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VALUATIONS



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SIR ROGER MOORE

The Personal Collection - Auction Review

For the art world, autumn brings a new season of exciting and 'must view' auctions. Last week Bonhams, London held one of the most electrifying – 'Sir Roger Moore – The Personal Collection'.

Sir Roger Moore (1927 – 2017), was one of the most recognisable and treasured actors of his generation. He was widely adored by fans for his appearances as James Bond, as well as Simon Templar in *The Saint* and Lord Brett Sinclair in *The Persuaders!* to name a few.

The James Bond film '*Octopussy*' (1983) starring Sir Roger Moore captures a fictional auction, with competitive bidding in a crowded saleroom (on that occasion for a "*Faberge egg*"). This scene could almost have been replicated on the sale day at Bonhams busy New Bond Street galleries.



Roger Moore

The '*white glove*' sale included over 220 lots, which took over nine hours to sell. The collection, which was being offered on behalf of the late star's family, unsurprisingly garnered widespread pre-sale interest from the media, enthusiasts, and collectors alike.

Much of the sale focused on Sir Roger Moore's acting career, with scripts, awards and costumes all going under the hammer. Many lots related directly to James Bond, which is one of the strongest areas in film memorabilia collecting. Fittingly, this year marks 50 years since the actor's first appearance in the role. Sir Roger was enormously influential as a taste maker in gentlemen's fashion. Therefore, clothing, accessories and timepieces were some of the lots 'to watch'. Antiques and art from the stars collection indicated his taste as a collector.

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Early in the auction, various desk accessories, pens and stationery were offered produced by the likes of Montblanc, Cartier, and Gucci. Lot 3 was one such lot, an 'RM' monogrammed Gucci address and notebook – despite the original pages having been replaced with facsimiles (and the numbers having been removed) it offered a glimpse into Sir Roger's showbusiness circle, including details for figures such as Michael Caine, Sean Connery, Kirk Douglas, HRH Princess Margaret, Paul McCartney, and Sidney Poitier. Estimated at £1,000 – 1,500 it achieved £6,400 (inc BP). Perhaps more surprising was the price achieved for Lot 6 a Morocco leather monogrammed stationery rack. The lot which included Sir Roger Moore letterheaded notepaper was estimated at £80 – 120. The final total sales price was £8,960 (inc BP).

LOT 03



Sir Roger Moore's personal Gucci address and note book

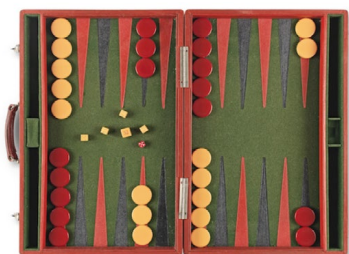
Bonhams
4 October 2023
London, New Bond Street

Sold for £6,400

Sir Roger was an avid backgammon player and as James Bond notably competed on screen against villain *Kamal Khan* in a key scene of the movie *Octopussy*. The market for backgammon is currently particularly strong - the buzz during the viewing indicated the two lots of cased backgammon sets (Lot 10 and Lot 11) would far exceed their estimates.

Lot 10 was a personalised set embossed with the actor's name. The footnote for the lot credited this example as having been used on the set of James Bond by Sir Roger to play against producer 'Cubby' Broccoli. The pre-sale estimate of £300 – 500 indicated the value of the set rather than the interesting provenance, it eventually sold for £15,360 (inc. B.P). The second of the sets Lot 11 was a more modest travelling willow basket example, estimated at £100 – 150, despite the estimate it fetched £10,880 (inc. BP).

LOT 10



Sir Roger Moore's red simulated leather backgammon case

Bonhams
4 October 2023
London, New Bond Street

Sold for £15,360

In the world of James Bond poster collecting, examples printed in Australia are amongst the most affordable. However, for those included in such a collection this trend, would be tested. Four of the Lots (36, 42, 64 and 164) were Australian daybill posters for the films *The Spy Who Loved Me*, *Moonraker*, *For You Eyes Only* and *A View To A Kill*. Having each been signed by Sir Roger, they were offered with the same estimate of £500 – 700 each, a combined total presale low estimate of £2,000. Their eventual combined total was £46,720 inc BP. Having achieved individually £8,960; £10,240; £14,080 and £13,440 inc BP.

LOT 36

It's the **BIGGEST.**
It's the **BEST.** It's **BOND.**
And **B-E-Y-O-N-D.**



The Spy Who Loved Me

Bonhams
4 October 2023
London, New Bond Street

Sold for £8,960

The James Bond franchise provided many modern-day collectors with their first glimpse into the world of luxury watches. Therefore, some of the most sought pieces in the collection were James Bond related watches. The highest price of the entire auction was achieved by Lot 92 a cased presentation set of twenty 007 watches produced by Swatch. Manufactured in 2002 to celebrate the James Bond film anniversary these sets typically fetch at auction between £4,000 – 6,000. This example however had been personally dedicated to Mr. Roger Moore. It had been estimated at £10,000 – 15,000 and sold for £76,660 (inc. BP).

LOT 92



Swatch, collection of twenty 007 wristwatches, commemorate the 40th anniversary of James Bond on film

Bonhams
4 October 2023
London, New Bond Street

Sold for £76,600

Omega is a brand with a strong connection with James Bond. Lot 158 was an Omega Seamaster bracelet watch, produced in 2012 as a Limited Edition to celebrate '50 Years of 007'. The clasp bore the inscription 'To Roger love from Michael and Barbara', which although not mentioned in the catalogue, may have indicated that the piece was a gift from Bond producers Barbara Broccoli and Michael G. Wilson. Sold with the accompany box, card and instructions it achieved £57,550 (inc BP, estimate £20,000 – 30,000). The following item Lot 159 was also an Omega wristwatch this time a Speedmaster Automatic MK40 triple calendar chronograph, inscribed 'Roger Moore' and dated November 1996. It was offered with presentation box and original warranty – despite an estimate of £5,000 – 7,000 it sold for a total of £61,360.

Sir Roger Moore was known particularly for his impeccable sartorial choices. For the style aficionados the auction included many of his suits, jackets, ties, and cufflinks. Highlights from the sale had even been previewed on Saville Row, with Gieves & Hawkes. Sir Roger had a close association with the designer and tailor Doug Hayward and several pieces designed by him went under the hammer. Foremost amongst them was Lot 170, a double-breasted dinner suit made for Sir Roger's role in *A View To A Kill* and worn at the Royal premiere of the film in 1985. The fully labelled costume, the ultimate in James Bond style, sold within estimate at £25,600 (estimate £20,000 – 30,000). To compliment this outfit Lot 178 estimated at £400 – 600 was two black silk bow ties, including one by Turnbull & Asser. They sold for £6,144 (inc BP).

LOT 170



A Douglas Hayward double-breaster mohair dinner suit, as seen in *A View to Kill*

Bonhams
4 October 2023
London, New Bond Street

Sold for £25,600

Lot 80 was a collection of twelve ties including five designed by Hayward, with others by Louis Vuitton and Ralph Lauren. The collection sold for a little over a thousand pounds each, with a selling price of £12,160 (estimate £400 – 600).

Roger Moore was well-known for his association with skiing, emphasised by his stunning downhill scenes featured in the James Bond films. However, many of these snowbound acrobatics were performed by a stunt double. According to an interview given by his son Geoffrey Moore prior to the auction, Roger Moore's film contract did not allow him to ski. In fact, Sir Roger apparently did not take up skiing until preparing for filming of *A View To A Kill* in 1985. Afterwards Sir Roger was passionate about the sport.

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One of the most desirable pieces in the auction was Lot 166 a white ski suit by Bogner purchased for, and identical to that, worn by Sir Roger in the pre-title sequence of *A View To A Kill*. Such instantly recognisable film costume is rare on the open market. It was sold within the estimate of £15,000 – 25,000, with the total sales price £28,160.

LOT 166



**A Bogner white ski suit, as seen in
*A View to a Kill***

Bonhams
4 October 2023
London, New Bond Street

Sold for £28,160

Towards the latter portion of the sale six lots of personally owned skis were included. The top Lot here was 219 a pair of Kästle skis bearing Roger Moore's printed signature, offered together with a pair of Interport poles. Against an estimate of £800 – 1,200 they sold for £4,864 (inc. BP).

LOT 219



A pair of Sir Roger Moore's Kästle skis

Bonhams
4 October 2023
London, New Bond Street

Sold for £4,864

Amongst the awards the 'star' lot was saved until last. Lot 224 being the presentation plaque given to Sir Roger Moore to commemorate the placement of his Star on the iconic Hollywood Walk of Fame. His 'Star' was unveiled three days prior to his 80th birthday on the 11th of October 2007. The commemorative piece was estimated at £10,000 - 15,000 and was offered almost 9.5 hours after the sale had commenced at almost 10:30pm. The final lot was eventually sold to a room bidder for a hammer price of £19,000 (£24,430 inc BP).

The final sale total reached just over £1.1 million against a pre-sale high estimate of around £415,000.

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