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## Important Australian Art

AUCTION IN MELBOURNE 26 NOVEMBER 2013



ARTHUR STREETON 1867-1943, *EVENING, VENICE* (1908). ESTIMATE \$180,000-220,000

An impressive selection of **Important Australian Art** from colonial to contemporary paintings will be offered for sale by Sotheby's Australia on 26 November 2013 in Melbourne. Featuring 60 lots, the auction has a combined pre-sale estimate value of \$3.3 to \$4.4 million. Sotheby's Australia is particularly honoured to have been entrusted with the sale of seven works of art from The Estate of the late Dr Jan Altmann, including major works by Roy de Maistre as well as tapestries by John Perceval and Brett Whiteley.

A special highlight of the sale is Arthur Boyd's *Hunter III (The Lost Hunter)* 1944 (estimate \$380,000-420,000, lot 24, pictured). Produced in Melbourne during World War II, the painting is a highly idiosyncratic and personal composition and stands as a visual record of Boyd's response to global warfare and inhumanity. The pictorial ideas of *The Hunter* series originates from 1943, when Boyd was serving in the Army Survey Corps and stationed in the Victorian Central Highlands landscape around Bendigo. The companion works



ARTHUR BOYD 1920-1999, *HUNTER III (THE LOST HUNTER)* (1944). ESTIMATE \$380,000-420,000

in this small series are in the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; and Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide.

A painting formerly in the collection of the Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, *Antarctic Explorer* 1964 (estimate \$80,000-120,000, lot 14) is one of the finest paintings from Sidney Nolan's extraordinary series of paintings produced as a result of Nolan's two-week visit to Antarctica in January 1964 as a guest of the United States Navy. Nolan completed 63 known works in this series of Antarctic paintings, producing an astonishing 59 of these in a four-week period – an act of explosive creativity rarely matched by any other artist of the twentieth century. *Antarctic Explorer* was selected by Hal Missingham for the collection of the Art Gallery of New South Wales and soon became the most well-known and reproduced work of the entire series.

The remarkable *Evening, Venice* 1908 (estimate \$180,000-220,000, lot 10, pictured previous), which has remained hidden from public view for a century, is being offered from the descendants of prominent businessman and collector Oswald Syme. Painted in the year Streeton married and travelled to the canal city for his honeymoon, the work is reproduced for the first time in the Sotheby's Australia catalogue, having remained within the Syme family since it was acquired. Streeton's Venetian subjects are amongst his most highly sought after images. The consignment of *Evening, Venice* follows Sotheby's Australia's highly successful result of \$317,200 for Streeton's *The Doge's Palace* (1908) in May 2013.

'Sotheby's Australia remain highly focused and committed to sourcing and offering only the finest examples of paintings, sculptures and works on paper by Australia's most significant historical, modern and contemporary practitioners,' 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.'

## AT A GLANCE

### IMPORTANT AUSTRALIAN ART

#### AUCTION IN MELBOURNE

ANZAC HOUSE, LEVEL 1, 4, COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE  
26 NOVEMBER 2013 | 6.30 PM

ESTIMATE \$3,261,000-4,360,000

LOTS ON OFFER: 60

#### EXHIBITION IN SYDNEY

14-17 NOVEMBER 2013, 10 AM TO 5 PM  
118-122 QUEEN STREET, WOOLLAHRA

#### EXHIBITION IN MELBOURNE

21-26 NOVEMBER 2013, 10 AM TO 5 PM  
ANZAC HOUSE, LEVEL 4, 4 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE

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**For high resolution images, further information or to arrange an interview with Geoffrey Smith, Chairman, please contact John Keats or Yumeko Leung.**

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\*\*Pre-estimates do not include buyer's premium.