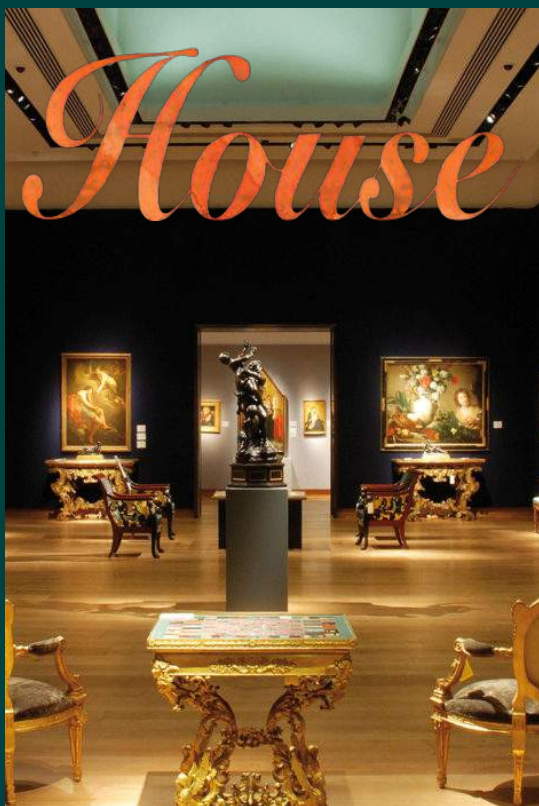




Barkers Auction House



Purchase Inventory

- Keru Cup
- Mayan Funerary Mask
- Chipped Stone Bear
- Anatolian Ewer
- Omani Chest

Thank you for your recent purchases made on June 17, 2016, from Barkers Auction House.

The following pages have been prepared especially for you, containing important information about these priceless additions to your collection.

The Barkers Auction House Team

Keru Cup

Keru were used during rituals and political ceremonies to establish and fortify important religious, social, and political relations. Keru were always produced in pairs, with small detailing differentiating each one of a pair.



The symbolic power of the kerus was transferred to secular issues, so that the exchange of kerus also took place between two Andean rulers, commonly the Sapa Inka and a soon-to-be ally, to formalize an agreement.

Mayan Funerary Mask

Lot #1342

The Mayans possessed a remarkable ability to fashion mosaic funerary masks out of jade, one of their most precious elements, for their dead royals. Though made of stone, the resulting masks contained an uncanny naturalness and likeness to their owners. Once finished, the mask would be placed upon the face of the dead.



This work consists of 57 tiles of jade, two beads of obsidian and a shell. It represents the face of a ruler, whose nose and lips are made in one piece, the eyes simulate two pupils of gray obsidian on two circles of nacre shell and the eyebrows are of pyrite.

Chipped Stone Bear

Lot #6882



In 1985, an artifact made from volcanic rock was unearthed in San Diego County, California. Archaeologists noticed a 2.5" long by 1.5" piece of meta-volcanic rock that looked a lot like a bear. It was fashioned by California Indians around 7,000 to 8,000 years ago.

Created in the way that they made arrowheads or spear points, the stone artifact displayed markings of being chipped into a specific form. The unique shape gave speculation that the small item might have had some religious connotations to the local members of the Luiseño and Juaneño Indian Tribes.

Anatolian Ewer

Lot #7146

This gold ewer was created by a Hattian goldsmith who lived 4,250 years ago in Anatolia, Turkey. This goldsmith worked the ewer from a sheet of gold, skillfully embossing it with complex patterns, and decorating its base with a swastika (an ancient symbol of the sun). It had been made to accompany a Hattian ruler into the afterlife.



Omani Chest

Lot #9454



The rectangular hinged top mounts at the angles, enclosing an interior fitted with a small compartment, above three short drawers on shaped bracket feet, with a brass combination lock to the exterior with Arabic script and side carrying handles

The present example with its more ornate style and decoration is a classic example of the Surat type of chest. The incorporation of a base with shaped bracket feet suggests the present lot may originate from Oman.

