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Rare Painting of Colonial Port Melbourne Sails past the Estimate



MR CUST, active 1850s, *Sandridge Railway Jetty and Pier, Melbourne, Victoria* 1858. Sold for \$95,160 March 2018.

Sotheby's Australia's March sale of *Fine Australian & European Arts & Design* showcased a diverse collection of Australian and international arts and design. The sale followed *The Hans & Gertrud Mueller Collection of Lalique Glass* and *The Kirk Pengilly (INXS) Collection* and included 60 Australian & European works from the 1850s to the present and featured objects of exquisite craftsmanship and design from private collections which includes an extensive collection of fine Australian and European art, furniture, glass, porcelain and silver. The three sales achieved \$1.18 million with 86% sold by value, with interest from Australia and overseas.

A painting by a previously unrecorded artist Mr Cust was an extremely rare early example of the daily life in Port Phillip during the gold rush era. Much admired during the exhibition *Sandridge Railway Jetty and Pier, Melbourne Victoria 1858* realised \$95,180 following fierce room and telephone bidding (estimate \$5,000-8,000, lot 178, pictured previous) The artist captured the bustling activity around the pier with clippers, boats and steam ships, arriving, docking, unloading and loading and departing. Ominous clouds and dark skies set the stage whilst men on the foreshore unload building materials along with barrels and crates possibly for Liardet's hotel. By 1854 two piers, the Sandridge Town Pier and the Railway Pier (now Station Pier) were in operation along with a new railway line linking Melbourne with Sandridge enabling ships to load and unload goods and passengers directly onto the pier powered by the first steam passenger train in Australia.



Schulim Krimper (1893-1971), a teak cocktail cabinet. Estimate \$10,000-15,000 RESULT?

Contemporary art performed well with highlights including:

- Dale Frank's *Marco Leonardi* 2000, which sold for \$30,500 (estimate \$25,000-30,000, lot 201)
- Bill Henson's *Untitled 1987/88* (1987-1988) achieved \$18,300 (estimate \$15,000-20,000, lot 195)
- Tim Storrier's *Saddle I* 1982 realised \$18,300 (estimate \$15,000-20,000, lot 200)

Romanian born Schulim Krimper completed his apprenticeship with a local cabinet-maker prior to the outbreak of World War I. Having travelled through central Europe, Krimper settled in Berlin, Germany with his wife, but with the rising persecution of Jews in Germany they managed to immigrate to Australia via England where he helped to supervise the building of a refugee camp. During the 1950s and 1960s Krimper was Melbourne's premier supplier of custom-made furniture in the modernist style. He was renowned for his capability to reveal the beauty of timber, and the finesse of his joinery. A teak cocktail cabinet sold to a telephone bidder for \$23,180 (estimate \$10,000-15,000, lot 208, pictured).

AT A GLANCE

Australian & European Arts & Design (lots 178-243)
Auction in Sydney, 21 March 2018
InterContinental Sydney, 117 Macquarie Street, Sydney

Lots on offer: 65

Total sold \$406,931 including buyer's premium

Sold by volume: 52.31%

Sold by value: 80.07%

TOTALS FOR SALES ON 21 MARCH

The Hans & Gertrud Mueller Collection of Lalique Glass | The Kirk Pengilly (INXS) Collection | Fine Australian & European Arts & Design

Total lots on offer: 242

Total sold \$1,180,594 including buyer's premium

Sold by volume: 68.6%

Sold by value: 85.87%

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**Estimates do not include buyer's premium and prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium.*

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