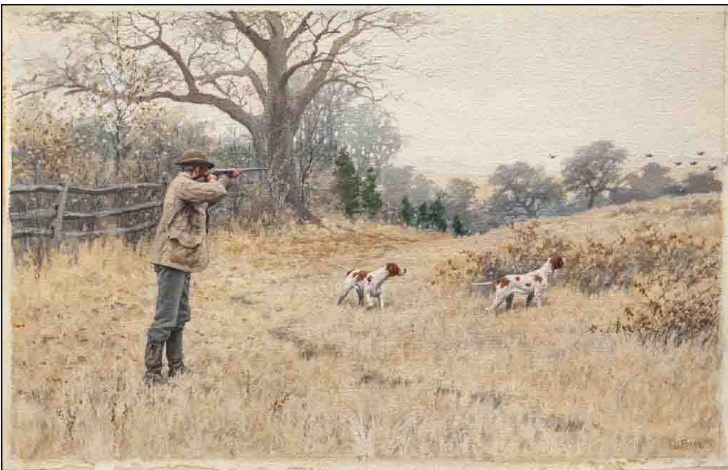
**After John James Audubon (1785-1851), "Snowy Owl," hand colored engraving, 38¾ by 25 inches (\$60/90,000).**



**"Traveler" by Sir Alfred James Munnings (English, 1878-1959), 1924, oil on board, 20 by 24 inches (\$80/120,000).**



**Nathan Cobb Jr (1825-1905) hissing brant decoy, circa 1890 (\$80/120,000).**



**"Quail — A Covey Rise," 1895 watercolor by Arthur Burdett Frost (1851-1928), 14 by 22 inches (\$40/60,000).**

CHARLESTON, S.C. — Copley Fine Art Auctions' winter sale will be conducted February 12 at the American Theater, 446 King Street, at 10 am. Copley returns with a dynamic offering of more than 560 items, including American paintings, drawings, prints, folk art, bird decoys and antique bamboo fly rods and reels.

Copley extends the momentum of its summer American and sporting art auction through a group of paintings with marked rarity and significance. These include a portrait by noted British artist Sir Alfred J. Munnings of the horse "Traveler" (\$80/120,000). Traveler belonged to Hilda Rice Ayer, who commissioned Munnings to paint her favorite horse in 1924 during his visit to Ledyard Farm and the United States.

A notable offering of original John James Audubon double elephant folio prints distinguishes the sale. The cover lot, Audubon's "Snowy Owl" plate, leads the group (\$60/90,000). Also slated to cross the block is Audubon's "Great White Heron," which highlights the artist's Charleston connection (\$30/50,000).

These works join with a selection of works by American sporting notables including A.B. Frost, Frank Benson, Edmund Osthaus, Ogden Pleissner and Aiden Lassell Ripley. A rare orig-

inal watercolor from Frost's "Shooting Pictures" series from 1895, titled "Quail — A Covey Rise" (\$40/60,000), and a unique oil self portrait with setters from 1911 by Edmund Osthaus will cross the block (\$20/40,000). Offerings from master Frank Benson include an exquisite watercolor depicting "Swans in Flight" (\$25/35,000) and more than 25 of his etchings and dry-points, including scarce interior scenes such as "Candlelight" (\$20/30,000) and "Mother and Child" (\$20/30,000).

Additionally, Copley brings an exceptional offering of hunting and polo scenes to the sale, such as a vibrant fox hunting watercolor by Aiden Lassell Ripley (\$18/24,000) and some 20 lots of original works by Paul Desmond Brown. Among these works is a grouping of pencil drawings from important historic polo matches, such as the 1933 East-West Match. Additional artists such as David A. Maass, William J. Koelpin, Lynn Bogue Hunt, John Whorf and Richard E. Bishop are also represented, among many others.

The decoy portion of the sale is headlined by the important Southern carver John William's ruddy duck decoy. This ruddy duck was hunted at the Narrows Island Gun Club in North Carolina's Currituck Sound

(\$120/140,000). A Nathan Cobb Jr hissing brant out of the rig of the Virginia carver's son, Elkannah, offers another rare and exceptional opportunity for the discerning collector to buy a piece of decoy history (\$80/120,000).

A bold and racy red-breasted merganser from New Hampshire maker George Boyd (\$60/90,000) joins examples of a willet (\$20/30,000) and dowitcher (\$15/25,000) by Charles Sumner Bunn or William Bowman. Decoy carvings by luminaries such as A. Elmer Crowell and Joseph W. Lincoln, along with many other named makers, will round out the offering of top-tier birds available this winter.

Also crossing the block as part of Copley's offering of folk art and fine sporting collectibles is an important group of antique bamboo fly rods and reels, as well as miniature furniture from the collection of Richard V. Strawbridge. A notable collection of items originating from the sporting outfitter Abercrombie & Fitch joins the offering, together with fine art items from the estate of Thomas W. Connally.

Previews will be Wednesday, February 11, 5 to 7 pm, and Thursday, sale day, 8 to 10 am when bidding begins. For additional information, 617-536-0030 or www.copleyart.com.

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## Student Symposia At Bruce Museum Features Student Art Historians

GREENWICH, CONN. — The next generation of art historians will be in Greenwich on February 7 and 21 for "Baroque Brilliance," a series of two inaugural student symposia organized by the Bruce Museum. Eight student speakers have been selected from prestigious art history programs to present their research at the museum. Doctoral students will present on February 7 and undergraduates will have their chance on February 21; both events run from noon to 4 pm and are open to the public.

"These symposia constitute a new and exciting chapter in the long history of education at the Bruce," said Dr Peter C. Sutton, executive director of the Bruce Museum. "For the first time we will be able to share the research of emerging scholars with the public, offering a glimpse at the thinking of tomorrow's art historians."

Student art historians to speak at Bruce Museum include Michele Frederick, Isabella Lores-Chavez, Denise Giannino, Julia Vazquez, Eleanor Goerss, Maggie Law, Rachel Johnson and Sebastián Morales. They will present research on the art and culture of Seventeenth Century Europe to complement the museum's current exhibition "Northern Baroque Splendor: The Hohenbuchau Collection from Liechtenstein. The Princely Collections, Vienna," on view through April 12.

The Bruce Museum is at One Museum Drive. For information, 203-869-0376 or www.bruce-museum.org.



**Student art historians to speak at Bruce Museum are, from left, top row: Michele Frederick, Isabella Lores-Chavez, Denise Giannino; second row, Julia Vazquez and Eleanor Goerss; bottom row, Maggie Law, Rachel Johnson and Sebastián Morales.**

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