

ARTCURIAL

Press



HOTEL BAUER PALAZZO

Servane Giol's favorites

Auctions from 24th April to 4th May 2023, Paris

From 24th April to 4th May, Artcurial will offer for auction the furniture of the Hotel Bauer Palazzo, a famous Venetian palace. Located in the heart of the city of the Doges, it overlooks the Grand Canal and offers its distinguished guests a magnificent view of San Giorgio Maggiore, Punta della Dogana and Santa Maria della Salute. Through its Murano glassware, furniture, and silks from the Houses of Rubelli and Bevilacqua, this sale of more than 4,000 lots celebrates the Venetian identity of this prestigious institution. From torchbearers (portes torchères) to tableware, enthusiasts as well as collectors can experience the essence of this historic landmark. Servane Giol, a well-known Franco-Venetian author and expert in the Venetian art of living, shares her favourites among the thousands of lots!

PARIS - After 142 years of activity, the Hotel Bauer Palazzo is embarking on a new chapter in its history. Reminiscent of the 1940s, when its state-of-the-art renovation established it as a reference for comfort, the institution is continuing its transformation with the aim of redefining the standard of Venetian luxury in 2025.

The 10,000 items offered for sale continue to resonate with the voices of illustrious visitors who, from Marilyn Monroe to King Charles and Camilla, have contributed to the reputation of the hotel.

From Giovanni Sardi's Gothic-Byzantine style to Marino Meo's modernist travertine, the hotel's facades alone sum up the eclecticism of this place where everything is a contrast and a combination at once.

Art Deco meets Baroque style, painted wood meets gilded wood, Venetian millefiori and Murano glass meet English furniture by Maitland Smith. The sumptuous silk fabrics of the House of Rubelli, in many variations, appear to serve as a link: they create a unique universe in each room and testify to a commitment to excellent Venetian craftsmanship.

The most important Venetian and Italian manufacturers were commissioned by the Bauer during its successive renovations. Among them: the House of Rubelli and the House of Bevilacqua, the upholsterer Alessandro Vianello, the Italian furniture maker Bussandri and the Venetian master glassmaker Seguso Vetri d'Arte.

« With over 4,000 lots from the legendary Hotel Bauer Palazzo in Venice, Artcurial will be holding an unprecedented sale in Paris this April. The Grand Canal is taking over the Champs-Élysées ! »

- Stéphane Aubert,
Auctioneer & Associate Director, Artcurial



In the eye of Servane Giol

Parisian by birth but Venetian by marriage for over twenty years, Servane Giol knows Venice and its inhabitants like no other. She lives with her family in one of the oldest palaces overlooking the Grand Canal and acts as an ambassador for several of the city's institutions.

She is also an author and recently published *Soul of Venice* (silver medallist at the IPA 2021), while her latest book, *Venise, Invitation privée*, was published in France in September 2022 by Editions Flammarion. The sale of the Hotel Bauer Palazzo's furniture by Artcurial did not escape Servane Giol who shared her favourites with Artcurial!

« This sale is a heartfelt tribute to Venetian taste and savoir-faire! »

- Servane Giol,
author of *Venise, Invitation privée*



© Alexandre Toesca

Servane Giol

Monumental mirror

“This mirror is a wonderful example of what can be done today in Veneto. It is the perfect example of *antichizzato* (imitating the old). Venetian mirrors have a great history and have evolved since: their tint, first made with mercury and silver powder, is now created with products that are not harmful to the expert glassmakers, who obtain a result very close to the old one. This mirror is particularly striking for its size: we should keep in mind that originally mirrors, made of blown glass, were limited to small surfaces. The challenge was to make them increasingly large.”



Pair of Murano glass shell wall sconces

“Venice is a city that is closely linked to the sea. The shells on these wall lights are reminiscent of those collected on the beaches of the Lido. They are part of the Venetian identity. They can be found embedded in the stone of many of the city’s buildings, such as the Stock Exchange Building.”

Impressive pair of historical lanterns

“These amazing lanterns are among my top picks of the sale! Inspired by the large wood and copper lantern that adorned the stern of Andrea Pisani’s galley in the 17th century, they exemplify the virtuosity of the Venetian master glassmakers.”



Orange-shaped ice bucket

“These ‘useful’ fruits in silver metal refer to the shaped pieces that were once sold in Piazza San Marco. Typically offered as wedding gifts, they could contain salt, pepper, jam or, as here, ice.”



Venetian chairs

“These seats in the Venetian style blend in with any decor. They are curved, in natural wood as well as in painted wood, sometimes decorated with oriental scenes, which makes them extremely versatile!”



Bevilacqua fabrics

“Bevilacqua fabrics are a perfect example of the excellence of Venetian craftsmanship. They have a unique charm and combine historical designs and techniques with a modern touch. It is a miracle that this savoir-faire has been passed down through the centuries!”

These exceptionally long-lasting fabrics can be found in many Venetian palaces. Some of them are a hundred years old!”



Double bodied furniture, known as «Trumo»

“The ‘trùmo’ counts among Venetian palace owners favourite pieces of furniture. Its dimensions are perfectly suited to the large volumes of these spaces and the extraordinary work of Venetian cabinetmakers combines marquetry and glass. It was among the most precious pieces of furniture one could own. Who only owned one, sometimes moved them between their homes on the Lido and in Venice. Its display cabinets could contain, among other things, chinoiserie and oriental style objects.”





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In an 18th century building optimally located on Campo San Moisè, between St. Mark's Square and the Grand Canal, the Grand Hôtel d'Italie Bauer-Grünwald opened its doors in 1880. Founded by a young Austrian entrepreneur, Julius Grünwald, and the daughter of a Venetian nobleman, Mr. Bauer, it soon became the place to be for high society.

An important period of restoration and construction work began in 1930 under the impetus of Arnaldo Bennati, a Ligurian shipbuilder, who reshaped the hotel until its reopening in 1949. The main entrance, next to the baroque church of San Moisè, was given a modernist facade designed by Marino Meo. For the first time, a hotel in the city of the Doges was equipped with central heating and air conditioning. The palace and its 210 rooms boasted state-of-the-art comfort and modernity.

Giuseppe Berti added another floor to the building, offering visitors the Settimo Cielo, a terrace with a breath-taking view that remains the highest in Venice to this day. Kings, prime ministers, intellectuals, artists and businessmen all flock to it. A second phase of renovation at the end of the 1990s brought the hotel up to the standards of the time, while preserving the timeless and mythical ambiance of the building. The diamond-shaped stained-glass windows of the Royal Suite provide a glimpse of passing gondoliers and the floor mosaics continue to resonate with the footsteps of Elizabeth Taylor.

In the De Pisis restaurant, refined Italian specialties are served one after the other as the hours stretch on. Already in "Seventh Heaven" (English for Settimo Cielo) guests enjoy their first Spritz whilst they can imagine Jean Cocteau drawing "his Venice" in the distance.

"Everything must change so that everything can stay the same" wrote Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa. The Hotel Bauer Palazzo is now closing its doors for three years and, in keeping with its history, is undergoing a complete transformation. The ambitious project with sustainability at its heart is being conducted by the renowned architect Alberto Torsello and the interior design group BAR Studio. It will preserve many of the palace's historical elements and redefine Venetian luxury once again. The date for its reopening is already set for 2025.



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SALES

Artcurial in Paris

Monday, 24th April
10h - 14h

Tuesday, 25th April
10h - 14h

Wednesday, 26th April
10h - 14h

Thursday, 27th April
10h - 14h

Online Only sales on www.artcurial.com

From 28th April to 2nd May

From 28th April to 3rd May

From 28th April to 4th May

PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS

Paris

From 19th to 23rd April 2023

7 rond-point
des Champs-Élysées
Marcel Dassault
75008 Paris

Milan

From 3rd au 31st March 2023
Closed on weekends

Corso Venezia, 22
IT-20121 Milan

Monaco

From 6th to 24th March 2023
Closed on weekends

Monte-Carlo Palace
3/9 boulevard des Moulins
MC - 98000 Monaco

About Artcurial

Founded in 2002, the multidisciplinary Paris-based auction house Artcurial confirmed its leading position on the international art market in 2022.

With three sale venues in Paris, Monaco and Marrakech, the auction house achieved an overall sales total of 216,5 million euros in 2022. Artcurial covers all the major specialist fields including Fine Arts, Decorative Arts, Collectors' Cars, Jewelry, Watches, Fine Wines and Spirits...

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