

Full of Eastern Promise

A Chinese box and cover, estimated to sell for thousands of pounds, has been discovered by Charterhouse at a client's house after a lockdown sort out.

“The owner moved home several years ago and during the Coronavirus lockdown finally unpacked the last few remaining boxes,” commented Richard Bromell. “There was silver and other small antiques which lay hidden underneath the bed gathering dust. However, for me it was the Chinese red box which stood out like a sore thumb heads and shoulders above all the other items.”

The Chinese heart shaped box and cover is estimated to sell for £2,000-£4,000 in the Charterhouse specialist auction of Asian Art in their two day auction on 5th & 6th November.

Made of red cinnabar lacquer, it has survived travelling 1,000's of miles, numerous house moves and two World Wars in pretty good condition with a just few chips.

Lacquer has been used in China for at least 3,000 years. The technique of carving into very thick coatings appears to have been developed in the 12th century. It is extremely time-consuming to produce, and has always been a luxury product, essentially restricted to China although imitated in Japanese lacquer in somewhat different styles.



Covered in dust and hidden away under a bed, a Chinese red lacquered box and cover

Today the demand for Chinese red lacquer is high not only from China, but also collectors from Europe and America. With all Charterhouse auctions being **online**, the auctioneers are expecting the bidding to be fast and furious from around the world for all the lots.

Charterhouse are now accepting further entries for their autumn programme of auctions including **classic and vintage motorcycles on 28th October, Asian Art, silver, jewellery & watches with on 5th & 6th November with classic and vintage cars on 11th November.**

For further information regarding these auctions, or to make a Covid-19 safe home visit, contact **Richard Bromell** and the team at Charterhouse, The Long Street Salerooms, Sherborne **01935 812277** or email images to **Richard on rb@charterhouse-auction.com**