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Sotheby's Head of Chinese Ceramics & Works of Art Visits Australia

Important Chinese Art | Auction in London, 9 November 2016



A rare blue and white faceted vase Xuande mark and period. Estimate GBP £200,000-300,000.
Sold for GBP £3,845,000 (AUD \$7,553,513) May 2015

Robert Bradlow, Senior Director and Head of Chinese Ceramics & Works of Art at Sotheby's in London, will visit Melbourne on 4-5 July and Sydney on 7-8 July to seek consignments for Sotheby's Important Chinese Art auction, which will be held in London on 9 November 2016.

Sotheby's achieved global sales of US\$349 million for Chinese ceramics and works of art in 2015. Recent highlights include the sale of the Pilkington Collection of Chinese Art, one of the last great English collections, in Hong Kong in April 2016. The collection realised £44 million against a low estimate of £14 million and illustrates the enormous growth of the Chinese market in recent years, which is a reflection of the strength of the market for top quality pieces with impeccable provenance.

Mr Bradlow is setting his sights on Chinese works of art in Australia's private collections.

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Robert Bradlow commented: 'Last year saw strong results for huanghuali furniture, Imperial Ming and Qing porcelain, figurative gilt bronzes and 18th century jade, demonstrating the continued high demand for Chinese art globally. Chinese works of art have been long held in Australian collections since the nineteenth century. Collectors can often overlook the significance of an item that has long been in a family collection and the Sotheby's local and international network can therefore help Australian residents achieve the strongest possible international results. An example of our relationship was the consignment of a set of four 'famille-rose' Eight Immortals panels by Wang Qi (1884-1937) consigned by an Australian resident. With an estimate of USD \$500,000-700,000 the panels achieved an outstanding result of USD \$1.8 million (AUD \$2.3 million) at Sotheby's New York in March 2015.'



A fine pair of famille rose 'peony and magnolia' bowls, Yongzheng mark and period. Estimate £40,000-50,000. Sold for £131,000 (AUD \$281,321) November 2015

One of Sotheby's most recent stand-out successes was in London's May 2015 sale, when a rare blue and white early 15th century Ming Dynasty faceted vase, sold for £3.8 million (AUD \$7.5 million) against a presale estimate of £200,000-300,000 (lot 38, pictured previous).

Robert Bradlow joined Sotheby's in 2000 and has been the Senior Auctioneer of the Chinese Ceramics & Works of Art department in London since 2008. Mr Bradlow has been in the auctioneering business for 30 years. He began his career at Sotheby's as Head of the Decorative Arts department in Australia, where he was responsible for the Asian Art sales. Prior to joining the company, he worked at Phillips International Auctioneers as a Chinese Works of Art Specialist and established their Melbourne office in 1992.

AT A GLANCE

Robert Bradlow, Senior Director, Head of Department Chinese Ceramics & Works of Art, London

Visit to Melbourne 4-5 July 2016

Level 8, 41 Exhibition Street, Melbourne VIC

Visit to Sydney 7-8 July 2016

30 Queen Street, Woollahra NSW

Important Chinese Art

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