

Shannon's Spring Fine Arts
Sale Sees Strengths In All
Categories



Previous Page: "Le Chemin de Fer a L'Estaque," a signed and dated 1918 oil on canvas, 12½ by 16 inches, by Albert Marquet (1875–1947) tripled low estimate to sell for \$66,000. Shannon's sales of European works of art have accelerated in the digital age.

By Laura Beach

MILFORD, CONN. — Twice annually, the specialty auction house Shannon's sells a range of American and European paintings, drawings, prints and sculpture. The response to the firm's varied April 23 auction pointed to strengths in the market in its middle to upper reaches and proved again that the

Rehs Galleries acquired "A Maid in Her Garden" (\$125/175,000) by Daniel Ridgway Knight (1839–1924) after the auction for \$120,000. The work will be included in Rehs' forthcoming catalogue raisonné on the American artist, who trained at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts before journeying to France. (Click image to see full size)



best works command top dollar.

“Overall, we did very well. Including subsequent transactions, we were 78

percent sold by lot,” said Sandra Germain, who manages the family business with her father, Gene



Influenced by Monet at Giverny, the American artist Lawton Silas Parker (1868–1954) brushed “Midsummer Idyll,” an enchanting evocation of spring that achieved \$66,000 (\$40/60,000). The oil on canvas board painting measures 22 by 30 inches. (Click image to see full size)

Shannon. Originally a dealer, Shannon cut his teeth on Hudson River and other Nineteenth Century American landscapes. The category



yielded the day's top lot, the signed and dated 1891 "Fishing on the Merced

"Willow and Cottonwoods" by Birger Sandzen (1871–1954), 1932, 14 by 11¾ inches, \$28,800 (\$20/30,000). A vivid Post-Impressionist palette contributes to the appeal of this oil on panel by the Swedish-born painter of American West and Midwest landscapes. (Click image to see full size)

River," \$180,000, a first-rate oil by Thomas Hill, an artist perhaps best known for Yosemite views such as this one.

The figure in landscape was the forte of Daniel Ridgway Knight, an American

painter much influenced by his years in France. To Rehs Galleries, sponsors of the Ridgway Knight catalogue raisonné project, went “A Maid in Her Garden.” Shannon’s brokered the idyll post-auction to the New York dealer for \$120,000.

Affiliated with the Giverny school in France, ex-patriot American

Previously unknown to scholars of the abstract artist Hans Hofmann (1880–1966), this untitled work exceeded its high estimate to sell for \$132,000. Hofmann’s former student Justina Hart (1907–2011), a contemporary of Blanche Lazzell, acquired the 18-by-15-inch oil on panel dated 1949 from the artist, who inscribed it to Hart on reverse.



painter Lawton Silas Parker brushed Shannon's lush cover lot, "Midsummer Idyll." The pretty depiction of a woman picnicking in a flowery bower

made \$66,000. Similarly vernal, "Two Women in a Garden" by Francis Coates Jones crossed the block at \$20,400.

Gene Shannon and his daughter Sandra Germain operate Shannon's, the fine arts auction house. Above Sandra is "Elegant Woman with Blue Porcelain" by Edouard Richter, \$10,800. "Portrait of a Gentleman" by James Carroll Beckwith, below right, made \$7,200. Left and right, W. Savage Cooper's "Young Women in A Flower Garden" and Charles Webster Hawthorne's "Lady in a Wicker Chair" passed.



Early Twentieth Century works by painters associated with the colonies in Old Lyme, Conn., and New Hope, Penn., included the Everett Longley Warner urban nocturne “Rain,” \$36,000, and “Spring Road” by John Fulton Folinsbee, \$26,400. The vibrant “Willow and Cottonwoods,” \$28,800, perhaps depicts New Mexico or Colorado, where the Swedish-born Birger Sandzen spent

Born in 1957, Stephen Scott Young is admired for his accomplished watercolor portraits, often of Southern and Bahamian subjects. Shannon's offered two works by Young. "Over The Fence," (shown right) an undated watercolor on paper measuring 11½ by 13½ inches, achieved \$29,520 including premium. "Kids' Game" realized for the same price. Charming portraits of children are Young's best-selling subjects.



time. Shannon's was also pleased with two snow scenes: "Winter Trees" by Emile Gruppe, \$26,400, and Walter Launt Palmers' "Pines at Sunset," \$24,000, a presentation piece for a friend. Buyers of American coastal views passed on Edward Moran's

"View of Paulus Hoeck (Hook), New Jersey from New York Harbor," circa 1862, \$80/120,000, but leapt to James Edward Buttersworth's "The Yacht Race," which doubled estimate to sell for \$69,900. ([Continued on page 43 inside the E-edition](#))

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