

**Books and Manuscripts** November 1962 to present, 706-C555B+  
Books, manuscripts, autographs, historical documents, and maps.

**English and Continental Porcelain and Glass** October 1962 to present, 706-C555E+  
Paperweights, art nouveau, stoneware, Meissen, majolica, etc.

**Furniture** October 1962 to present, 706-C555F+  
Furniture, tapestries, Eastern rugs and carpets, textiles, clocks, musical instruments, pewter and metalwork. Whenever furniture is grouped with other items which fit into other categories, furniture takes precedence.

**Jewelry** October 1965 to present, 706-C555J+  
All jewelry except ancient jewelry, which is included with Antiquities.

**Objects of Art and Vertu** October 1962 to present, 706-C555O+  
Miniatures, enamels, watches, gold and other artistic boxes, steam engine and ship models, icons and other Russian works of art, Fabergé eggs, musical toys, dolls, fans, textiles, costumes, Medieval and Renaissance sculpture, scientific and mathematical instruments, typewriters, vintage machines, bond bank notes, writing instruments, mechanical music machines, etc.

**Pictures, Drawings and Prints** June 1959 to present, 706-C555P+  
Includes paintings, drawings, watercolors, and contemporary works of art, fine sculpture (except ancient sculpture which is included with Antiquities and Medieval and Renaissance which is included with Objects of Vertu). Prints are included except Chinese and Japanese prints which are included with Asian Works of Art.

**Silver** November 1965 to present, 706-C555S+  
Includes English and foreign silver and gold, sometimes combined with enamels, ivory, or other precious substances.

### ■ Using the Collection

The auction catalogs from the year 1990 to date are available for browsing in the Art, Music & Recreation Department on the second floor of the Central Library. Older catalogs must be requested from the librarian who will retrieve them from storage. The library attempts to keep the realized price lists with each catalog, but should one be missing, they are easily located on the Christie's and Sotheby's websites.

The catalogs are stored in binders which can be undone if a photocopy is needed. The Department has a color photocopier from which patrons can make copies for purchase.

### ■ Helpful Websites

Christie's [www.christies.com/](http://www.christies.com/)  
Sotheby's [www.sothebys.com/](http://www.sothebys.com/)

**Invaluable** *Library subscription available only for use within Milwaukee public libraries.*

With records dating back to 1986, this database includes millions of unedited public auction sales results from more than 2,000 auction houses (many provide full-text transcriptions of original catalog entries).

Each record lists the auction house with contact data, location, market value, auction history, detailed lot descriptions, and a host of other relevant information pertaining to fine or collectible art, antiques, jewelry, furniture or other collectibles.

The database image file has more than a million photos, and each week, hundreds of upcoming auctions are featured. Information is also provided on more than 500,000 international artists.



**Going  
once,  
Going  
twice,  
SOLD**

**A guide to Milwaukee Public Library's  
Auction Catalog Collection**

Collecting antiques, art and nostalgia items are popular pastimes. The Central Library has established an area of the Art, Music & Recreation Department on the second floor where those interested in fine art and antiques may browse and use auction catalogs from the Christie's and Sotheby's auction houses. There are print and online indexes available as well as the websites of Christie's and Sotheby's to assist patrons in locating specific items or sales.

The library also collects auction catalogs of local auction houses like Milwaukee Auction Galleries (1966-1988) and Schragger Auction Galleries (1986-2009) and the Milwaukee catalogs from the local office of the Leslie Hindeman Auction Galleries of Chicago.

## ■ Organization of Auction Catalogs

At the Central Library, the New York catalogs for Sotheby's and Christie's are separated from the European catalogs (which include Hong Kong) and are arranged by date (not sale number). The European auction catalogs are arranged by broad topical categories and then by date within those categories (not sale number).

## ■ Sotheby's

**New York** January 1938 to the present, 706-P241+ (formerly known as Park-Bernet)

This category may include auctions for other American cities.

**Antiquities** October 1965 to present, 706-S717AN+ European sculpture prior to 1000 CE, Greek and Roman antiquities, ancient Egyptian works, Near Eastern and Islamic works of art, Indian and Southeast Asian sculpture, African and Oceanic sculpture, pre-Columbian art, primitive art, ancient jewelry, minerals, fossils and meteorites.

**Arms and Armor** 1963 to present, 706-S717AR+ Firearms, armor and swords, edged weapons and regimental badges, helmet plates and headdress.

**Asian Works of Art** November 1965 to present, 706-S717J+ Until 2011, this category dealt exclusively with Japanese works of art including prints, paintings, bronzes, netsuke, screens, inro and lacquerware. As of 2011, Chinese works of art in these categories are being included. Ceramics, pottery and glass will continue to be included in the **Ceramics and Glass** category.

**Ballet Material** 1967 to present, 706-S717BAL+

**Books and Manuscripts** July 1948 to present, 706-S717B+ Books, autographs, manuscripts, miniatures from books, historical documents, and maps.

**Ceramics and Glass** 1963 to present, 706-S717C+ Pottery and porcelain, including both Chinese and Japanese.

**Coins and Medals** 1965 to present, 706-S717CO+ Coins, medals, military decorations and banknotes.

**Furniture, Clocks and Works of Art** October 1963 to present, 706-S717F+ Fine furniture, rugs and carpets, tapestries and textiles, musical instruments, clocks (unless combined with watches or scientific instruments, then classed with Objects of Vertu), metalwork, jewelry, needlework, toys, games, music boxes and rock n' roll memorabilia.

**Objects of Vertu** October 1965 to present, 706-S717O+ Portrait miniatures, watches and scientific instruments, icons, gold or jeweled boxes, playing cards, silhouettes, collections of Art Nouveau, Art Deco and Arts and Crafts, medieval, Renaissance and baroque sculpture, and other works of art. (Sculpture prior to 1000 A.D. is included with **Antiquities**, modern sculpture is included with **Pictures, Drawings and Prints**.) Other items include writing instruments, costume and sporting goods.

**Pictures, Drawings and Prints** October 1963 to present, 706-S717P+ Old master paintings and drawings, 18th and 19th century paintings and drawings, Impressionist, modern and contemporary paintings. Sculpture and photographs are also included. (Until 2011, prints were found in a separate category at 706-S717PR+.)

**Silver and Jewelry** October 1965 to present, 706-S717S+ Silver and gold items, plate and jewelry are included.

**Stamps** 1977 to present, 706-S727+ Stamps and other postal related items.

## ■ Christie's

**New York** May 1977 to present, 706-C5575+ All auctions held in the Park Avenue location. From November 1962 to 2001 the library also received New York catalogs for Christie's East 706-C565 which included auctions of lower valued items.

**Antiquities** November 1962 to present, 706-C555AN+ This broad category includes ancient sculpture, jewelry, coins and medals; Indian, Nepalese, Tibetan and Far Eastern sculpture and works of art if they do not fit into the Asian art category; primitive art; and Islamic and Persian works of art, and Greek and Etruscan vases.

**Arms and Armor** November 1965 to present, 706-C555AR+ Antique and modern arms, Japanese arms and armor including swords, vintage firearms and modern sporting guns.

**Asian Works of Art** October 1962 to present, 706-C555C+ Chinese and Japanese porcelain, ceramics, carvings, bronzes, and works of art, including contemporary art, prints, paintings and screens.