Mid-century fever hits bidders at Nov. 30 sale held by Elliot Bernstein in Sarasota, Florida



A capacity crowd of eager bidders turned out for a sale of mid-20th century furniture, designer name accessories, modern art and more held Nov. 30 by Elliot Bernstein Auctions in Sarasota, Fla. More than 400 top-quality lots crossed the block.

Dec. 5, 2008 - <u>PRLog</u> -- (Sarasota, Fla.) - A standing room only crowd of eager bidders turned out for a mid-20th century sale of furniture, designer name accessories, modern art and more at an auction held Nov. 30 by Elliot Bernstein Auctions. The 4-hour event was held at the firm's spacious gallery, located at 6227 North Washington Blvd., a mile east of the Sarasota Airport. More than 400 top-quality lots crossed the block.

"Dealers and collectors are in the grip of mid-century fever," enthused Elliot Bernstein, owner of the auction firm that bears his name. "They came from all over Florida and the South to bid. It was a kind of excitement unsurpassed at any other auction I've seen locally. They loved the fact that every lot was sold without reserve. It's hard for me to say how many people poured in. It was in the hundreds."

The sale comprised several prominent local estates, offering an extensive selection of fresh-to-the-market merchandise, to include designer furnishings, lighting, modern art, pottery, glass, jewelry and more. The designer furnishings, especially, piqued the interest of the crowd, with numerous well-known names represented. "It was a great way to cap Thanksgiving weekend," Mr. Bernstein said.

Great deals abounded. Some highlights follow. All prices include a 10 percent buyer's premium.

A stunning bronze abstract sculpture flirted with the \$1,000 mark before finally topping out at \$935; a pair of Lucite and brass Hollywood Regency lamps lit up the room for \$770; a Sven Madsen Denmark teak desk went to an eager bidder for \$633; the same price was realized for a Dunbar custom step-back display; and an exceptional Kindel Hollywood Regency cherry credenza hammered for \$550.

A Charles Eames shell rocker brought \$550; a Paul McCobb credenza rose to \$468; a pair of glazed pottery lamps hit \$429; and a very unusual Bennington pottery face sculpture reached \$385. The sale was so successful, Mr. Bernstein has scheduled another auction of mid-20th century merchandise for the third weekend in January. Watch for more details by clicking on auctionzip.com, ID # 8290.

Designer furnishings at the Nov. 30 were loaded with top names, such as Herman Miller, Paul McCobb, Heywood-Wakefield, Harry Bertoia, George Nelson, Knoll, Hollywood Regency, Curtis Jere, Mies Van der Rohe, Eileen Gray, Vernon Panton, Walter Von Nessen, George Kovacs, Robert Sonneman, Artemide, Koch & Lowy, Frederick Raymond, Petersen & Hansen, and Bang & Olufsen.

Elliot Bernstein Auctions specializes in mid-20th century auctions and estate sales, with an emphasis on quality antiques and collectibles. The firm is always accepting quality consignments for future sales. To consign an item, estate or collection, you may call them directly, at (941) 351-3002, or, you may e-mail them at esb1322@comcast.net. To learn more, long on to auctionzip.com, ID # 8290.

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Ken Hall writes pre-sale and post-sale press releases for auction houses, for a fee (\$250 US\$). He writes, submits and tracks stories for clients. Submissions are published in trade magazines, posted on industry websites and appear in local newspapers.

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