

NEAL AUCTION'S

SEPTEMBER 12 AND 13, 2009 FALL ESTATES AUCTION

ACHIEVES \$2 MILLION

- Collector confidence in quality works is strong
- Active bidders from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, England, France, Germany, India, Israel, Italy, The Netherlands, the Philippines, Spain, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom, among others
 - Multiple, persistent bidders push beyond estimates to outstanding prices
 - Museum of Fine Arts, Houston lots fare exceptionally well
- John W. Mecom Collection of Mardi Gras Memorabilia exceeds estimate with \$36,000 in proceeds going to benefit the Galveston Art Center, Hurricane Ike Restoration Project
- Neal Auction sets another record price for a John James Audubon Havell edition engraving

TOP 20 LOTS



1 · AMERICAN ART · JOHN JAMES AUDUBON

The highlight of Neal Auction Company's September 2009 Fall Estates Auction was **lot 268**, a **John James Audubon (American, 1785-1851)** Havell engraving, *Blue Crane, or Heron*, which achieved the world record price of \$82,250.00— shattering the \$71,700.00 record previously held by Christie's for its sale of Audubons from the Ducal House of Sachsen-Meiningen. With active telephones, absentee bids, and saleroom interest, Neal Auction Company's elephant folio engraving soared above its \$30,000 to \$50,000 estimate, selling to a Southern collector on the telephone.

Neal Auction Company regularly sets record and near-record prices for works by John James Audubon. Recent notable results include *Purple Heron* (\$86,950.00, April 2009); *Louisiana Heron* (\$79,312.00, April 2009); *Pileated Woodpecker* (\$64,625.00, May 2008); *Night Heron, or Qua Bird* (\$41,125.00, May 2008); *Hooping Crane, View in the Interior of the Floridas* (\$41,125.00, October 2008); *Brown Pelican* (\$38,200.00, October 2008); *Canada Goose* (\$32,300.00, May 2008); and *Black-Bellied Darter* (\$29,400.00, December 2007) among others.

In addition to several exemplary Havell editions, Neal Auction's forthcoming annual Louisiana Purchase Auction™, scheduled this year for November 21 and 22, will include a very rare, 1860 John James Audubon Bien folio of *The Birds of America*.



Neal Auction Company

2 · 18TH CENTURY AMERICAN FURNITURE · WILLIAM & MARY

This September Neal Auction Company was honored with a consignment from the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, which included many items from the Bayou Bend Collection of Miss Ima Hogg, African Art, and other museum deaccessions. With an overall estimate of \$58,000 to \$88,000, **PART I of Neal Auction Company's sale of MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, HOUSTON DEACCESSIONS** achieved an overall total of \$153,000.00.

PARTS II and III of THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, HOUSTON CONSIGNMENT will be forthcoming this November and February and will include further items from Bayou Bend. Parts II and III will also include an impressive collection of Pre-Columbian Artifacts amassed by Ralph Fabacher and Higford Griffiths and authenticated by Dr. Gordon F. Ekholm of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, in 1965 when it was gifted to the museum by Alice Frazer Hogg Hanszen, sister-in-law to Ima Hogg.

Neal Auction's September highlight from **PART I of the MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, HOUSTON DEACCESSION** was **lot 273**, an early 18th century **American William and Mary Maple and Mixed Woods Armchair** which sold well above its presale estimate to achieve \$42,300.00. Accompanied by a distinguished provenance which includes that of Ima Hogg and Israel Sack, as well as a by a copy of Hogg's 1953 purchase receipt from John Kenneth Byard (Norwalk, CT), the armchair witnessed considerable attention and extensive scrutiny from museum professionals, dealers, and private collectors nationwide prior to its sale this past weekend. With six telephone bidders (including one from the UK) competing against the saleroom floor, the museum's William and Mary armchair sold to a mid-west American furniture collector after several minutes of intense bidding.



Neal Auction Company

3 · 18TH CENTURY ENGLISH FURNITURE · GEORGE III

Neal Auction Company's Fall Estates Auction carried several very good examples of period English furniture consigned by an East Coast antiquarian. **Lot 108**, a professionally restored, circa 1790 **George III Mahogany and Satinwood Breakfront Bookcase** generated significant presale exhibition interest, particularly from the local collecting community where homes are large enough to accommodate such a substantial piece. The 8 ½ by 9 ¾ foot breakfront bookcase sold for \$41,125.00 to a New Orleans family.



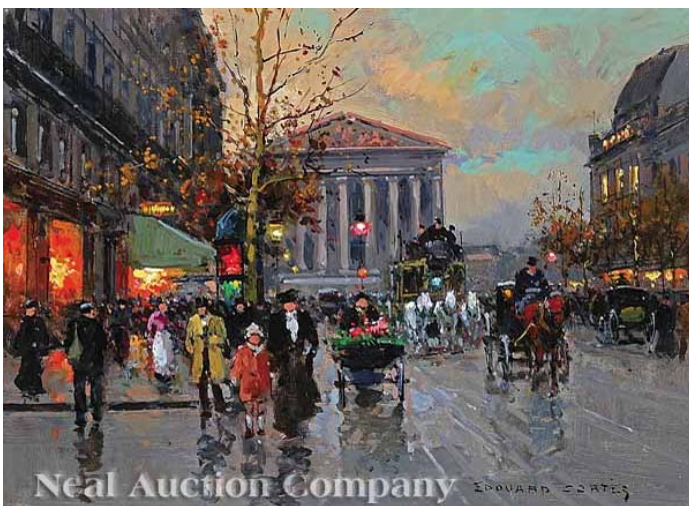
**4 · 19TH CENTURY ART FROM
THE AMERICAN SOUTH -
WILLIAM AIKEN WALKER**

As a chronicler of bygone times and people and places that today retain only a shadow of their former appearance and meaning, Walker's creations will be valued as long as there are those who seek to know the past and who value pictorial expression.

— Cynthia Seibels
The Sunny South: The Life of William Aiken Walker

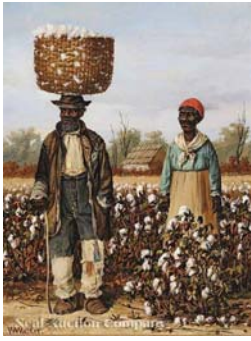
This September, Neal Auction Company offered **PART I OF THE ROBERT and EDNA MOORE COLLECTION OF AMERICAN ART** which included four **William Aiken Walker (American/Charleston, 1838-1921, active New Orleans, 1876-1905)** paintings. Further art from the Moore Collection will be offered in Neal Auction Company's annual Louisiana Purchase Auction™, scheduled this year for November 21 and 22. **Lot 260**, the first of the Moore Walker paintings offered this sale, was a 6 ¼ by 12 inch oil on board depicting *Male and Female Cotton Pickers with Children*. Carrying a low estimate of \$20,000, the Moore painting rose to \$35,250.00 amid intense competition from three out-of-state telephones, one Louisiana phone bidder, and considerable saleroom interest.

Neal Auction Company is the leading venue for the sale of important Southern art. Collectors will recall Neal Auction Company's momentous sale this past February, in which a small William Aiken Walker painting titled *Cotton Picker on a Mule* realized \$75,000.00— one of the highest prices ever paid for a Walker work at auction and the highest price achieved for such a small example.



**5 · 19TH CENTURY EUROPEAN ART - EDOUARD
LÉON CORTÈS**

Neal Auction's September sale included a customary host of English and European art, including an **Edouard Léon Cortès (French, 1882-1969)** painting which commanded a respectable \$28,200.00 selling price. **Lot 211**, Neal Auction's Cortès painting, *Parisian Street Scene*, saw interest from five telephones — which included bidders from France and England — one absentee bid, and the saleroom floor. The Cortès sold on the telephone to a Southern collector.



6 · 19TH CENTURY ART FROM THE AMERICAN SOUTH · WILLIAM AIKEN WALKER

Another **William Aiken Walker (American/Charleston, 1838-1921, active New Orleans, 1876-1905)** painting from **PART I of THE MOORE COLLECTION** which performed notably was **lot 263**. With seven competing telephone bidders as well as active participation from the auction floor, *Male and Female Cotton Pickers* more than doubled its presale low estimate of \$12,000 to achieve \$27,025.00— selling to a Louisiana local.



7 · 19TH CENTURY ART FROM THE AMERICAN SOUTH · JOSEPH RUSLING MEEKER

With multiple Louisiana telephones bidding against two out-of-state absentee bids, **lot 290**, Neal Auction Company's September **Joseph Rusling Meeker (American/Missouri, 1827-1889)** painting performed just shy of its presale high estimate to achieve \$22,325.00.



8 · 18TH CENTURY ENGLISH FURNITURE · GEORGE III

An early English case piece from the East Coast Collection, which also responded well to a New Orleans sale venue, was **Lot 46**, a circa 1770 **George III Inlaid Mahogany Bureau Bookcase**. The 92 ½ inch tall bookcase saw competition from multiple bidders from Texas and Louisiana, selling in the end to a Texas collector within the room for \$22,200.00— exceeding its presale estimate of \$12,000 to \$18,000.



9 · 19TH CENTURY ENGLISH SPORTING ART · THOMAS BLINKS

Against a \$15,000 presale low estimate, **Lot 117**, Neal Auction's **Thomas Blinks (English, 1860-1912)** sporting picture realized \$21,150.00.



10 · 19TH CENTURY AMERICAN FURNITURE · JOHN AND JOSEPH MEEKS

After undergoing stringent analysis and debate among 19th century American furniture aficionados brought on by the suggestion of a marriage between cabinet makers, Neal Auction Company's **lot 158**, a **Rococo Carved and Laminated Rosewood Étagère** attributed to the firm of J & J. W. Meeks, New York, passed scrutiny. With four very active telephones from the Northeast to the Midwest, the Meeks étagère sold within estimate to a well-known scholar of American furniture for \$21,150.00.



11 · 18TH CENTURY CONTINENTAL LOOKING GLASSES

Lot 65, a pair of late 18th century **Spanish Neoclassical Marble and Giltwood Looking Glasses** from the Bayou Bend Collection of Miss Ima Hogg did exceedingly well, climbing to an impressive \$20,400.00 against a presale estimate of \$4,000 to \$6,000. Thanks to the museum registrar's exceptional record keeping, Neal Auction Company was able to present the pair of mirrors with a copy of Hogg's 1922 receipt from New York dealer Charles Woolsey Lyon. Twelve telephone bidders from each end of the Eastern Seaboard and almost everywhere in between, as well as one UK bidder, competed against the auction floor in an intense bidding war.



12 · 20TH CENTURY ART FROM THE AMERICAN SOUTH · LOUIS OSCAR GRIFFITH

Lot 326, a **Louis Oscar Griffith (American, 1875-1956, active New Orleans, 1916-17)** oil on canvasboard depicting a *Sand Boat* docked along the New Basin Canal in New Orleans witnessed active bidding from all parts, including Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, and Michigan. *The Sandboat*, despite minor condition issues, achieved an impressive \$19,975.00 selling to a Southern art collector within the room.

Neal Auction Company continues to dominate the auction market in terms of works sold by Louis Oscar Griffith and his fellow Indianan, Robert Wadsworth Grafton, holding the record price for each individual artist, as well as for a collaborative work. Collectors will remember Griffith's *Unloading the Banana Boats* which sold in February 2007 for the record price of \$113,750.00; they will also remember *The Start*, a Griffith-Grafton collaboration, which achieved an unprecedented \$278,750.00.



13 · 19TH CENTURY ART FROM THE AMERICAN SOUTH · WILLIAM AIKEN WALKER

William Aiken Walker's (American/Charleston, 1838-1921, active New Orleans, 1876-1905) *Cabin Scene*, lot 261 from **PART I of THE MOORE COLLECTION**, exacted notice from three out-of-state telephone bidders as well as from several bidders within the room. The painting achieved \$18,800.00.



14 · 20TH CENTURY ART FROM THE AMERICAN SOUTH · WALTER INGLIS ANDERSON

Lot 325, a small watercolor by beloved Mississippi artist **Walter Inglis Anderson (American/Mississippi, 1903-1965)** fared respectably well. *Horn Island* saw interest from several telephones as well as from the saleroom floor, selling in-house to a Mississippi collector for \$18,800.00.

Neal Auction Company holds all the top prices for works by Walter Anderson, including the record price of \$162,000.00 which was achieved in December 2003 for an oil painting titled *Study for the Mural of the History of the South*.



15 · 19TH CENTURY ART FROM THE AMERICAN SOUTH · WILLIAM AIKEN WALKER

Lot 262, another of the **MOORE COLLECTION'S William Aiken Walker (American/Charleston, 1838-1921, active New Orleans, 1876-1905)** paintings in Neal Auction's fall sale garnered substantial interest from telephone bidders, absentee bidders, and bidders on the auction floor. Estimated at \$10,000 to \$15,000, *Cotton Picker with Pipe* exceeded estimate to achieve \$17,625.00.



16 · LATE 18TH/EARLY 19TH CENTURY SOUTHERN FURNITURE · LOUISIANA

Bearing an estimate of \$8,000 to \$12,000, **lot 276**, a diminutive (height 56 inches) late 18th/early 19th century **Louisiana Walnut Petite Armoire**, saw intense competition from two would-be owners, selling on the telephone for \$17,625.00.



17 · 20TH CENTURY ART FROM THE AMERICAN SOUTH · GEORGE RODRIGUE

A Neal Auction Company sale wouldn't feel complete without a work by local artist **George Rodrigue (American/Louisiana, b. 1944)**. Aptly bearing a "Get Some Cajun Culture: George Rodrigue" sticker en verso, **lot 311**, the early, 1984 painting titled *The Pirogue at Bayou Black* sold within estimate, achieving \$15,275.00.

18 · 19TH CENTURY CHINESE EXPORT PORCELAIN



Owing partly to Neal Auction Company's appreciation for the importance of international advertising, over the past few years Neal Auction's sales have witnessed substantial attention from Asia—frequently with multiple bidders vying for the same objects. While Neal Auction's Asian bidders tend towards the internet and telephones, in several instances, potential buyers have flown in to view works in person. Notably, in February 2008, Neal Auction Company offered a lacquer triptych by Nguyễn Gia Tri which was duly advertised in the international fine arts glossy, *Arts of Asia*, and given a two page catalogue spread. The painting sold to a buyer who flew in from abroad for \$50,000.00—the highest amount paid at US auction for a work by the artist. This year, two more substantial Asian art sales were made: the first, a pair of famille verte rouleau vases, which realized \$18,800.00, and the second, a mid-20th century, restored ivory river scene which climbed well over estimate to achieve almost \$15,000.00. This September's auction likewise witnessed considerable interest from Asia, and particularly mainland China and Hong Kong. The category's highlight was **lot 99**, a **Monumental Canton Famille Rose Bowl**, which soared above its \$7,000 to \$9,000 presale estimate to achieve \$14,400.00.

19 · 19TH CENTURY ENGLISH PAINTINGS · GEORGE BOUVERIE GODDARD

Lot 119, *The Horse Fair*, a sizable (48 by 96 ½ inch), 1872 painting by **George Bouverie Goddard (British, 1832-1886)** saw considerable interest from Southerners with large homes and long spacious walls. Bidding was aggressive - three Southerners competing against one Englishman - yet predictable, with a Southern gentleman within the room winning the painting for just over \$14,000.00.





20 • 19TH CENTURY SCOTTISH REGENCY FURNITURE

Lot 377, a circa 1810 **Scottish Regency Bronze-Mounted and Ebony Inlaid Satinwood Collector's Cabinet**, similar to one commissioned by the Prince of Wales for the Royal Pavilion in Brighton circa 1808, exceeded expectation to achieve a handsome \$13,512.00 amid saleroom and absentee interest.

GENERAL INFORMATION

For more information about this or any past Neal Auction Company sale, please visit 504.899.5329 ▪ www.nealauktion.com

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On the artist's last visit to New Orleans, in 1837, the French language edition of the Courier referred to Audubon as "L'auteur, né à la Louisiane..." Audubon was so pleased with the reception New Orleans gave him that he wrote his friend John Bachman, "I am glad, and proud Too; that I have at last been Acknowledged by the public prints as a Native Citizen of Louisiana." And in a letter to his wife, written at the same time, he refers to New Orleans as, "My 'Natal City!'"

– Davidson, Marshall B., *The Original Water-Color Paintings by John James Audubon for the Birds of America*, American Heritage/Bonanza Books, New York, 1985, with plate 94.



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