

Auctions & Exhibitions

ROCK ISLAND AUCTION BRINGS \$5.2 MILLION

Held last August, the Premier Firearms sale of Rock Island Auction Company generated more than \$5.2 million, the second best total in the company's eleven-year history. The auction results reflected a very strong market for antique and collectible firearms and related material.

Highlights among the sporting arms included a cased custom grade Winchester Model 21 with two barrel set, which sold for \$19,550; a Winchester Model 1886 .50 Express rifle, \$17,250; a cased engraved Belgium Browning Diana Grade Superposed Shotgun with two barrels, for \$11,500; and a Browning Gold Medallion rifle with scope, for \$5,175.

A number of Wells Fargo-related firearms and ephemera also brought impressive bids. For example, an Ithaca double with Wells Fargo markings sold for \$2,300, roughly 360 percent more than its high estimate.

Nearly one-fourth of the lots surpassed their highest pre-sale estimates. A world record was set for a rare Singer M1911A1 Automatic Pistol, which sold for \$43,125. The previous record was \$40,250. The sale keeps Rock Island Auction Company on track to surpass its industry record-setting year in 2004.

Rock Island's next Premiere Firearms Auction is set for December 3-5 at its

auction house in Moline, Illinois. It will feature the second installment of the Warren Greatbatch single-shot rifle collection, U.S. military and European long guns and handguns, and much more. For more information call 800-238-8022 or visit www.rockislandauction.com.

KIRMSE CANINE ART TO BE EXHIBITED

The second, and most comprehensive, American exhibition of works by renowned animal artist Marguerite Kirmse will open Nov. 5 and continue through Dec. 17 at the William Secord Gallery in New York.

The show will present more than 150 pictures depicting some forty breeds of dogs, including bulldogs, spaniels, collies, foxhounds, English setters, Labrador retrievers and Scottish terriers, for which Kirmse is best known.

Born in England in 1885, Kirmse was a versatile and dedicated artist, and while her reputation is based on etchings, the exhibition includes 20 original signed pencil drawings and one oil painting. Noteworthy among the 75 etchings are separate portraits of a fox and a hound, published in 1933 by The Derydale Press.

For more information contact William Secord Gallery at 212-249-0075 or via e-mail: wsecord@dogpainting.com.

