

Scarce, expressive dolls falling under the gavel in Texas

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — For nearly 40 years, in her home just behind the famed Oslo Castle, Liv Greta Brem has gathered a consummate collection of fine European antique dolls, including those once owned by the family of the Norwegian expressionist painter, Edvard Munch.

Expressions, in fact, has been the theme of the Brem collection, as she sought dolls whose faces and poses reflected human moods, both of children and adults. Fine antique dolls of bisque, porcelain, paper mache, wood and wax filled every cranny of this private museum. The auction is filled with superb dolls from the most noted French dollmakers including Bru, Jumeau, Steiner, Schmitt and Gaultier – in sizes ranging from the rare grand size 16 to the tiny size 1. Bébés stand side-by-side with lady poupées including a very fine Huret with her trunk and trousseau (of which two dresses have the Huret stamp), wooden-bodied Bru models, and other examples in their totally original costumes.

A fine wooden doll traces her stylistic lineage to the Lord and Lady Clapham family as seen in the Victoria and Albert Museum, and other rare dolls still retain their original provenance such as the porcelain “Mabel Lee” with her trunk, trousseau and family story.

There are early cloth folk art dolls including a mint Sheppard Baby, two fine early Columbian dolls, a small collection of Lenci dolls, an early period Steiff bear from the original family home, English peddler dolls, early English wax, French automata, a collection of finely crafted 19th century maitrise doll-sized furnishings, early Kathe Kruse, grand arrangements of Elastolin soldiers and scenes, and even a large collection of Nancy Ann Storybook Dolls (sold in large groups), as well as Style Show ladies.

The collection includes more than 350 dolls and related childhood playthings, and is available for bidding by attending the auction, or via absentee, telephone, or live internet bidding.

Theriault’s May 6 “Expressions - A



Top Left: Fine early English wooden doll from the Lord and Lady Clapham series, late 1600s, original finish, with elements of her original costume, 16 inches high, \$8,000-\$11,000.

Top Right: Early German Steiff teddy bear, from original family, amber-golden mohair, circa 1915, 16 inches high, \$1,200-\$1,600.

Above Left: French bisque poupée by Gaultier with original costume (including burgundy serge gown with ice blue silk and lace trim), circa 1870, 14 inches high, \$2,500-\$3,500. **Above Center:** French rosewood chaise a porteur with elaborate marquetry inlay, mid 1800s, 21 inches high by 11 inches long by 8 inches wide, \$1,200-\$1,700.

Above Right: French bisque poupée by Jumeau with original costume, circa 1875, 15 inches tall, \$2,500-\$3,500.

Photo courtesy Theriault's

Marquis Antique Doll Auction” will be conducted at the Marriott Las Colinas, 223 Las Colinas Blvd. W, Irving (Dallas), Texas; the auction begins at 11 a.m. Central Time. The complete catalog can be viewed at www.theriaults.com.

For more information, call 800-638-0422 or email info@theriaults.com. ■



Photo courtesy Cordier

Zenith Tombstone radio may play to the tune of \$1,500

HARRISBURG, Pa. – A Zenith Walton Tombstone radio dating to 1938 (\$1,000-\$1,500, *shown*) will be among the top lots in a two day auction of antique radios, parts, and accessories presented by Cordier Auctions May 6-7. Bidders may participate at the company’s Harrisburg, Pennsylvania auction house, or online during the second day of the sale.

An Emerson Catalin (\$600-\$800) is expected to lead the tabletop radio lots.

A large number of accessories and equipment will also be sold, including four Atwater Kent breadboards (\$500-\$1,000 each), a Federal Type 59 receiver (\$500-\$700) and a Grebe CR8 Synchrophase receiver (\$500-\$700); each date to the early 1920s.

More than 13,000 radio tubes from various manufacturers (many in the original boxes) will be offered, including dozens of rare examples. Of note are four Western Electric 274A full wave rectifiers (\$600- \$900 each) and more than 20 Western Electric globe and dome tubes.

Ephemera and advertising from the halcyon days of radio will be offered, including Radiotron and General Electric advertising dolls, collections of vintage magazine advertisements, Nipper (RCA’s mascot dog) figures, and more.

Day one of the sale will consist of over 500 uncataloged lots of radios, parts, accessories, and ephemera, including many large lots. The online catalog of second day offerings is available at www.CordierAuction.com. ■