

# Sotheby's 55



Communiqué de presse

# THE LIBRARY OF PIERRE BERGÉ

# PART IV DECEMBER 14, 2018

DROUOT-RICHELIEU - 9, RUE DROUOT, 75009 PARIS

SPECIALISTS : BENOÎT FORGEOT, STÉPHANE CLAVREUIL,
GHISLAINE ET JACQUES T. QUENTIN



## Sotheby's 55



Communiqué de presse

THE SALE OF THE PERSONAL LIBRARY OF PIERRE BERGÉ IS STILL ONGOING WITH, NOW, THE FOURTH AUCTION, WHICH WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 14, 2018, ORGANIZED BY PIERRE BERGÉ & ASSOCIÉS IN ASSOCIATION WITH SOTHEBY'S.

SINCE DECEMBER 2015, THREE AUCTIONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN HELD. THESE WERE DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, ONE FOCUSING ON THE 19TH CENTURY, AND MUSIC. FREE OF ANY SPECIALIZATION OR CHRONOLOGICAL BORDERS, PART IV OF THE PIERRE BERGÉ LIBRARY OFFERS AN EXCEPTIONAL SELECTION OF DELIGHTS THAT ECHOES THE MANY FACETS OF THE COLLECTOR'S PASSIONS. IF THE LION'S SHARE OF THIS STUNNING ARRAY IS COMPRISED OF LITERATURE, OTHER DOMAINS RECALL THE COLLECTOR'S LOVE FOR BOTANY AND GARDENS, PHILOSOPHY, HIS TIRELESS ACTIVISM, AS WELL AS WORKS RELATED TO PLACES OF PERSONAL HISTORY - LA ROCHELLE. PROVENCE OR MOROCCO.

In its diversity and open-mindedness, this sale is a call to embark on a journey through the history of books where one discovers, side by side, representatives of the establishment and anti-establishment, gardeners and novelists, activists and poets. *Le Propriétaire des Choses*, an illustrated medieval encyclopaedia printed in Lyon in the 15th century, sits next to a superb copy preserved in its original vellum binding of the first edition of Montaigne's *Essais* (1580); or, the most renowned copy among all others of the first edition of *Du côté de chez Swann*, the number 1 on Japan paper which Marcel Proust gifted to his close friend and former lover Lucien Daudet. The illuminated copy of the *Chroniques* by Monstrelet, printed on parchment, predates the founding book of modern botany by Leonhart Fuchs published in 1542: the remarkable hand-coloured copy of the latter belonged to Jacques-Auguste de Thou, a friend of Montaigne. Further to behold, two celebrated novels by Flaubert, both on large paper: *Madame Bovary* (1857) inscribed to the poet Lamartine and *Salammbô* (1863) gifted to the composer Hector Berlioz. Also to be found here, a collection of autograph letters by Édouard Manet addressed to his friend and first champion Émile Zola, the autograph manuscript of Jean Genet's *Pompes funèbres*, or the moving copy of the *Grand Meaulnes* which Alain-Fournier offered to Charles Péguy – but a few months before both were killed on the 1914 front.

Loyal companion in the shadow of creators – of Bernard Buffet, Yves Saint Laurent or of Madison Cox –, here, Pierre Bergé signs his own paper show: precisely sixty years after the Trapèze collection which would launch Yves Saint Laurent's career, he invites us to his own parade which promises to be memorable.



## Sotheby's 55



Communiqué de presse

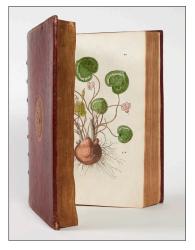
## TOP LOTS:



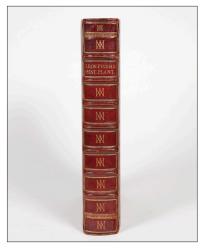




**Bartholomeus Anglicus**, Le Propriétaire des choses, circa 1486 A superb and complete copy of a major medieval encyclopaedia: it is illustrated with 19 large woodcuts, all hand-coloured at the time.







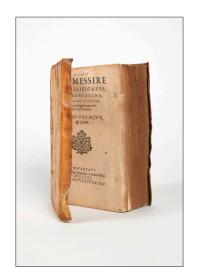
**Leonhart Fuchs**, De historia stirpium commentarii insignes, 1542 A seminal book with the finest provenance: Jacques-Auguste de Thou's copy, bound at the end of the 16th century, of the founding treatise of modern botany, superbly hand-coloured at the time.





## Communiqué de presse

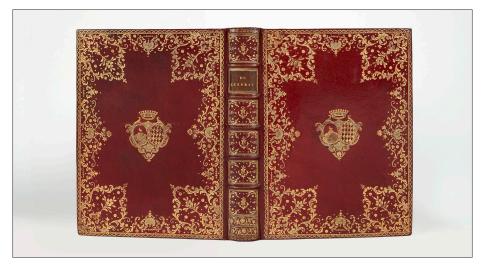






Michel de Montaigne, Les Essais, 1580

The finest copy among the four known in original vellum binding still in private hands of the first edition of Montaigne's Essayes.





Helvétius, De l'esprit, 1758

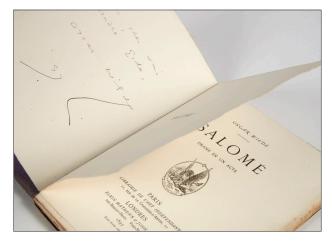
First edition, first issue, and a large paper copy luxuriously bound at the time for Anne-Catherine de Ligniville, Madame Helvétius, the author's wife.

"No book during the eighteenth century, except perhaps Rousseau's Emile, evoked such an outcry from religious and civil authorities or such universal public interest" (David Smith).



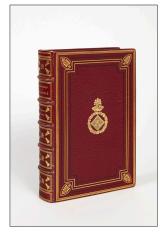


### Communiqué de presse



Oscar Wilde, Salomé, 1893.

First edition: the precious copy, one of 50 printed on Holland paper, Oscar Wilde inscribed to his "cher ami" the French novelist André Gide.

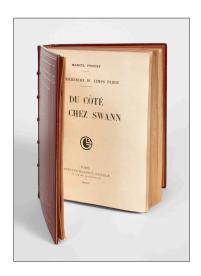


Gustave Flaubert, Salammbô, 1863

First edition: one of 25 large paper copies, this one inscribed by Gustave Flaubert to the composer Hector Berlioz.







SALAMMBÔ.

Marcel Proust, Du côté de chez Swann, 1913.

The most celebrated copy among all others: the number 1 on Japan paper offered by Marcel Proust to his close friend and former lover Lucien Daudet.



## Sotheby's 55



Communiqué de presse

#### **AUCTION**

December 14, 2018, 3pm **Drouot-Richelieu** 9 rue Drouot, 75009 Paris, France

#### **CONTACTS POUR**

#### Pierre Bergé & associés

Eric Masquelier - emasquelier@pba-auctions.com T. +33 (0)1 49 49 90 31

#### Sotheby's

Benoît Puttemans - benoit.puttemans@sothebys.com T. +33 (0)1 53 05 52 66

#### **SPECIALISTS**

Benoît Forgeot - info@forgeot.com

Stéphane Clavreuil - stephane@clavreuil.co.uk

Ghislaine et Jacques T. Quentin - librairiequentin@bluewin.ch

#### PRESS CONTACTS

#### Pierre Bergé & associés

Nathalie du Breuil - ndubreuil@pba-auctions.com **T.** +33 (0)1 49 49 90 08 **www.pba-auctions.com** 

#### Sotheby's

Sophie Dufresne - sophie.dufresne@sothebys.com **T.** +33 (0)1 53 05 53 66 **www.sothebys.com**