



Bertoia's to auction Part II of the magnificent Aaron and Abby Schroeder Collection, Sept. 10-11

Regarded as one of the 'great old-time collections,' the Schroeder trove features American and European toys and banks of astonishing condition and rarity



VINELAND, N.J. – On September 10 and 11, Bertoia's will add yet another chapter to the legacy of one of America's greatest antique toy and bank collections as they auction Part II of the legendary Aaron and Abby Schroeder Collection. In total, approximately 850 lots will be presented.



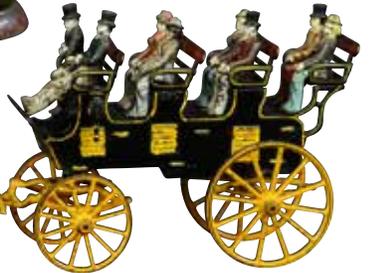
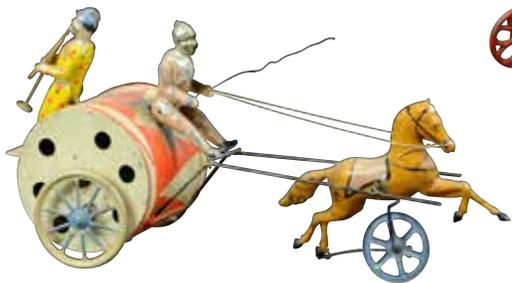
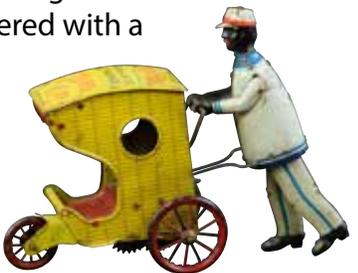


Part I of the Schroeder collection, which was auctioned by Bertoia's on March 5-6 of this year, realized \$3.1 million. World-record auction prices were set throughout the two-day event. The sale's top lot, a pristine to near-mint J & E Stevens Girl Skipping Rope cast-iron mechanical bank shown in Blair Whitton's 1981 reference Clockwork Toys, sold for a record \$156,000 against an estimate of \$70,000-\$100,000. Amongst the many exquisite European toys offered, a Mohr & Krauss double Ferris wheel depicted in David Pressland's The Art of the Tin Toy was aggressively chased to a final price of \$132,000 – nearly nine times the high estimate.





Among the mechanical bank highlights Michael singled out for special mention are: a pristine magician-themed Kyser & Rex Mikado, \$80,000-\$120,000; and one of only a few known examples of the Man Kicking Watermelon, \$40,000-\$70,000. Both a Shepard Hardware Picture Gallery and Kyser & Rex Roller Skating bank are entered with individual estimates of \$30,000-\$50,000; while an amusing and always sought-after Chimpanzee bank follows with a pre-sale estimate of \$25,000-\$45,000. A wonderful J&E Stevens Girl Skipping Rope, \$20,000-\$40,000; and elusive Little Red Riding Hood bank, \$15,000-\$25,000, complete the "top 7" list of high-end mechanicals. An intriguing near-mint Lighthouse (manufacturer unknown) will be offered with a \$3,000-\$5,000 estimate.





Two J&E Stevens examples– the Trust Bank, \$1,500-\$2,000; and General Butler, \$1,000-\$1,500 – are among the still banks to be auctioned. Both an Ives painted Santa Claus (ex Seaman collection) and large Columbia Savings with a combo trap are cataloged with individual estimates of \$1,000-\$1,500.

The spotlight on cast iron will continue with a stellar array of American horse-drawn, automotive, figural and bell toys, as well as cast-iron novelties, such as cap guns and cigar cutters. The doors to the Schroeders' stable of horse-drawn toys will open to release a parade of stately equines, including a Pratt & Letchworth four-seat brake, \$8,000-\$12,000; a scarce and all-original Carpenter Burning Building, \$12,000-\$18,000; and a Hubley Royal Circus Bandwagon, \$4,000-\$7,000. A very elusive near-mint Ives Reindeer Sledge – a toy that's on the wish list of many a cast-iron toy collector – will cross the auction block with a 10,000-\$15,000 estimate.





A stunning example of the extremely rare cast-iron toy known as "Alphabet Man" or "Yankee Schoolmaster" will step to the head of the class with a \$20,000-\$30,000 estimate, while a circa-1885 Hubley clockwork Amusement Ride toy is expected to ascend swiftly to the \$12,000-\$18,000 range. Among the prized bell toys, two of the most appealing entries are an N.N. Hill Boy Pulling Cat's Tail, \$2,500; and a pristine Gong Bell Freedom Ringer toy, \$4,000-\$6,000.



The enviable selection of more than 80 American tin and clockwork toys ranges from platform and horse-drawn pieces to Ives walkers and Secor figures. A circa-1880s Ives Woman Dancer on Box is in near-mint condition and estimated at \$2,500-\$4,500. Two delightful Althof Bergmann pieces include a large Boy Riding Dog, \$2,500-\$4,500; and Boy Herding Animals, \$2,000-\$3,000. Both are in pristine condition.





European tin items are ready to impress as they follow a timeline from early hand-painted toys and diminutive penny toys to automotive, aeronautical and other wind-up toys. Bidders can also take their pick from more than 60 whimsical characters created by Lehmann and Fernand Martin. Many retain their original pictorial boxes, including Lehmann's ever-popular Ski Rolf, \$7,000-\$10,000; Paddy & the Pig, \$2,000-\$3,000; and Tut Tut, \$1,500-\$2,500. A desirable Martin Barrel Roller is in all-original condition and estimated at \$2,000-\$3,000, as is a circa-1897 boxed Oxen Cart by the same French manufacturer.





Other Continental toys of special note include a large hand-painted French omnibus, \$6,000-\$9,000; Bing double-decker bus, \$4,000-\$6,000; and a pristine Hans Eberl Performing Clown with Wheelbarrow, \$4,000-\$6,000. A \$3,000-\$5,000 estimate applies to both a large hand-painted French rowers toy and an all-original Gunthermann Seated Clown Musician are also being offered.



