

# ARTCURIAL

## *Art Déco*

# A PARISIAN MORRIS COLUMN AT AUCTION

Auction 23rd May 2017 at 7pm, in Paris



Morris column, cast iron, steel body, zinc top and Plexiglas crown, height: 6m, presented to a collector by the JC Decaux company in 1987 and kept since, estimate: €30,000 - 40,000 / \$33,000 - 44 000

### *Exhibition*

From Friday 19th to Monday 22nd May 2017

7, Rond-Point des Champs-Élysées  
75008 Paris

Press contact:

Anne-Laure Guérin / [alguerin@artcurial.com](mailto:alguerin@artcurial.com) / +33 (0)1 42 99 20 86

Jean Baptiste Duquesne / [jbduquesne@artcurial.com](mailto:jbduquesne@artcurial.com) / +33 (0)1 42 99 20 76

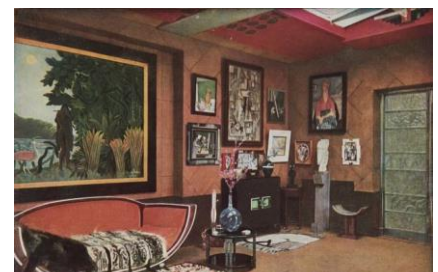
**Paris** – On 23<sup>rd</sup> May Arcurial will present an original Morris column at the auction dedicated to Art Deco. Measuring 6 meters in height, it was a gift to a collector from the company JC Decaux in 1987 and has been kept by the recipient ever since. Intended for the display of theatre programs, the Morris column has over time become one of the symbols of Paris and more widely, the willingness in the nineteenth century to create and harmonise urban furniture with both aesthetic and urban development in mind. The estimate is €30,000 – 40,000 / \$33,000 - \$44,000.

The sale will also include exceptional items such as a rare Alberto Giacometti terra cotta *Bilboquet* lamp (estimate: €50,000 – 60,000 / \$55,000 – 66,000). Notable rediscoveries are also emphasised: a blackened wood Jean Chauvin sculpture from the 1920's, from Jacques Doucet's collection (estimate: €30,000 – 40,000 / \$33,000 – 44,000) and a François-Rupert Carabin vase, *La Gavotte*, found over a century after its creation (estimate : €50,000 – 60,000 / \$55,000 – 66,000).

In addition, sets of remarkable furniture signed Pierre Chareau, Jean Dunand, Léon Jallot and Paul Follot will be up for auction. The Art Nouveau section will include colour lithographs by Alphonse Mucha, and rare works by Hector Guimard and Gallé. Finally, a selection of 20<sup>th</sup> century decorative arts masters will be represented, including François Pompon, Jacques Le Chevallier, Jacques-Emile Ruhlmann, Paul Dupré Lafon or Raymond Subes.



Jean Chauvin, *Sans Titre*, prior to 1929, sculpture in blackened wood, carved form one block. Height: 45 cm, provenance: Jacques Doucet collection, estimate: €30,000 - 40,000 / \$33,000 - 44,000



Jacques Doucet Studio, rue Saint-James in Neuilly in 1930, *L'Illustration*, May 1930 © DR

## *The Morris column, a Parisian symbol*

One of the pillars of Parisian lifestyle, a Morris column, will be auctioned off by Artcurial on 23<sup>rd</sup> May. In 1987 it was given to a collector by the JC Decaux company, where it stayed to this day. Its cast iron and steel body is original. Only the glass crown has been replaced. It measures 6m in height and 1.30 m diameter. (estimate: €30,000 – 40,000/ \$33,000 – 44,000).

In the end of the nineteenth century, theatres and other entertainment halls create a proliferation of advertising posters, so much that the city of Paris suggests a media specific display. In 1860, a competition is launched to find a new media support: a column exclusively reserved for the display of theatre programs.

On 1st August 1868, Gabriel Morris, printer from rue Amelot in Paris, specialising in the promotion of the Parisian performance wins the contest. The Baron Haussmann then grants the monopoly of the display columns to Gabriel Morris for fifteen years, the cost of manufacture incumbent to him. Maintenance is ensured by municipal employees who may, in exchange, store their equipment inside. In 1986, the compagnie fermière Columns Morris, is acquired by the company JC Decaux.

Over time, the Morris column proliferated throughout every Parisian neighbourhood. Becoming one of the symbols of Paris, it inspired countless artists such as the writer Marcel Proust, photographer Brassai, and the painter Jean Béraud.

## *Important rediscoveries*

Another remarkable piece presented during auction is an Alberto Giacometti lamp. Created in 1937, the *Bilboquet* model is one of the rare known terra cotta lamps created by the artists. (estimate: €50,000 – 60,000 / \$55,000 – 66,000).

Two important rediscoveries will also be offered. The first, *Sans Titre*, is a sculpture by Jean Chauvin in blackened wood, created before 1929. This unique piece was, until its recent discovery, only known from a photograph taken by Chauvin himself, annotated on the back in his hand « Collection Jacques Doucet » (estimate: €30,000 – 40,000/ \$33,000 – 44,000).

The second is a monumental bronze vase by François-Rupert Carabin. Entitled *La Gavotte*, it was made between 1907-1908 and was presented in 1908 at the Salon National des Beaux-Arts. It remained lost until its rediscovery by Artcurial teams, more than a century after its creation. A circle of Bretons dancers is represented, around the body of the vase which simulates a tree trunk. (estimate: €50,000 – 60,000 / \$55,000 – \$66,000).

## *Jean Dunand works, provided by his family*

An exceptional set of Jean Dunand items, provided by the artist's family will be represented at auction. Among the furniture, an entirely lacquered *Bed*, decorated with an eggshell bird motif (estimate: €40,000 – 50,000/ \$44,000 – 55,000).



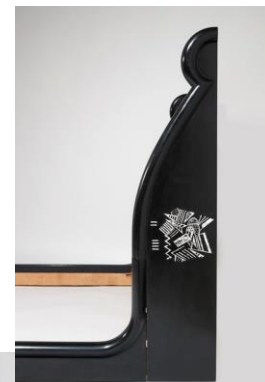
Morris column @ DR



Alberto Giacometti, *Lampe Bilboquet*, circa 1937, patina terra cotta lamp, estimate: €50,000 – 60,000 / \$55,000 – 66,000



François-Rupert Carabin, *La Gavotte*, circa 1907-1908, bronze vase, height. 52cm, estimate: €50,000 – 60,000/ \$55,000 – 66,000



Jean Dunand, *Lit*, black lacquer, bird motif in eggshell inlay. Provenance: artist's family. Estimate: €40,000 – 50,000/ \$44,000 – 55,000



Several panels will complete the section, including *Femme dans la végétation*, by Jean Dunand circa 1930 (estimate: €80,000 – 100,000 € /\$88,000 – 110,000) and several pieces of copperware and jewellery, such as *bracelet articulé*, gilded copper, nickel-plated and black lacquer and red geometric decor, estimate: €30,000 – 40,000 /\$33,000 – 44,000

### **Sets by Pierre Chareau, Léon Jallot and Paul Follot**

Another set of furniture from cabinetmakers and decorators Léon Jallot and Paul Follot. Albert Bonabeau, a business man who was a passionate lover of painting and sculpture, commissioned the set at the beginning of the 1920's for his Parisian home and his workshop in the Guerche.

Remaining in the furniture section, pieces by Pierre Chareau, taken from the Parisian apartment decorated by the French architect in 1922 will be up for auction, such as the fireplace and wood panelling from the home's dining room. (estimate: €20,000 – 25,000 /\$22,000 – 27,500).

Finally, Art Nouveau will open this section with rare works by Hector Guimard, including a cast iron vase and base from the Saint-Dizier foundry, estimate: €15,000 – 20,000 /\$16,500 – 22,000. An exceptional colour lithography set by Alphonse Mucha will complete this chapter, such as four folios named *Les fleurs: l'aillet, le lys, la rose, l'iris*, created in 1898 (estimate: €15,000 – 20,000 /16,500 – \$22,000).

Furthermore, great names in 20<sup>th</sup> century Decorative Arts will be represented, namely Edgar Brandt, Jacques Emile Ruhlmann with a "meuble d'appui", circa 1930 in violet wood, François Pompon and a bronze *Grand Duc* (estimate: €20,000 – 25,000 /\$22,000 – 27,500 each), Joseph Csaky, Jean-Michel Frank, Marc du Plantier, Jacques Quinet, Paul Dupré Lafon, Raymond Subes and Jacques Le Chevallier.



Jean Dunand, *Femme dans la végétation*, circa 1930, black lacquered wood panel with incised gold and silver decor, provenance: artists family, estimate: €80,000 - 100,000 /\$ 88,000 - 110,000



Pierre Chareau, *cheminée et boiseries*, 1922, Burgandy stone fireplace and rosewood panel, estimate : €20,000 - 25,000/ \$22,000 - 27,500



## ABOUT ARTCURIAL

Founded in 2002, Artcurial, a multidisciplinary auction house based in Paris, reinforcing its leading position in the market of the international art in 2015.

With 3 sale venues in Paris, Monte-Carlo and Hong Kong, the House totals 210.1 million euros in sales volume in 2016, doubling its turnover in 5 years (+10% compared to 2015).

It covers the whole spectrum of major specialties: Beaux-Arts to decorative arts, collector automobiles, jewellery, collector timepieces, fine wines and spirits...

Resolutely turned toward the international market, Artcurial asserts its network abroad with representation offices in Brussels, Milan, Monte-Carlo, Munich and Vienna as well as a presence in Beijing and Tel Aviv, and biannual exhibitions in New York. In October 2015, Artcurial organised its first sale in Hong Kong and in Morocco.



HD visuals available upon request

Estimates in dollars provided for information purposes only

Catalogues available online at [www.artcurial.com](http://www.artcurial.com)

### Press Contact:

Anne-Laure Guérin / Press relations  
[alguerin@artcurial.com](mailto:alguerin@artcurial.com) / +33 (0)1 42 99 20 86

Jean Baptiste Duquesne / Press relations manager  
[jbduquesne@artcurial.com](mailto:jbduquesne@artcurial.com) / +33 (0)1 42 99 20 76

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