

Melbourne 28 June 2016

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# From Ghostly Woods Beauty Abounds

Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design  
Auction in Sydney 19 July 2016



A rare Wedgwood fairyland lustre 'Ghostly Wood' malfrey pot and cover, designed by Daisy Makeig-Jones, circa 1920.  
Estimate \$30,000-50,000

Some of Wedgwood's rarest and most striking designs will be auctioned by Sotheby's Australia on 19 July 2016 in Sydney. The sale features six objects by Daisy Makeig-Jones created between 1918 and 1925, a highlight being a 'Ghostly Wood' malfrey pot and cover (estimate \$30,000-50,000, lot 197). Fairyland lustre was introduced by Daisy Makeig-Jones for Wedgwood in 1915 and became immensely popular during the ensuing decade with its bold and fanciful designs inspired by the *Legends of Croquemitaine* by Gustave Doré and other similar fairy tales. The Fairyland lustre patterns were luxurious and expensive to create and production was discontinued in 1929 due to a change in taste and onset of the Great Depression.

Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby's Australia commented: 'Daisy Makeig-Jones soon rose within the ranks to become Wedgwood's most popular and prominent designer – a remarkable achievement for a woman in her era. Her distinct and unique fantastical designs, with their bright, gilded palette, coincided with the end of the First World War and provided escapism from the horrors of war and its aftermath and should be viewed within the context of the writings of C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien.'

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Four of the six works for auction are consigned by a private Sydney collector whose family acquired the works in the 1920s from the then Sydney high quality home-wares and interior design retailer Beard Watson & Co. Another version of the 'Ghostly Wood' malfrey pot and cover is in the collection of the Victoria & Albert Museum, London.



A selection of Wedgwood fairyland lustre, designed by Daisy Makeig-Jones. Combined estimate \$11,500-18,500

## AT A GLANCE

Wedgwood Fairyland Lustre, designed by Daisy Makeig-Jones

Lots 192-197. Combined estimate \$44,500-73,500

Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design

Auction at The Hughenden, 14 Queen Street, Woollahra, 19 July 2016, 6 pm

Total lots 197 | Total estimate \$787,900-1,137,300

Exhibition in Sydney, 30 & 34 Queen Street, Woollahra, 14-19 July, 10 am to 5 pm

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