

Melbourne 13 October 2016

John Keats 03 9508 9900 | 0412 132 520
John.Keats@sothebysaustralia.com.au

1881 Adelaide Hunt Club Cup Rare Australian Gold Trophy for Auction

Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design
Auction in Sydney 25 October 2016



The highly important 1881 Adelaide Hunt Club Cup, 18ct gold, by Henry Steiner. Estimate \$160,000-220,000.

One hundred and thirty five years after it was awarded, the 1881 Adelaide Hunt Club Cup will be presented by Sotheby's Australia for auction on 25 October 2016 in Sydney with an estimate of \$160,000-220,000 (pictured). The cup is the only known surviving 19th century South Australian gold trophy that remains in private ownership.

Mr Robert Barr Smith presented the trophy to the Adelaide Hunt Club as part of the prize for the winner of the annual Hunt Club race. Awarded by His Excellency the Governor of South Australia, the trophy was presented to Alexander and William Robertson in 1881 for the Adelaide Hunt Club Cup win by *Roebuck* ridden by Mr T. Baker. Modelled to a neoclassical form, the 18 carat gold cup features an elongated scroll handle and an inverted spout, the collared neck consists of a band of acanthus leaves above a tapered body, and was made by Henry Steiner of Adelaide.

1 | Sotheby's Australia is a trade mark used under licence from Sotheby's. Second East Auction Holdings Pty Ltd is independent of the Sotheby's Group. The Sotheby's Group is not responsible for the acts or omissions of Second East Auction Holdings Pty Ltd

A large crowd attended the steeplechase meeting of the Adelaide Hunt Club at Morphettville on Saturday 1 October 1881, under bright favourable weather conditions (the previous 24 hours were unsettled). There were ten starters in the Hunt Club Cup, with *Roebuck* considered amongst the favourites. In a tightly contested race, it was only in the home run that *Roebuck* beat his opponent, winning by a half a dozen lengths to rousing cheers from the crowd.

Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby's Australia commented: 'Sotheby's Australia is honoured to be entrusted with the historic sale of the 1881 Adelaide Hunt Club Cup. We have enjoyed a long history of selling racing memorabilia, including the *1867 Queens Plate* and *1867 Melbourne Cup* to the National Museum of Australia in October 2011 for \$720,000, and more recently the *1899 Melbourne Cup Trophy* for \$103,700'.

AT A GLANCE

The highly important 1881 Adelaide Hunt Club Cup, 18ct gold, by Henry Steiner, Adelaide
Won by the Robertson Brothers with *Roebuck*, ridden by Mr. T. Baker
585 gms, 36.3 cm high
Estimate \$160,000-220,000

Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design
Auction in Sydney, The Hughenden, 14 Queen Street, Woollahra, 25 October 2016, 6 pm
Total auction estimate \$1,270,700-1,750,000 | 261 lots

Exhibition in Sydney, 30 & 34 Queen Street, Woollahra, 20-25 October, 10 am to 5 pm

For More News on Sotheby's Australia

VISIT sothebysaustralia.com.au/articles/press

FOLLOW twitter.com/sothebysAUST

JOIN facebook.com/sothebysaustralia

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium and prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium.*

Images are available upon request

Photographic credit: Danny Kneebone, Sotheby's Australia

All catalogues are available online at sothebysaustralia.com.au

Copyright in the image(s) supplied shall remain vested in Sotheby's Australia. Please note that image(s) may depict subject matter which is itself protected by separate copyright. Sotheby's Australia makes no representations as to whether the underlying subject matter is subject to its own copyright, or as to who might hold such copyright. It is the borrower's responsibility to obtain any relevant permissions from the holder(s) of any applicable copyright and Sotheby's Australia supplies the image(s) expressly subject to this responsibility. Note that the image(s) provided is/are for a one-time use only and no permission is granted to alter the image(s) in any way.