



PRESS RELEASE

COLLECTION OF PRINCE PAUL ALEXANDROVICH DEMIDOV
(1869-1935)



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD 2016
HÔTEL DROUOT - PARIS



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SALE AT HÔTEL DROUOT
Thursday, November 3rd 2016, starting at 2:00 p.m.

Specialist
Cyrille Boulay

Ensemble of works of art, porcelains, paintings and historical memorabilia
that once belonged to Prince Paul Alexandrovich Demidov (1869-1935),
and his wife born Elisabeth Fiodorovna Trepov (1881-1978),
coming from his palace of Vyshniévets, in the government of Volhynia, and from
their summer estates in France : the *Villa Demidoff* in Nice and the *Villa Les Perles* in Drap,
and conserved in their direct lineage.

Our upcoming Russian Art sale will occur on November 3rd and 4th 2016. The first day will focus on the collection of Prince and Princess Paul Demidov, whereas the second will focus on the collection of Prince and Princess Felix Yusupov. This unique historical ensemble will highlight two of the most famous and illustrious families of Imperial Russia.

Under Tsar Alexander III's reign, Prince Paul was second lieutenant in the prestigious Chevalier-Guards regiment, from where he retired at the Tsar's passing, in 1894. From then on, he settled in his huge palace of Vyshniévets, composed of 108 rooms, a theater and an armada of fifty domestics. He fully consecrated himself, from 1896 to 1901, to his role of Marshal of the Kremenetz Nobility in Volhynia (Ukraine).

During the Russo-Japanese war, he re-enrolled in the Cossack Regiment, and became Grand-duke Boris Wladimirovich's (1877-1943) aide-de-camp, during his journey to Manchuria. From this great epic, the Grand-duke wrote interesting memories entitled *Six months in Manchuria*.

After he divorced his first wife in 1901, the Prince got married, in 1905, to the general-governor of Kiev of Podolia and Volhynia's daughter, Elisabeth Trepov, Maid of Honor of the Empresses. At the beginning of World War I, he was appointed by Tsar Nicholas II as equerry to His Imperial Highness, prior to occupying functions as general director of the Russian Red Cross services of "Yougo-Zapadni".



View of the great hall of Villa Les Perles in Drap, where lots 1 and 2 are visible, and where most lots of this vacation come from.



After the Bolshevik Revolution, he immigrated to France with his family and managed, by selling one of his wife's collars, to buy the Count-Bishop of Drap's estate, which became his new residence under the name of *Villa Les Perles*. This is where the famous portrait of Prokofi Akinfiyevich Demidov (1710-1786) comes from, realized by Dimitri Levitsky (1735-1822), and executed for the Demidov family in the middle of the nineteenth century, of which another version is conserved at the Tretyakov State Gallery in Moscow. He is represented in a red costume, next to the plants he discovered, in front of the Imperial Educational House in Moscow which he created (est.: 120 000/150 000 €) **(see reproduction page 1)**. As well as the portrait of Count Dmitri Alexievich Gouriev (1758-1825), attributed to Nicholas Argounov (1771-1829) (est.: 10 000/15 000 €) **(2)**, but also the portrait of Casimir Hulewicz by Platonov (1842-1907) (est.: 15 000/18 000 €) **(3)**; will follow in this vacation, a beautiful collection of historical memorabilias and silverware engraved with





8

the House of Demidov's coats of arm; of porcelain with a pair of great busts representing a Russian prince wearing the great collar of the Order of Saint-Andrew and his wife, realized by House Rosetti & Lotti (est.: 5 000/ 6 000 €) **(4)**, resting on their two great red marble columns (est.: 4 000/ 5 000 €). In this ensemble composed of more than 200 lots, will also be presented everyday items, such as a silver cutlery set engraved with Prince Paul's cypher and realized by House Risler and Carre (est.: 3 000/5 000 €) **(5)**; or a great damask tablecloth bearing the Demidov's coats of arm (est.: 3 000/ 5 000 €) **(6)**.

The Imperial Family will also be represented with a beautiful portrait of Tsar Peter the Great, realized during his reign (est.: 5 000/6 000 €) **(7)**; a pastel representing Tsar Alexander II posing in bust, towards the end of his existence, in 1880 (est.: 4 000/6 000 €) **(8)**; a cast iron bust of Tsar Alexander I (est.: 600/800 €) **(9)**; a Fabergé frame in Karelia birch containing an original picture of Tsar Alexander III (est.: 4 000/6 000 €) **(10)**; as well as numerous antique pictures of members of the Romanov dynasty (est. between 300 and 500 € each), etc.

Cyrille Boulay



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Sale

Thursday, November 3rd 2016
starting at 2:00 p.m.

Public Exhibition

Wednesday, November 2nd 2016
from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
and Thursday, November 3rd 2016
from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

at Hôtel Drouot

9, rue Drouot 75009 Paris

Specialist

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