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RUSSELL CROWE

The Art of Divorce

A selection of major works from the private collection of Russell Crowe will be auctioned by Sotheby's Australia on 7 April 2018. A date of particular significance as both the actor's birthday and wedding anniversary

The sale represents the dispersal of a highly personal collection that was assembled by Crowe over many years, including those shared with his former wife, Danielle Spencer

The Russell Crowe Collection comprises important paintings by some of Australia's most significant historic, modern and contemporary artists, furniture, movie memorabilia, musical instruments, watches and sporting memorabilia

Danielle Spencer has consigned a selection of jewellery from her personal collection, all of which were gifts from her husband



Russell Crowe (image: supplied)

Highlights include the Leandro Bisiach Snr violin (Milan, dated 1890) that Russell Crowe played as 'Captain Jack Aubrey' in Peter Weir's *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World* and a piece of Maximus's body armour and a chariot from Ridley Scott's *Gladiator*

On 7 April 2018, Sotheby's Australia will auction the private collection of actor, film producer, director and musician, Russell Crowe. The sale includes an important collection of Australian art, decorative arts, watches and jewellery, together with music and sporting memorabilia, and costumes, props, musical instruments and items from Crowe's extensive and diverse career in film and music. Consisting of 227 items, the sale is estimated at \$2.6 million to \$3.7 million and will be held at Carriageworks, Sydney.

Russell Crowe commented: 'Divorce has its way of making you really examine the things that are essential in life ... and the things that are not. Through the process I had a look around and realised I had a lot of stuff. Career stuff, stuff I've collected and stuff in general. Boxes and boxes of stuff. Paintings, Aubrey's violin, watches, costumes, memorabilia ... so in the spirit of moving forward into fresh air, here's a portion of that collection of stuff. The auction, to be conducted by Sotheby's Australia, will be held on the 7th of April, a date of particular significance as it's my birthday and also the anniversary of my marriage to Danielle Spencer. May others now enjoy my stuff!'

CROWE & COLLECTING

Russell Crowe is internationally acclaimed as an actor, film producer, director, musician and sports enthusiast. *Russell Crowe: The Art of Divorce* offers a rare glimpse into the private collections assembled by Crowe with discernment and dedication over many years.

CROWE & AUSTRALIAN ART

Highlights of Crowe's Australian Art collection include;

- Charles Blackman's *The Suitor* (1960) (estimate \$180,000-220,000, lot 91, pictured).
- Arthur Boyd's *Riverbank with Reflections and Cockatoos* (estimate \$120,000-160,000, lot 96).
- Brett Whiteley's *Moreton Bay Fig and Palms* (1974) (estimate \$100,000-150,000, lot 85, pictured).



CHARLES BLACKMAN, born 1928, *The Suitor* (1960). Estimate \$180,000-220,000



BRETT WHITELEY 1939-1992, *Moreton Bay Fig and Palms* (1974). Estimate \$100,000-150,000

CROWE & WATCHES & JEWELLERY

Highlights from the Collection include:

- A fine and rare platinum Vacheron Constantin automatic wristwatch with day date and power reserve (estimate \$40,000-60,000, lot 218, pictured).
- A Rolex Yachtmaster stainless steel and platinum automatic wristwatch with date, circa 2003, engraved 'MASTER & COMMANDER 2003' on the back (estimate \$10,000-15,000, lot 203).
- A platinum and 18ct white gold ring set with a 5.13 carat fancy yellow diamond within a border of marquise diamonds (estimate \$70,000-90,000, lot 187, pictured).



A fine and rare platinum Vacheron Constantin automatic wristwatch.
Estimate \$40,000-60,000

CROWE & FILM

Russell Crowe gained international critical acclaim for his work in film from the early 1990s. In the 2000 film, *Gladiator*, he played the Roman General, Maximus Decimus Meridius, and went on to win an Academy Award for Best Actor. Crowe has won 42 international awards, and gathered many more nominations. His awards also include a BAFTA, Golden Globe and a Screen Actor Guild best actor award.



A platinum and 18ct white gold ring set with a 5.13 carat fancy yellow diamond within a border of marquise diamonds.
Estimate \$70,000-90,000

Crowe's film career highlights include *The Crossing* (1990), *Proof* (1991), *Romper Stomper* (1992), *The Sum of Us* (1994), *L.A. Confidential* (1997), *The Insider* (1999), *A Beautiful Mind* (2001), *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World* (2003), *Cinderella Man* (2005), *American Gangster* (2007), *State of Play* (2009), *Les Misérables*

(2012), *Man of Steel* (2013) and *Noah* (2014). In 2015 Russell made his directorial debut with AACTA best film winner *The Water Diviner*.

Highlights in the sale from Crowe's acting career include;

- A concert violin by Leandro Bisiach Snr (1864-1946), after Andrea Guarneri, used by Russell Crowe as 'Captain Jack Aubrey' in the film, *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World* (2003), Milan, dated 1890 (estimate \$110,000-140,000, lot 31, pictured).



A violin by Leandro Bisiach Snr (1864-1946), used by Russell Crowe as the character, 'Captain Jack Aubrey' in the film, *Master and Commander* (2003), Milan, dated 1890.
Estimate \$110,000-140,000

- The costume worn as 'Captain Jack Aubrey' from the film, *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World* (estimate \$25,000-35,000).
- The stunt Cuirass / Gladiator costume worn by Russell Crowe as 'Maximus Decimus Meridius' in the scene of his death, in the film, *Gladiator* (2000) (estimate \$20,000-30,000, lot 10, pictured).
- A fully functioning replica Roman chariot from the film *Gladiator* (2000) (estimate \$5,000-10,000. Lot 17).
- A pair of maroon leather Doc Martens boots, worn by Russell Crowe as 'Hando' in the film, *Romper Stomper* (1992) (estimate \$10,000-15,000, lot 2).



The stunt cuirass worn by Russell Crowe as the character, 'Maximus', in the film, *Gladiator* (2000). Estimate \$20,000-30,000

CROWE & MUSIC

In addition to acting, directing and producing, Russell Crowe has a deep love of song writing and playing music that began in his teens and has continued through the bands *30 Odd Foot of Grunts* and *The Ordinary Fear of God*. More recently he has performed and recorded with *Indoor Garden Party*, a collection of international songwriters, musicians and singers. Their latest album *The Musical* briefly went to number 1 in the United Kingdom on Amazon and iTunes in 2017.

An avid collector of music memorabilia the sale includes;

- The 1986 Grammy Award, presented to Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, Jerry Lee Lewis, Roy Orbison, Sam Phillips, Rick Nelson and Chips Moman (estimate \$200,000-300,000, lot 90, pictured).
- Three Australian Gold Records presented to Johnny Cash (combined estimate \$21,000-24,000, lots 87, 88, 89).
- A limited edition Gibson Elvis Presley 'The King' J-200 'Black' acoustic guitar 1997 (estimate \$7,000-8,000, lot 80).



The 1986 Grammy Award Presented to Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, Jerry Lee Lewis, Roy Orbison, Sam Phillips, Rick Nelson and Chips Moman. Estimate \$200,000-300,000

CROWE & SPORTS

Russell Crowe has been an ardent sports fan. Investing heavily into his beloved rugby league team, South Sydney Rabbitohs, taking them all the way to an NRL premiership win in 2014 and World Club Champions in 2015, and restoring the Grand Old Club to its former glory.

Crowe's other great passion has been test cricket. With two cousins Jeff Crowe and Martin Crowe both captaining the New Zealand national side, he has said, 'for a long time cricket was the family business.'



The important Australian 'Baggy Green' Test cricket cap of 'W.A.S 'Bert' Oldfield' from the 1932-1933 'Bodyline' series. Estimate \$40,000-60,000

Sale highlights include;

- A life-sized bronze Donald Bradman statue by Carl Valerius (estimate \$50,000-60,000, lot 126).
- Bert Oldfield's 'Baggy Green' test cap worn during the 1932-1933 'Bodyline' Test series (estimate \$40,000-60,000, lot 129, pictured previous).
- A 2008 custom 'Rabbitohs' chopper motorcycle designed and made for Russell Crowe, by Orange County Choppers (estimate \$35,000-45,000, lot 95 pictured).
- A collection of items from Russell's cousin, New Zealand test cricketer, Martin Crowe (combined estimate \$32,200-54,400. Lots 100-123).

Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby's Australia commented: 'We are extremely honoured and privileged to offer items from the private collection of Russell Crowe. The sale, to be held on his birthday and wedding anniversary, will form another significant moment in the life of one of Australia's most acclaimed creative forces of our times. The collection will attract both national and international attention from new and existing collectors who will be given the opportunity to acquire works of quality with a unique provenance.'



A 2008 custom 'Rabbitohs' chopper motorcycle designed and made for Russell Crowe, by Orange County Choppers.
Estimate \$35,000-45,000

AT A GLANCE

Russell Crowe: The Art of Divorce
Estimate \$2.6 million to \$3.7 million | 227 lots

Auction in Sydney, 7 April 2018, 6 pm
Carriageworks, 245 Wilson Street, Eveleigh, New South Wales

Exhibition in Sydney 4-7 April, 10 am to 5 pm
Carriageworks, 245 Wilson Street, Eveleigh, New South Wales

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