

Sotheby's

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SOTHEBY'S TO OFFER PROPERTY FROM THE COLLECTION OF TELEVISION LEGEND SAM SIMON

Co-Creator of *The Simpsons*,
Showrunner on *Taxi*, Writer & Producer of *Cheers* and Many More

Fine Art & Memorabilia from His Personal Collection
To Be Auctioned Across a Series of Sales in Fall 2015

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT
THE SAM SIMON CHARITABLE GIVING FOUNDATION



Thomas Hart Benton
T.P. and Jake
Estimate \$1.5/2.5 million



Interior of Sam Simon's
House in Los Angeles



Circa 1990 "The Simpsons"
Data East Pinball Machine
Estimate \$1/2,000

NEW YORK, 20 August 2015 – Sotheby's is honored to present fine art and memorabilia from the personal collection of creative genius and television legend Samuel "Sam" Simon (1955-2015)

across a series of auctions in New York through 2015. While widely known and celebrated as the co-creator of *The Simpsons*, showrunner on *Taxi*, and a writer/producer/director on countless pop



Ed Ruscha
Untitled
Estimate \$800,000/1,200,000

culture icons of the small screen, Sam Simon's passions extended beyond television to include a notable career as a boxing manager, as well as a lasting legacy as a champion of animal rights. To that end, full proceeds from the sale of his collection will benefit the multi-platform Sam Simon Charitable Giving Foundation, which supports both animal welfare programs and poverty alleviation and disaster relief organizations.

Sam Simon's creative eye manifested itself in his extensive art collection, which spans an impressive range of styles, genres and mediums. As an accomplished illustrator himself, it is immediately apparent that the collection was assembled with care by someone who made their living as a storyteller. The strong figurative vein that runs throughout the group is evidenced in paintings such as Thomas Hart Benton's **T.P. and Jake**, in which the artist communicates the emotional connection between a boy and his dog in beautiful detail (estimate \$1.5/2.5 million, page 1). That work in particular held such personal significance to Simon that it is pictured in the logo for the Sam Simon Foundation.

Andrea Fiuczynski, Chairman of Sotheby's West Coast, said: "Each piece in Sam Simon's collection embodies a central theme: the ability of art to tell a story. It is a privilege to present a window into the life of such a prolific creative talent. His own story lives on through his extensive cultural and philanthropic contributions, and we are particularly honored to see his collection benefit his namesake foundation."



Auguste Rodin
Balzac en robe de dominic
Estimate \$250/350,000

Simon's sense of humor also is evident throughout the collection, such as in the important group of American pin-up paintings - the subject of each work offering a wink and a smile to the viewer. The group is led by the ravishing painting **Val Veeta** by Mel Ramos (estimate \$400/600,000, below),



which will be offered in Sotheby's [Contemporary Art Day Auction](#) in New York on 12 November. A large selection of pin-up art by American artists including by Gil Elvgren, Alberto Vargas and Earl Moran will highlight the 2 October auction of [American Paintings, Drawings & Sculpture](#).

THE CREATIVE GENIUS OF SAM SIMON – A LIFETIME OF MEMORABILIA

Dedicated Auction 22 October 2015

Sotheby's dedicated auction of Sam Simon's wide-ranging memorabilia collection will offer a unique window to his colorful life and many passions: personal illustrations, drawings and comics, reaching as far back as his comic strip in the Beverly Hills High School newspaper; boxing-related material including a rare signed letter from Jack Johnson to Jim Jeffries (est. \$3/5,000), a signed poster promoting the 1974 Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier Fight (estimate \$1,500/2,000), heavyweight belts, and ticket stubs to historic fights such as John L. Sullivan vs. James Corbett (estimate \$1,000/1,500, above); material related to the many television shows he worked on, such as a circa 1990 "The Simpsons" Data East Pinball Machine (estimate \$1/2,000, page 1); and more personal effects including rejection letters from *Esquire*, *Playboy* and *Time*.



SALES CALENDAR

Saturday at Sotheby's: Asian Art
19 September 2015

American Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture
2 October 2015

Photographs
6 October 2015

The Creative Genius of Sam Simon – A Lifetime of Memorabilia
22 October 2015

Impressionist & Modern Art Day Sale
5 November 2015

Contemporary Art Day Auction
12 November 2015

American Art
18 November 2015

Prints
23 & 24 November 2015

Books & Manuscripts
December 2015

Watches & Clocks
10 December 2015

20th Century Design
1 March 2016

Contemporary Curated
1 June 2016

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Sam Simon Charitable Giving Foundation has two main emphases of giving:

Animals

It supports organizations that work to protect animals, prevent animal cruelty and raise awareness of issues of maltreatment of animals.

Poverty Alleviation and Disaster Relief

It supports organizations that work towards the eradication of poverty, poor health and malnutrition.

In addition to providing support to outside organizations, The Sam Simon Charitable Giving Foundation will provide ongoing support to Mr. Simon's two private operating foundations:

The Sam Simon Charitable Foundation

<http://www.samsimonfoundation.com/>

<http://ssfmobileclinic.org/>

The Sam Simon Feeding Families Foundation

<http://ssf-feedingfamilies.org/>

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Sotheby's has been uniting collectors with world-class works of art since 1744. Sotheby's became the first international auction house when it expanded from London to New York (1955), the first to conduct sales in Hong Kong (1973) and France (2001), and the first international fine art auction house in China (2012). Today, Sotheby's presents auctions in eight different salesrooms, including New York, London, Hong Kong and Paris, and Sotheby's BidNow program allows visitors to view all auctions live online and place bids in real-time from anywhere in the world. Sotheby's offers collectors the resources of Sotheby's Financial Services, the world's only full-service art financing company, as well as private sale opportunities in more than 70 categories, including S|2, the gallery arm of Sotheby's Contemporary Art department, as well as Sotheby's Diamonds and Sotheby's Wine. Sotheby's has a global network of 90 offices in 40 countries and is the oldest company listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE).

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium and prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium.*

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