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The Year in Sculpture

EUROPEAN SCULPTURE & WORKS OF ART
LONDON - PARIS - NEW YORK 2021



January's historic sales in New York defied the repercussions of the pandemic, setting two auction records for Italian sculptors. A rare glazed terracotta relief by the founder of the Della Robbia dynasty, Luca the Elder, more than doubled its pre-sale estimate, fetching \$2 million in the Masters Week Evening Sale. Leading the singular collection of Hester Diamond was a masterpiece of the Baroque, the marble *Autumn* by Pietro and Gian Lorenzo Bernini, which sold for \$8.8 million. The same sale obtained outstanding results for Late Gothic wood sculpture, notably a life-size *Anna Selbdritt* by the Master of the Schongauer Altärchen. Masters Week in New York also featured a dedicated sale of Sculpture & Works of Art, which included important private collections and achieved a total result of \$2.75 million.

(FRONT PAGE)
PIETRO BERNINI AND GIAN LORENZO BERNINI
Autumn
Estimate \$8,000,000–12,000,00
Sold for \$8,881,500

(ABOVE)
LUCA DELLA ROBBIA
Madonna and Child
Estimate \$700,000–1,000,000
Sold for \$2,016,500

Paris

JUNE & NOVEMBER 2021



The sale of an exceptional collection of French Baroque bronzes in June confirmed Sotheby's Paris as the market leader in this field. With a final result of over €1.5 million, a superb cast of Michel Anguier's Neptune soared past its estimate to achieve a record price, followed by versions of Anguier's *Pluto* and *L'Air* by Etienne Le Hongre, which sold for €799,000 and €617,500 respectively. Further notable highlights from a busy year in Paris included a pair of important 18th-century marble vases, which sold for €460,200 in June, as well as sculpture sold in distinguished single owner auctions. such as those of Pierre Le-Tan in March and the Princesse de Salm in October.

MICHEL ANGUIER
Neptune
Estimate €300,000-500,000
Sold for €1,525,000

London

JULY & DECEMBER 2021



London's sales of *Old Master Sculpture & Works of Art* adapted to an online format with strong results throughout 2021. The year also saw the London department pioneer two successful auctions in collaboration with Tomasso, as well as participating in the *Treasures* sales, whose July edition included a bronze *Apollo and Python* which sold for £252,000. Focusing on the growing market for early jewels and glyptics, the new category of *Small Wonders*, introduced in 2020, brought a record price for a Renaissance intaglio with the sale of the *Arundel Zodiac* in July, which fetched £559,500 against an estimate of £120,000-180,000. The *19th & 20th Century Sculpture* market continues to be driven by an international demand for Romantic marbles, as exemplified by the exquisite *Reading Girl* by Antonio Rossetti sold in July.

(ABOVE)
ITALIAN, CIRCA 1540
The Arundel Zodiac
Estimate £120,000-180,000
Sold for £559,500

(BACK PAGE)
ANTONIO ROSSETTI
A Reading Girl
Estimate £80,000-120,000
Sold for £151,200

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

Master Paintings and Sculpture Part I
New York, 27 January 2022

Master Sculpture & Works of Art Part II
New York, 28 January

Sladmore
London, 6 April

Collection Jacques Ginepro
Paris, 18-23 May

Collection Anthony Embden
Paris, 15 June

Tableaux, Dessins, Sculptures 1300-1900
Paris, 14 June

Old Master Sculpture & Works of Art
London, July

Small Wonders: Early Gems and Jewels
London, July

19th & 20th Century Sculpture
London, July

Tableaux, Dessins, Sculptures 1300-1900
Paris, November

Old Master Sculpture & Works of Art
London, December

19th & 20th Century Sculpture
London, December



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