

DROUOT PARIS

binoche et giquello

INVITATION TO A TRIP THROUGH TIME AND SPACE

AUCTION ON 16 APRIL 2019 AT DROUOT

On the upcoming 18 March, after the success of its last natural history auction where two dinosaurs were acquired €2,8M; Binoche et Giquello auction house will offer a sale titled *Naturalia*. 21th century's *Homo Sapiens* are invited to a trip through Time and Space.

Impressive dinosaurs, meteorites from the Moon and Mars, sculptural "gogottes", minerals and fossils are all witnesses of the oldest traces of Life... The journey will feature wonders of Nature from the Ice Age to nowadays and from Earth's depths to Space's infinity.





FIRST STOP: THE DINOSAUR AGE

With sharp tooth and claws, one of the most ferocious carnivores of the Jurassic is about to attack an herbivore, even if it's twice its size. No doubt this fight between the *Ornitholestes* and the *Othnielosaurus* will end up after a fierce bidding battle.

The fossilised skeletons of these two iconic dinosaur species from the Upper Jurassic (161-145 million years) were discovered in the Johnson County, Wyoming, U.S. They are respectively 65% and 75% complete and are assembled on a metal structure in a narrative posture. (Estimate: €600,000 – 700,000)

Another highlight of the sale includes a 35m² scene of 2 massive skeletons of *Hypocraurosaurus*. Staged in a family scene, the adult and the child lived during the Upper Cretaceous (72-70 million years) in Montana, U.S. The skeletons are 70% complete. (Estimate: €750 000 – 900 000).



Then comes the skull of a giant *Allosaurus*. This specimen probably measured nearly 10m long (adult *Allosaurus* usually measured 8,5m in average). The 94 x 53 cm (37 x 21 in.) head was found in 2016 in a private ranch in Wyoming, U.S. (Estimate: €200,000-220,000)

DETOUR IN SPACE

A meteorite shower will rain over Drouot. 11 extra-terrestrial, Lunar and Martian stones will be offered at auction. Among them, is a 371g piece of the Moon, named NWA 11472, that fell on Earth several centuries ago (estimate: €50,000 – 60,000).

Smaller but much more precious is a bit of the oldest Martian meteorite, the *Black Beauty*, matricule NWA 7533. This thin slice (2,96g) is from the sample of the Red Planet ever studies. The sample revealed crystals – the zircons – that formed 4,4 billion years ago. No crystal on Earth has been dated that old! (Estimate: €18,000-20,000)



A slice of the famous meteorite of Cap York will be also offered. Its huge size – w. 10kg ; h. 80cm ; l. 45cm – easily makes us imagine how tall was the original meteorite. (Estimate: €4,000- 50,000)

Cap York meteorite cross section, *Agpalilik*
Weight: 10 kg
h. 80 cm – l. 45 cm
Estimate: €45,000 - 50,000



Lunar meteorite NWA 11472
Weight: 371 g
h. 15,5 cm – l. 3,8 cm – d. 7 cm
Estimate: €50,000 - 60,000



Martian meteorite cross section
NWA 7533, *Black Beauty*
Weight: 2,96 g
h. 40 mm – l. 35 mm – d. 1,5 mm
Estimate: €18,000 - 20,000

BACK TO EARTH

Skull, mammoth's bones and tooth, bison's horn and skull, ammonite, malachite, coral, crinoid, agate, jasper... Minerals or fossilised organic elements will take a large part of the sale.

No one will miss the 13 meters long fossil that shows how an ammonite travelled 150 million years ago. It is the most important fossilised mark of an organic Life remaining in private hands. (Estimate: €40,000-45,000)

Finally, several "gogottes" will spread a modern touch to the sale. Looking like natural sculptures, these concretions are from Fontainebleau (French forest) 30 million years ago. Estimates range from €300 to €8,000.



Gogotte
Fontainebleau, France
h. 79 cm - l. 70 cm – d. 26 cm
Estimate: €6,000 - 8,000



Molar of woolly mammoth - *Mammuthus primigenius*
h. 22,8 cm - l. 20,3 cm
Estimate: €800 - 1,000



Crinoid, *Seirocrinus subangularis*
Posidonia Shale Formation
Lower Jurassic, Pliensbachian – Toarcian (190–175 mya)
h. 1,90 m – l. 95 cm
Estimate: €20,000 - 25,000



Rhodochrosite polished section
Argentina
Weight: 145 g
h. 43 cm – l. 25 cm – d. 13 cm
Estimate: €800 - 1,000



Fossil palm frond
Green River Formation
Paleogene, Eocene (53,5–48,5 mya)
h. 1,10 m – l. 1,10 m
Estimate: €55,000 - 65,000



Subplanites rueppellianus
Solnhofen limestone
Upper Jurassic Tithonian (152–145 mya)
Estimate: €40,000 - 45,000

AUCTION - DROUOT - ROOM 5-6
Tuesday 16 april - 2pm

PUBLIC EXHIBITION - DROUOT - ROOM 5-6
Saturday 13 april - 11am / 6pm
Monday 15 april - 11am / 6pm
Tuesday 16 april - 11am / 12pm

PRESS CONTACTS

Mathilde FENNEBRESQUE

mfennebresque@drouot.com - +33 (0)1 48 00 20 42

Adélaïde STEPHAN

astephan@drouot.com - +33 (0)1 48 00 20 37



About Drouot

Founded in 1852, Drouot is the largest auction place in the world ever since. The institution now gathers 62 auction houses and hosted 578 auctions during the first half of 2018 that totalled €195,3M. Each year, Drouot welcomes 500,000 visitors, who browse through the 17 salesrooms which feature the works of art from over 21 categories, from antiquities to street art. The Drouot Group includes several branches, including Auctionspress which weekly publishes the Gazette Drouot and Drouot Digital, the e-commerce platform that offers 'live' services (auction streaming and live bidding) and online-only sales.