

THE WALLACE COLLECTION PARTNERS WITH OLYMPIA AUCTIONS FOR FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE

The Wallace Collection and Olympia Auctions are delighted to announce a new partnership for a fundraising initiative to support the museum and its on-going research.

The Wallace Collection has been carrying out research into their collection of arms and armour from India, Iran, and the Ottoman Empire, which is among the finest in the world. Included in the collection is a bejewelled dagger thought to be a personal possession of Shah Jahan, the Mughal Emperor who built the Taj Mahal. Unlike their internationally renowned collection of European arms and armour, these pieces have been little studied; the only existing catalogue for this area of expertise was published in 1914.

Olympia Auctions are inviting consignments to benefit the Wallace Collection and its research project, which will in turn inform the ground floor displays at Hertford House. The auctions will take place in the spring and early summer 2021:

- British and Continental Pictures and Prints on 28th April
- European and Asian Works of Art on 26th May
- Arms, Armour and Militaria on 30th June 2021

The vendor's commission will be reduced from 15% to 10%, and half of this will be given to the collection. Sellers will be encouraged to match this donation and hopefully exceed it. All catalogue entries will highlight the charitable status of the lots, stating the benefactor where requested. As donors, sellers will be eligible for benefits in line with existing Wallace Collection Benefactors, on a pro rata basis. There are also potential tax benefits for donations.

Dr Xavier Bray, Director of the Wallace Collection, said:

"This is a hugely exciting opportunity, which will support a project at the Wallace Collection which is truly unique in its scope and scholarly ambition – a project which allows the Collection to reveal for the first time the true quality, range and significance of a largely unknown, but exceptionally fine group of arms and armour. We are thrilled to be partnering with Olympia Auctions for this endeavour, and greatly appreciate their support. We very much hope you will consider participating."

Thomas Del Mar, Director of Olympia Auctions, said:

"It is a great pleasure to be assisting the Wallace Collection in this venture which will clearly benefit all participants. At this very early stage, we have already received a number of remarkable consignments including an Elizabethan silver-encrusted sword rapier, a fine cased pair of flintlock duelling pistols by Joseph Manton, a portrait of a young man, circle of Godfrey Kneller, and a collection of Asian Armour. This is the first of a number of such collaborations and we are delighted at the very positive early response."



with online bidding available for free via Olympia Live at olympiaauctions.com and bidding is also available, with charges, via the-saleroom.com and invaluable.com.