

“LION KING” TAXIDERMY TRIUMPH COMES FULL CIRCLE



David Parsons with lion skin

New decorative arts manager

David Parsons has replaced Jack Jenkinson (who left Philips due to family commitments) as decorative arts manager. Formerly a furniture specialist with Leonard Joel, David has an arts honours degree from University of Melbourne and, as a long time collector and private art trader, frequented auction rooms in Australia and England, where he worked for eight years until 2005.

Jewelled treasures

Buyers will have a rare opportunity to purchase a fine quality loose pink argyle diamond at the following night's jewellery sale (from 6pm). Sourced from the Australian Argyle Diamond Mines, this stone is 0.33 carats and graded as 1PR with an intense pink colour. A large solitaire diamond ring weighing 3.95 carats is another strong attraction along with a 9.9-carat huge bombe yellow and white diamond ring of 18-carat yellow and white gold (pictured).



A complete specimen of an African lion greets auction goers checking out Philips Auctions latest decorative arts sale from noon on October 23.

The lion is undoubtedly the pick of the 44 stuffed animals on offer – Philips largest taxidermy sale to date. Some in the industry are starting to refer to managing director Tony Philips as the “Lion King”, as the popularity of these sales continues to grow.

Apart from the lion, the auction contains some excellent taxidermy examples including heads of a giraffe, zebra, American bison bull, kudu bull and sabre antelope; puma, cheetah and arctic wolf skins, three elephant feet (whereabouts of the fourth one unknown) and exotic birds of paradise.

For clock collectors, there is a quality collection of French and Swiss clocks including a 1920s art deco figural marble creation with cold painted resting maiden feeding a doe (pictured).

A late 19th century Swiss cylinder burr walnut music box from Geneva plays eight mandolin airs with bells, while the 1920s French art deco cold painted figure of Diana is typical of several good bronzes in the sale.

Chinese and Japanese silk embroideries, vases, Satsuma bowls and other items continue to prove popular and in this sale there are good examples of jade pendants and carved figures on offer.

Amongst the paintings a 16th-17th century Spanish School work of a papal envoy holding his cap and letter in a well-furnished room stands out, while Jeffrey Makin's Golden Pond is typical of the Australian art available.

Furniture pieces feature a 19th century Charles II-style oak refectory table (becoming increasingly popular) and a fine Victorian rosewood credenza.



Auction date

Sunday October 23 noon

Viewing

Wednesday October 19

9am-8pm

Thursday-Friday October 20-21

9am-5pm

Saturday October 22

noon-5pm