



# ANTIQUES TRADE gazette

THE ART MARKET WEEKLY

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## Dealer hails victory over St James's lease

by Laura Chesters

**A high court judgment could pave the way for more affordable rents for art and antiques dealers in St James's.**

After a six-year legal battle, textile dealer S Franses was victorious in a dispute with its landlord over a new lease and rent at the gallery in Jermyn Street.

Following a four-day hearing, culminating on June 18, the High Court case of S Franses Limited v Cavendish Hotel (London) determined the rent set in a new lease for the gallery should be £102,000, less than half the previous passing rent of £220,000.

*Continued on page 6*

## Sino-Tibetan bronze sets new German record

Stuttgart auction house Nagel called it 'beyond doubt one of the most important gilt-bronzes to appear on the market for many years' – and the monumental Ming dynasty Sino-Tibetan figure of the wrathful deity Vajrabhairava did not disappoint.

It became the most expensive work of art ever sold in Germany when it made €9.5m (£8.64m) on June 23.

Key to its significance is its impressive size, extraordinary detail and an imperial

*Continued on page 6*



**Left:** the English School double portrait, c.1650, sold for a hammer price of **£220,000** at Trevanion.

**Pick  
of the  
week**

## £220,000 for enigmatic faces of the Interregnum

**Believed to date from the mid-17th century, this double portrait is a fascinating painting on many accounts.**

Depicting a black woman from the Cromwellian period makes it rare enough, but the fact that she appears dressed as a social equal to her counterpart makes it rarer still. The two figures, whose clothes, hair and jewellery point to the fashions of the period, are also shown wearing decorative patches to their faces – an equally voguish feature that added another layer of curiosity to the work.

The 2ft 1in x 2ft 6in (64 x 75cm) oil on canvas had been in the collection of Lloyd Tyrell-Kenyon, 6th Baron Kenyon,

who died in 2019. It had been kept for at least a century at Gredington, the family's Shropshire manor house which was demolished in 1980. The artwork came to nearby saleroom Trevanion (20% buyer's premium) along with other paintings, books and works of art from Lord Kenyon's estate.

Lord Kenyon was quoted in a 1949 article in *Country Life* as saying: "We have a curious picture which has hung here for many years, but of which I know of no real explanation."

*Continued on page 10*

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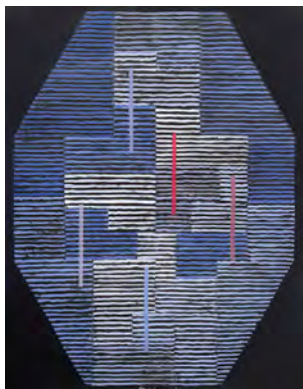






Photo: Larbig Moritz

**Right:** among the lots coming up for sale at Sotheby's in Cologne (above) is *Ohne Titel (Blauer Oktant)* by Adolf Fleischmann, 1951, estimated at €7000-9000.



and Milan. Sotheby's first opened an office in Germany (in Munich) in 1969.

Separately Sotheby's is launching a summer private sales gallery in Monaco, running from July to October.

Read more about German sales in ATG's feature this week (page 38-39 & 42).



**Left:** Grace Julier.

## Julier appointed by Hotlotz

Hotlotz in Singapore has hired Grace Julier as a valuer and appraiser. She was previously at Mallams in the UK.

## Mudge Green stands out in Taylor clock sale

Highlights from the first tranche of the clock collection of Isle of Man entrepreneur and horologist Dr John C Taylor (b.1936) were offered for sale by dealership Carter Marsh in London last week.

Close to half of the Part I catalogue was sold on the June 23 opening day at the Mayfair galleries of furniture dealer Ronald Phillips, with other sales anticipated later in the week. The exhibition, featuring all 46 pieces, will now be offered in Carter Marsh's Winchester premises from July 3-24.

The leading individual sale completed prior to opening was the Mudge Green, one of two shagreen-cased marine timekeepers made by Thomas Mudge as he pitched for the Longitude Prize in 1777. It had been bought by Dr Taylor at Sotheby's in 2004 for \$1.24m and was priced at £1.2m.

English Golden Age sales included an exceptional Charles II table clock by Henry Jones (1642-95). Made c.1673, around the time Jones left the apprenticeship of Edward East and started to work independently at the Inner Temple, it houses a full Grande Sonnerie striking movement in a flat-topped 'transitional' burr walnut case of a type that would become Jones' trademark. Described as the maker's chef d'oeuvre and dubbed 'the Masterpiece Jones', it was ticketed at £255,000.

Taylor's collection is perhaps the finest assemblage of English Golden Age and precision timekeepers in private hands. The dispersal of more than 150 clocks, watches and instruments will be conducted via a number of catalogued selling exhibitions, perhaps over two years.

Roland Arkell



**Right:** Charles II table clock by Henry Jones from the Dr John C Taylor collection.



## Most read

The most viewed stories for week June 17-23 on [antiquetrade gazette.com](http://antiquetrade gazette.com)

- 1 **Court judgment on rent for St James's gallery 'will impact wider market'**
- 2 **Rolex Daytona is £30 bargain in lockdown**
- 3 **Silver buyers release pent-up demand**
- 4 **Saleroom pulls 'looted artefacts from Maqda' after Ethiopian appeal**
- 5 **A Newlyn fisherman picture and a Jacobite goblet are among five lots to watch at auction**



## In Numbers

# 101.38

The number of carats in a pear-shaped D colour flawless diamond to be offered at Sotheby's Hong Kong in a single-lot live auction on July 9. The auction house said it would accept payment in Bitcoin or Ether for the item, estimated at HK\$78-118m (approximately £7.23m-10.93m), making it the highest estimate ever for a physical object offered for purchase with cryptocurrency.

# Bid Barometer

Online buying: realised prices at auctions on [thesaleroom.com](http://thesaleroom.com)

## TOP SELLING LOTS

### Bonhams, London, June 23

Patinated bronze figure of 'Peter Pan' by Sir George James Frampton (British, 1860-1928), dated 1913, 19in (48cm) high on marble plinth.

Estimate: £20,000-30,000

Hammer: £25,000



### Tennants, Leyburn, June 19

Mary Fedden (1915-2012), *Redcliffe Road*, signed and dated 1946, oil on canvas, 2ft 6in x 20in (75 x 50cm).

Estimate: £6000-8000

Hammer: £17,000



### Bonhams, London, June 23

Late 15th century south German or Tyrolean carved wood, polychrome and parcel gilt decorated figure of a male saint, possibly St John attributed to Michael Pacher (c.1435-98), 2ft 7in (78cm) high.

Estimate: £8000-12,000

Hammer: £16,000

## HIGHEST MULTIPLE OVER TOP ESTIMATE

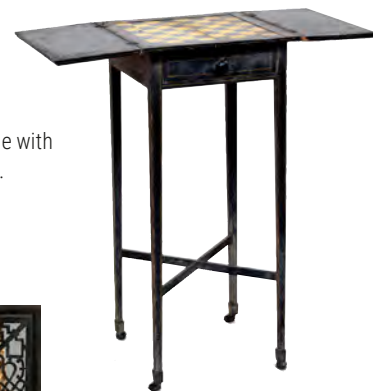


### Toovey's, Washington, West Sussex, June 23

Circle of Domenico Beccafumi, a 17th century pen and ink study of a river god, probably Scaldis, 4 x 8in (10 x 21cm).

Estimate: £100-150

Hammer: £9500



### Busby, Bridport, June 17

Regency ebonised chess table with fold-out painted chess board.

Estimate: £80-120

Hammer: £3000



### Elstob & Elstob, Ripon, June 19

Nineteenth century Chinese silk embroidery in a pierced hardwood frame, 18in (45cm) square.

Estimate: £50-70

Hammer: £3000

Source: Bid Barometer is a snapshot of sales on [thesaleroom.com](http://thesaleroom.com) for June 17-23, 2021.

'Highest multiple over top estimate' = Our selection of items from the top 20 highest hammer prices as a multiple of the high estimate paid by internet bidders on [thesaleroom.com](http://thesaleroom.com)

'Top selling lots' = Our selection of items from the top 20 highest hammer prices paid by internet bidders on [thesaleroom.com](http://thesaleroom.com)