

# Winter Sporting Classics

Copley Fine Art Auctions launches its first ever winter auction in New York City.

**B**uyer demand and a successful July sale have led Copley Fine Art Auctions to start a first ever winter auction of fine sporting art and decoys to be held at St. Ignatius Loyola at 980 Park Avenue at 86<sup>th</sup> Street on the Upper East Side in New York City.

The auction will feature rare works by artists like Arthur Fitzwilliam Tait, William Harnden Foster, Ogden Pleissner, Edmund H. Osthaus and Carl Rungius.

Tait's painting, *Guarding the Catch* (\$125/175,000), is one of the highlights of the auction. Completed mid-career, the painting features a Newfoundland and his fresh catch with a beautiful landscape seen in the background.

"It is a famous work by Tait," says Steven O'Brien, owner of the auction house. "Tait, along with Audubon and Winslow Homer,

are three of the most recognized American sporting artists. Many of Tait's works were recreated as engravings and reproduced by Currier and Ives so he was very well known. These reproductions either showed sporting scenes, life on the prairie in the wilderness or hunting and fishing scenes."

Another rare original painting in the auction is *Across the Canyon* by William Harnden Foster. Foster was an avid sportsman and one of the inventors of skeet shooting. He was also a successful author and his book on rough grouse is still today considered one of the most popular on the subject.

"This is one of his rare Western scenes," says O'Brien. "He didn't do many at all. There has been probably less than a few dozen of his original work come up at auction in the last 20

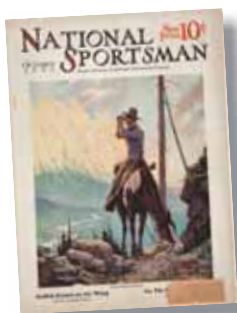
years, so this is a treat. His most famous work is of a Native American in a canoe spearing fish and this is only his second Western scene to come up for auction."

Ogden M. Pleissner's watercolor, *The Orchard Cover* (\$40/60,000), is also a significant piece to hit the market.

"It's a great scene," says O'Brien. "You see the covey rise of a rough grouse, with the hunter, the dog and the grouse all frozen in that one instance in the flush. Your eye goes from the hunter to the dog to the grouse and Pleissner created that depth of field so well, which is hard to do in watercolor as a medium. Also, the stone wall really wraps your eye around the scene." 🦅



**William Harnden Foster (1886-1941),** *Across the Canyon* (1930), oil on canvas, 26 x 20"  
**Estimate: \$30/50,000**



*Across the Canyon* was originally done as the illustration for *National Sportsman* magazine for the October 1930 issue.



**A. Elmer Crowell (1862-1952),** *Hudsonian Curlew*  
**Estimate: \$60/90,000**



**Arthur Fitzwilliam Tait (1819-1905)**, *Guarding the Catch* (1850), oil on canvas, 24½ x 29½"  
**Estimate: \$125/175,0000**



**Ogden M. Pleissner (1905-1983)**, *The Orchard Cover*, watercolor on paper, 17 x 28"  
**Estimate: \$40/60,000**

### The Winter Sale 2011

**When:** Preview-January 15 -16,  
 10 a.m.; Sale, Jan. 17, noon

**Where:** St. Ignatius Loyola, 980 Park  
 Avenue at 84<sup>th</sup> Street, New York,  
 NY 10028

**Information:** (617) 536-0030,  
[www.copleyart.com](http://www.copleyart.com)