In the Spring of 1942, when Swann held its first auction, the company consisted of three employees, our clients attended sales in person or left order bids—there was no bidding by telephone, nor was there even a buyer’s premium! Today, as a company with a staff of more than 30, an international clientele, and bidding by phone, email and Internet, one thing has remained constant: we are a family business—one that is now in its third generation. This continuity and sense of family has become an increasingly rare quality in the auction world, and is one of Swann’s greatest strengths.

Swann began as an auctioneer of rare books, autographs and “literary properties.” In 1952 the company conducted the first auction of photographs in the United States. In the 1970s Swann organized departments to handle photographs and prints, and in the 1980s began conducting yearly auctions of vintage posters. 1996 saw Swann’s first auction of Printed & Manuscript African Americana, and in 2007 we became the first major auction house to offer regular sales devoted to African-American Fine Art.

Our specialists, many of whom have been with the company for more than 20 years, are among the most knowledgeable and experienced in the industry. They are also friendly and approachable, another rare feature in the contemporary auction world.

We thank our loyal clientele and our dedicated staff as we look forward to the next 70 years—and beyond.
VINTAGE POSTERS FEBRUARY 2

Contains an exemplary selection of skiing and winter sports images, including more than 15 posters for the Dartmouth Winter Carnival; a rare variation of Dwight Shepler’s iconic image of Round House on Baldy Mountain for Sun Valley; and Ernest Haskell’s design for Truth magazine, 1896, which is the earliest American ski poster.

A section of more than 75 Art Nouveau posters features Jacques Villon’s L’anti-Bélier, 1899; mint condition copies of Alphonse Mucha’s The Seasons, four large-format decorative panels, 1896; and Mucha’s Reverie, 1897. Toulouse-Lautrec is also well represented, with Divan japonais, Revue Blanche, Elles, and Le Matin.

Rounding out the sale are Hebraic and Judaic posters, Mather Work Incentive posters, and circus, Buffalo Bill and Wild West posters.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN FINE ART FEBRUARY 16

An important Charles White drawing—the first from the artist’s famous J’Accuse! series to come to auction—is among the sale’s top lots. The rich depiction of African-American women was the cover illustration of a 1966 issue of Ebony magazine. Other highlights include the first William T. Williams painting to appear at auction, a 1971 acrylic on canvas titled Eastern Star; David Hammons and Bruce Talamon’s Untitled (Max Roach Album Art), four untitled colored screenprints, 1977; and Kara Walker’s Harper’s Pictorial History of the Civil War (Annotated), the complete set of 15 screenprint and offset lithographs, 2005.

There are also significant works by West Coast artists from the late 60s and early 70s, some from the estate of Los Angeles artist Varnette Honeywood; very scarce and important prints by Elizabeth Catlett, Dox Thrash and Charles White, many of which have never come to auction before; a fine selection of paintings from the estates of Delilah Pierce and Lois Mailou Jones, including Jones’s earliest known oil painting.

PRIVATE PRESS & ILLUSTRATED BOOKS FEBRUARY 23

Features works from the libraries of two American book collectors. The first collection, amassed by Norman J. Sondheim, focuses on the major fine English presses such as Ashendene, Doves, Golden Cockerel, Gregynog, Kelmscott, Nonesuch and Shakespeare Head.

The second collection showcases more contemporary and modern presses, mainly from America, including books from The Limited Editions Club, Janus, Pennyroyal, Arion, and Allen Presses, among others. Handsome editions from other consignors round out the sale.

Cover: Jean-Émile Laboureur, La robe bleu, oil on paper, circa 1910, $2,000 to $3,000. At auction March 8. Back Cover: Jean-Émile Laboureur, Bar en Pennyslvanie, etching, 1914, $2,000 to $3,000. At auction March 8.
Among desirable early photographic books is William Bradford’s *The Arctic Regions*, with 141 albumen photographs taken during his historic expedition to Greenland, 1873. A strong selection of Berenice Abbott material includes *The Retrospective Portfolio*, with 50 silver prints, 1930-62, printed 1982, and a vintage silver print of *City Arabesque*, 1938. There are also classic images by Irving Penn and W. Eugene Smith, as well as Bernd and Hilla Becher’s *Pennsylvania Pithead*, silver print, 1974, printed 1991.

A rich selection of Civil Rights material includes the actual tally of the “yea” and “nay” votes taken on the floor of the Senate for the 1964 Civil Rights Act and a copy of the Civil Rights Act itself, with ink corrections and emendations by Senator Emanuel Celler of New York. The Slavery and Abolition section features rare and significant material such as an elephant tusk retrieved from the wreck of a 16th century British slave ship; an engraving of the hold of the slave ship Brooks; and a scarce “slave tag” from Charleston, South Carolina.

Other highlights include an archive of more than 85 cartons of writings, correspondence, research material and more from Dorothy Porter Wesley, black history librarian and curator; the largest and best Marcus Garvey section to date; Black Panther material; 19th century broadsides; Haitian history; the largest selection of early Negro business directories we have ever offered; two contemporary paintings of Josephine Baker; and autograph material from Charles Mingus and Duke Ellington.

The morning session offers the finest and most comprehensive collection of Jean-Émile Laboureur’s work ever to come to auction anywhere. There are examples from this well-loved artist’s entire career, from Belle Époque woodcuts to important Cubist engravings, paintings and drawings, as well as numerous deluxe illustrated portfolios.

The second portion of the sale features exceptional 19th and 20th century prints and drawings by important American and European masters. 19th century highlights include works by Cassatt, Cézanne, Degas, Gauguin, Monet, Renoir, Toulouse-Lautrec and Whistler. Among the American artists of note are Avery, Baumann, Benton, Cadmus, Hassam, Hopper, Lewis and Lozowick. And, from the 20th century European section are works by Braque, Chagall, Dalí, van Dongen, Feininger, Giacometti, Léger, Magritte, Matisse, Miró, Munch, Picasso and Rouault.

The second auction of material from this impressive collection offers rare books, such as a 1622 first edition of A Briefe Relation of the Discovery and Plantation of New England, and a 1590 first Latin edition of the first volume of De Bry’s Great Voyages. Notable newspapers include a 13 June 1789 issue of the Gazette of the United States featuring the first printed draft of the Bill of Rights.

Typical of the Western Americana in the collection are a Frank Randall cabinet card of the Apache chief Chatto, and an 1877 newspaper from the future ghost town of Bodie, California. Among the manuscripts is an original 1692 indictment of one of the Salem witches, Margaret Scott, for “certaine detestable arts called Witchcraft and Sorceries.” Modern pop culture material includes a hand-painted sign for the 1933 film The Circus Queen Murder, and a purse signed by the Beatles in 1962.
When film producer and director Gary Winick died last year at the age of 49 he left behind collections of photographs, fine art prints, movie posters, books, and some personal memorabilia. Among the photographs from his collection are Harry Callahan’s *Lake Michigan*, silver print, 1953, printed 1970s; Cartier-Bresson’s *Swan Lake, Bolshoi Ballet*, silver print, 1954, printed 1980s; Eggleston’s *Untitled* (from the series *Los Alamos*), dye transfer print, 1970; and Helen Levitt’s *New York*, dye transfer print, 1972. There are also prints by Rauschenberg and Warhol and others.

The Winick material will be offered in conjunction with a sale of 19th & 20th Century Photographs & Photobooks, which features Berenice Abbott’s *Manhattan Bridge*, vintage silver print, 1936, and Nat Fein’s famous *Babe Bows Out*, silver print, 1948, printed 1980s. Eglton’s *Vertigo*, 1958, sold for $1,500 to $2,000 at auction April 4.

*William Eggleston*, *Kim Novak*, dye-transfer print, 1970. $30,000 to $40,000. At auction April 4.

The Winick material was presented by *8th & 20th* Photographs & Photobooks, 18 East 78th Street, New York, NY 10021. For more information call 212.838.0500 or visit egglestonart.com.

The core of the Revolutionary Americana collection is a group of letters to General George Weedon, who served under George Washington and later commanded the Virginia militia. Weedon received battlefield communications from, among others, Washington, Lafayette, Jefferson, Gates and von Steuben. Other letters are from Patrick Henry, Samuel Adams, Anthony Wayne, 31 Signers, as well as soldiers, politicians, and ordinary citizens. Highlights are a six-page letter written in 1766 by David Hume describing Parliamentary discussions on the repeal of the Stamp Act and a 1780 letter from Benedict Arnold to Caesar Rodney defending himself against accusations of profligate living.

The Ford collection will be sold in the morning, followed by a 300-lot sale of autographs. A large Civil War section includes an autograph manuscript signed by Gen. G.T. Beauregard in early 1862 attempting to rally troops he led during Bull Run; every President from Washington to Eisenhower is represented; and there is also a typed letter signed by Houdini in 1925, one year before his death, in which he makes arrangements for his own burial; as well as a rare photograph signed and inscribed by Jules Verne.
OLD MASTER THROUGH MODERN PRINTS APRIL 25

This important sale features rare, museum-quality Old Master prints through 19th century, American and European works on paper. Among the multiple highpoints from the history of printmaking are examples by Dürer and Rembrandt, Renoir and Whistler, Cadmus and Hopper; and Picasso and Miró.

Thomas Jefferson, Letter Signed to Brigadier General George Weedon, informing him that the British fleet has arrived and worrying that the French fleet will arrive without this knowledge; Richmond, 21 March 1781. $8,000 to $12,000. At auction April 25.

7 AT 70
As part of our anniversary celebration, Swann will be hosting a series of 7 lectures / panel discussions on topics related to all of our major departments. Stay tuned for a schedule of these educational and entertaining events.

PUTTING PEN TO PAPER
In 2012 Swann will inaugurate our newest department: Fine & Vintage Writing Instruments. The department will be headed by Rick Propas, a pen collector, connoisseur and specialist. Marco Tomashett, of Swann’s Autographs department, will assist. Please contact Marco at ext. 12 with consignment questions.

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OFFICE HOURS: 10 - 6 MONDAY - FRIDAY

rembrandt van rijn,
The Flight into Egypt:  
Altered from Seghers, etching, engraving and drypoint, circa 1653. $60,000 to $90,000. At auction April 25.
WINTER/SPRING 2012 AUCTION SCHEDULE

JANUARY
26 Shelf Sale at 2:00pm Sale 2267

FEBRUARY
2 Vintage Posters at 10:30am & 2:00pm Sale 2267
16 African-American Fine Art at 2:30pm Sale 2268
23 Private Press & Illustrated Books at 1:30pm Sale 2269
28 Fine Photographs & Photobooks at 2:00pm Sale 2270

MARCH
1 Printed & Manuscript African Americana at 10:30am & 2:30pm Sale 2271
8 Jean-Émile Laboureur: Prints, Paintings & Livres d’Artiste / 19th & 20th Century Prints & Drawings at 10:30am & 2:30pm Sale 2272
15 The Eric C. Caren Collection: How History Unfolds on Paper, Part II at 1:30pm Sale 2273

APRIL
4 Property from the Estate of Filmmaker Gary Winick / 19th & 20th Century Photographs & Photobooks at 10:30am & 2:00pm Sale 2274
12 Fine Books at 10:30am Sale 2275
17 Revolutionary Americana from the Allyn Kellogg Ford Collection / Autographs at 10:30am & 1:30pm Sale 2276
25 Old Master through Modern Prints at 10:30am & 1:30pm Sale 2277

MAY
10 Modernist Posters at 1:30pm Sale 2278
22 Early Printed & Travel Books at 1:30pm Sale 2279

JUNE
7 Maps & Atlases, Natural History & Historical Prints, Ephemeras at 1:30pm Sale 2280
14 American Art / Contemporary Art at 10:30am & 1:30pm Sale 2281
21 19th & 20th Century Literature at 1:30pm Sale 2282
28 Discovery Sale at 1:30pm Sale 2283

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

In honor of our 70th anniversary, we are proud to bring you this newly redesigned newsletter. Think of it as the start of exciting changes coming to Swann in 2012. Read on for highlights of our upcoming season. For catalogues and preview times, please visit our website, www.swanngalleries.com