

**EAST IS EAST BUT TEXAS IS BEST
...FOR JULIAN ONDERDONK ART**



Previous Page: The top lot of the auction was Julian Onderdonk's oil on canvas, "Morning Sunlight (Milkweeds and Live Oaks near Leon Springs, Texas)," that trumped its \$80/120,000 estimate to fetch \$240,000. The painting headed back to its native Texas. (Click image to see full size)

Right: This Italian Renaissance Revival dining room set with inlaid hunt scenes, carved carytids, Northwind masks and stained glass doors performed well at \$13,200.

By Andrea Valluzzo

MONROE, CONN. — There was never any chance that the Julian Onderdonk painting would go anywhere but Texas.

Gracing an East Coast auction, the Texas native's oil on canvas, "Morning Sunlight (Milkweeds and Live Oaks near Leon





Springs, Texas),” soared over its \$80/120,000 estimate to fetch \$240,000 on May 17 at Fairfield Auction. The winning buyer is a Texas collector who was represented in the gallery by his agent. The underbidder on the phone also hailed from Texas. Opening at \$75,000, the signed and dated painting (1919) drew only a few bidders, but the final two were determined.

“That was the big item of the sale,” said auctioneer Jack deStories, who noted that the sale altogether was “very solid and we’re very pleased with the results.” He was also grateful they overcame their technical difficulties quickly that morning.

A large KPM porcelain plaque of an exotic woman with a fan achieved \$5,520.

Auctions usually start like clockwork at 11 am here but the Internet platform went down so the sale was delayed about a half hour. “In this day and age, it’s the worst fear of

auctioneers, losing the Internet connection. Rosie and Zoe got up there [on the podium] and were as cool as cucumbers,” Jack noted. Zoe, Jack and Rosie’s daughter, came down from

This bag of American silver quarters, pre-1965, went out at \$8,040.





A Whiting sterling silver water pitcher with elaborate seashell decoration made \$9,000.

Cambridge to help out at the sale, and ended up calling half the auction.

While the Onderdonk was the crowd pleaser, several other paintings in the sale stood out. Pietro Barucci's "Fishing Boats," a signed oil on canvas, fetched \$6,000. The painting graced the auction catalog cover. Eric Sloane's two oils on Masonite performed well: a scene depicting a covered bridge in winter brought \$7,200, and one of a man fly

fishing under a covered bridge took \$6,240.

Most of the highlights in the auction were in the \$5/10,000 range. An exception among furniture was an Italian Renaissance Revival dining room set with inlaid hunt scenes, carved carytids, Northwind masks and stained glass doors. It sold well over

estimate at \$13,200.

A hoard of silver American coins, back when coins contained a good portion of silver, filled six bags, and were sold separately ranging from a 328-troy ounce bag of dimes at \$5,040 to a 517-troy ounce bag of quarters for \$8,040. ([Continued on page 8 inside the E-edition](#))

[Read Full Article](#)

[Read Full Article
on Mobile](#)

Browse More

Buyers Flood Spring
Brimfield Week In Event's
57th Year, Buying And
Selling Reign Supreme



Q&A
Dean Lahikainen



Evolving And Becoming
The New
Whitney Museum Of
American Art

