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Press Release
For Immediate Release

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Sotheby's Australia re-launches Arts & Design sales in Sydney

On 15 April Sotheby's Australia re-launches Arts & Design sales in Sydney with an impressive selection of carefully selected Chinese ceramics and works of art and furniture, European furniture, glass and silver, and a strong selection of Australian and European paintings, sculpture and works on paper. With a total of 348 lots on offer, the sale estimate is $1.7-2.5 million. Sotheby's Australia has expanded the number of sales of Arts & Design from two to three sales per annum in 2014. The April sale will commence with property from The Mrs Gayle Rivkin Collection.

A diverse selection of Asian works of art, including ceramics, jade carvings, gilt-bronze figures and furniture have been consigned to the sale, reflecting the strong global demand for Asian art and the quality of fine examples in Australian collections.

A pale celadon jade 'phoenix' carving Qing dynasty, early 19th century.
Estimate $50,000-70,000

A feature of the sale is a pale celadon jade 'phoenix' carving from the Qing dynasty, early 19th century (estimate $50,000-70,000, lot 224, pictured). The auspicious bird has long held great significance in Chinese culture as a symbol of virtue and grace. A similar jade carving of a phoenix achieved a sale price of US$80,500 at Sotheby's, New York auction of Fine Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art in 2012.

A 'famille-rose' 'peach' vase, Tianqiuping from the Qing dynasty, 19th century (estimate $30,000-40,000, lot 144, pictured) is enamelled with peach trees. Peaches have been linked to endless bliss in Chinese mythology. Peaches bestowing immortality were believed to grow in the garden of Xi Wang Mu, the Queen Mother of the West.

A 'famille-rose' 'peach' vase, Tianqiuping Qing dynasty, 19th century. Estimate $30,000-40,000

A signed and dated tapestry by internationally renowned architect, designer and painter Le Corbusier (estimate $40,000-60,000, lot 290, pictured) is also featured. Originally from Switzerland, Le Corbusier moved to France and became a pioneer of modern architecture and found the Congrès International d'Architecture Moderne. He worked closely with Aubusson manufacturers Pinton Frères and his designs are highly sought by collectors around the world. *Traces de Pas Dans la Nuit* incorporates the designer's distinct use of figurative and abstract motifs with bold colour.

Le Corbusier 1887-1965, *Traces de Pas Dans la Nuit* 1948-1957. Estimate $20,000-30,000

Australian and European paintings feature strongly in the sale. *The Village Surgeon* by Dutch painter Jan Steen (circa 1625-1679) is a rare offering in Australia (estimate $40,000-60,000, lot 346, pictured). Renowned for painting lively and realistic genre scenes, Steen was one of Holland's most famous artists.

'Sotheby's Australia maintains its commitment to sourcing and offering only the finest examples of Arts & Design by historical, modern, and contemporary practitioners around the world,' said Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby's Australia. 'This commitment provides an unparalleled opportunity for collectors to engage with and potentially acquire works for an existing or newly established collection.'

Jan Steen, circa 1625-1679, *The Village Surgeon*. Estimate $40,000-60,000

AT A GLANCE
Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design
Auction in Sydney, 15 April 2014, 6 pm
InterContinental Sydney, 117 Macquarie Street, Sydney
Lots on offer: 348
Estimate range: 1,710,200-2,540,000

Exhibition in Sydney
10-14 April 2014, 10 am to 5 pm
30 Queen Street, Woollahra

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