

Melbourne 9 June 2017

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Rare Romanian Works of Art formerly from an Ambassador's Collection for Auction

Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design
Auction in Sydney 21 June 2017



NICOLAE GRIGORESCU 1838-1907 (*Hay Carts*). Estimate \$25,000-35,000

The 21 June auction of *Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design* presents an impressive selection of paintings including three works of art by Nicolae Gregorescu, consigned by the descendants of the former Romanian Ambassador to the United Kingdom, Viorel Tilea.

Romanian Ambassador to the United Kingdom from 1938 to 1940, Viorel Tilea was integral in aligning British foreign policy for Eastern Europe and its engagement with Germany, Hungary and Romania. A fascist regime overthrew the Romanian monarchy and government in the lead up to World War II, and, rather than returning to his homeland in 1940 after being recalled from his post, Tilea sought political asylum in the United Kingdom.

The Tilea collection of works by Nicolae Gregorescu are reminiscent of a more idyllic time than Tilea would have experienced, with (*Hay Carts*) depicting a calm day as bullocks pull drays of hay with the cart driver sitting calmly aloft the stack (estimate \$25,000-35,000, lot 253, pictured). A delightful floral *Still Life* from 1902 (estimate \$10,000-15,000, lot 254) and an intriguing charcoal drawing of a *Jewish Scholar Reading* (estimate \$800-1,200, lot 255) complete Viorel Tilea's collection being auctioned. The auction record for the artist is in excess of AU\$570,000.

AT A GLANCE

Fine Asian, Australian & European Arts & Design

Auction at The Hughenden, 14 Queen Street, Woollahra, Wednesday 21 June 2017, 5.30 pm

Total auction estimate \$1,552,300-2,205,400 | 416 lots

Exhibition in Sydney, 30 & 34 Queen Street, Woollahra

16-21 June, 10 am to 5 pm

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