

In the salerooms: Kevin Barry's crucifix and scapular, second edition copy of 'Frankenstein' and a Chinese 'boy and chicken' cup

Eleanor Flegg

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A 'boy and chicken' cup sold at Adam's

Adam's

A famille rose “boy and chicken” cup, made in China during the Qianlong period (1736-1795) went under the hammer at Adam's Fine Asian Art sale on 24 June (est. €20,000 to €30,000). It sold for €115,000. The cup bears a mark that translates as “made in imitation of antiquity”, which was a strong tradition in imperial art of the period.



Imperial ewers sold at Adam's

An inscription praises earlier artistic traditions, especially Ming dynasty chicken cups, and references to Jia Chang (born in 713), a child prodigy famed for his skill in training fighting cocks. In the same sale, a pair of imperial copper enamel painted “dragon and phoenix” covered ewers, made in early 19th century Vietnam (est. €15,000 to €20,000) fetched €50,000.

The next day, 25 June, an Asian & Tribal Art Auction brought more surprises. An unassuming bronze tripod vessel dating from the Chinese Republic period (est. €200 to €300) fetched €8,000 and a carved ironwood Fijian war club with a spiked weighted head, designed to piece the skull bone without shattering it (est. €400 to €500) sold for €2,600.

See *adams.ie*.