

## Lifetime Collection Of Sterling & Silverplate Offered At Nest Egg

BERLIN, CONN. — Nest Egg Auctions will sell a lifetime silver collection on Saturday, March 24, at 1 pm.

"This collection was built over the course of 70 years," said auctioneer Ryan Brechlin. The auction, comprising more than 250 lots, will offer live bidding, absentee, telephone and live online participation. Featured is a collection of silver dating from the early Nineteenth Century to the mid-Twentieth Century. "All levels of collectors will find a treasure in this sale," said Brechlin. "This sale includes early American and English sterling, plus some of the very best examples of Victorian silverplate and glass objects."

The collection features a selection of silverplate pieces from



the Meriden, Conn., companies. A monumental International Silver figural punch bowl car-



International Silver punch bowl (\$800-\$1,200).

Wilcox figural centerpiece (\$1/2,000).

ries an \$800-\$1,200 estimate. Among the hundreds of lots is a selection of sterling flatware



S. Kirk & Sons coin silver tea set (\$2/4,000).

from Gorham, International, Kirk, Durgin and more.

Among the more rare silverplate pieces is a Wilcox figural centerpiece (\$1/2,000).

Select additions to the single-owner collection include a Nineteenth Century S. Kirk & Sons coin silver repousse tea set (\$2/4,000) and an Alphonse

LaPaglia sterling pitcher in fitted box (\$1/2,000).

Preview for the auction is Thursday and Friday, March 22 and 23, from noon to 5 pm. Doors open 10 am on March 24.

The auction gallery is at 758 Four Rod Road. For information, [www.nestegguctions.com](http://www.nestegguctions.com) or 203-630-1400.

## Portraits By Artists With Mental Illnesses At Fountain Gallery

NEW YORK CITY — Fountain House Gallery presents "About Face: Recent Portraits from Fountain House Gallery," an exhibition by gallery artists living with mental illness. Emphasizing self-expression over faithful likeness, the more than 30 self-portraits on view follow the exhibition's theme and testify to the diverse array of voices in this creative community. Curated by Sasha Nicholas, an independent art historian and curator, the show will run through April 11.

"Portraits are a fascinating subject in today's culture," said Nicholas. "They are everywhere and inspire incredible creative invention, but we seldom pause to think about how complicated it is to make a portrait. Looking at the work of the six featured artists in this show gives us a chance to do just that. Their portraits



"Lady Gaga" by Martin Cohen, 2017, acrylic on paper, 13 by 19 inches, photo courtesy Fountain House Gallery

offer rich, sensitive responses to the individuals they depict, but they also raise profound questions. On a personal note, it has been thrilling to work on

this show, which feels like a second chapter to an exhibition of self-portraits I curated at Fountain House Gallery more than ten years ago. It's a

privilege to collaborate with this talented community of artists."

The six artists featured in this show do more than make images that record the likeness of an individual; they simultaneously transform this process into a springboard for creative invention. Using expressive brushwork, distorted form, vivid color and other experimental techniques, these artists insist that portraiture is a subjective endeavor. Some, like Bryan Michael Greene, capture personal responses to close friends and intimates.

Others, like Martin Cohen, Marina Marchand, and Gary Peabody, evoke the various ways we project our desires and dreams onto pop culture icons. Still others, including Anthony Newton and Barry Senft, depict fictitious people

who appear startlingly real. Collectively, these works demonstrate that a portrait represents not simply an individual, but a complex encounter between an artist and their subject.

Fountain House Gallery and Studio provides an environment in which artists living with mental illness can express their creative visions and exhibit their work. Founded by Fountain House in 2000 as a not-for-profit exhibition space for its member-artists living and working with mental illness, the gallery sells original artworks and collaborates with a wide network of artists, curators and cultural institutions.

Fountain House gallery is at 702 Ninth Avenue at 48th Street. For additional information, [www.fountainhouse.org](http://www.fountainhouse.org) or 212-262-2756.

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-John Ruskin



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## Cahoon Museum Of American Art Presents Two Spring Exhibitions

COTUIT, MASS. — The Cahoon Museum of American Art announces its 2018 season opening with an annual series of exhibitions that highlight contemporary art, traditional American art and New England craft traditions.

"A Swedish Folk Tale" tells the story of how artist Martha Farham Cahoon (1905-1999) married her Swedish folk art heritage with Pennsylvania German and early American design to create unique forms of decorative art that had a bold impact on other Cape Cod artists, including her husband, Ralph Cahoon (1910-1982). Sponsored by a museum trustee, this exhibition is on view through June 3.

"Scrimshandering: Ralph Cahoon, Scrimshaw and Nantucket Whaling Heritage" details the impact that the American nautical folk art of scrimshaw had on artist Ralph Cahoon's paintings. This show is on view until December 22.

The museum reopened with regular hours on March 21, and a free opening reception will be conducted on Friday, March 23, from 4:30 to 6 pm.

"A Swedish Folk Tale" features more than 40 objects, including paintings, archival artifacts and many examples of decorative painted furniture created by Ralph and Martha Cahoon between 1930 and the 1960s when they achieved widespread recognition as important Cape Cod folk artists. For some 20 years before Ralph and Martha Cahoon became famous for their folk art paintings, they had a successful business decorating furniture; their early work was part of a folk art revival in the United States. These examples of decorated furniture have been drawn from the collec-



Decorated by Ralph Cahoon, "Sheba and Solomon Secretary," 1946, oil paint on antique Victorian secretary. The painted panels on this Victorian walnut secretary illustrate the biblical story of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, a theme popular in Swedish folk art.

tion of the Cahoon Museum of American Art and numerous private collections. The show highlights a large furniture piece that Ralph Cahoon decorated with elaborate designs based on Swedish wall hangings.

"Scrimshandering: Ralph Cahoon, Scrimshaw and Nantucket Whaling Heritage" presents scrimshaw-related paintings by Cahoon, who had a deep interest in scrimshaw, the American nautical folk art that developed alongside the whaling industry during the first half of the Nineteenth Century. During this time, hundreds of whaling vessels roamed the oceans of the world carrying many thousands of American sailors.

Scrimshaw refers to the art and craft of carving and engraving on bone or ivory. Sailors harvested teeth and bone from whales as a by-product of the whaling industry, and what began as humble shipboard tool-making evolved into an occupational art form. The scrimshaw pieces provide a unique window into early American industry and insights into Nineteenth Century work and family life.

Also included in the exhibit are an example of a faux-scrimshaw replica ditty box engraved and painted by Ralph Cahoon, a Clark Greenwood Voorhees carved whale, nautical antiques, whaling ship logbooks and examples of various types of scrimshaw such as whale teeth. A limited-time viewing of a rare 1828 whale's tooth from the Nantucket whaling ship Susan will be on view through early August.

Cahoon Museum of American Art is at 4676 Falmouth Road.

For additional information, 508-428-7581 or [www.cahoonmuseum.org](http://www.cahoonmuseum.org).