

'71 Chevy Impala and '72 Chevy Malibu Take Top Lot Honors at EstateOfMind's May 21st Estate Auction

News-Press Release

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Summary

The '71 Impala was the top lot of the sale, while a 1972 Chevrolet Malibu with rust and body issues roared off for \$6,300. It was an eclectic auction that grossed just shy of \$300,000.

Message

Middletown, NY, USA, June 8, 2022 -- A 1971 Chevrolet Impala convertible that had been sitting, undriven, in a heated garage for 30 years sped off for \$31,250, and a 1972 Chevrolet Malibu roared away for \$6,300 despite having some rust issues in a two-session estate auction conducted on May 21st by EstateOfMind, online and live in the auction gallery located at 195 Derby Road in Middletown. The '71 Impala was an estate vehicle, having been purchased by the original owner's son for his mother in 1970. Since 1992 it has been stored in the family's basement garage. The car, in fact, was always garaged, and showed just 33,224 miles on the odometer when it was put up for bid. The battery was new, the convertible top worked perfectly and the engine turned over freely. The '72 Malibu was a tale of two Chevroys. While the car ran fine and boasted many new parts, including tires, brakes, Flowmaster exhaust and matching numbers on its 350 cubic inch engine, it had some shoddy bodywork done in the '90s that the new owner will likely need to address. That, combined with the rust, prevented the vehicle from bringing more. It showed 94,132 miles. Session 1 of the auction, which started at 11 am Eastern time, was dedicated to militaria and firearms. Session 2, immediately following, consisted of items from Tuxedo Park and Hamptonburgh, N.Y.; Oceanside, L.I.; and Warwick, N.Y. More than 650 lots came up for bid in Session 2, encompassing multiple categories. In total, the auction grossed \$286,575. This auction was an interesting mix of firearms, militaria, Mid-Century Modern, country furnishings and, of course, watches, jewelry and artwork, said Darrell Dirr, the owner of EstateOfMind. It was a perfect mix that attracted a lot of attention from different venues. Following are additional highlights from the sale, which enjoyed a 98.4 percent sell-through (only 18 lots passed out of the 673 total lots offered). Around 50 people attended in person, while another 2,000 registered to bid online, through LiveAuctioneers.com. There were also 5,200 absentee (or left) bids recorded. All prices are inclusive of a 25 percent buyer's premium. A pair of 19th or 20th century Italian Carrara marble guardian angels, 40 inches tall, finished at \$6,250; a 19th century fine deep blue ground signed Sarouk rug, pulled from a Tuxedo Park estate, 8 feet 6 inches by 11 inches, realized \$5,250; and a pair of Mid-Century Modern leather armchairs by Charles Pollack (Phila., 1930-2013) for Knoll brought \$2,000. A 1945 oil on board painting of a World War II U.S. Navy/Air Force float plane (one of only ten built), with clouds, signed by artist Eric Sloane (N.Y./Conn., 1905-1985), 24 inches by 30 inches, changed hands for \$4,625. Also, a rare Isamu Noguchi (American, 1904-1988) cherry and fiber table lamp, 16 inches tall, circa 1940/1950, went to a determined bidder for \$2,125. Estate jewelry was plentiful and featured a circa 1980 18 kt gold leopard brooch signed Asch Grossbardt, made from gold, stone, shell and diamond, weighing 34.8 grams, made \$2,000; and a lot of vintage Rolex watches including an Oyster Perpetual Golden Egg Superlative chronometer (1959) and a circa 1959-1960 Bulova gold-plated tank wristwatch sold for \$1,750. An exceptional 19th century Meissen floral porcelain china dinner service commanded \$1,875; a 19th or 20th century Shaker (Mount Lebanon, Pa.) child's rocking chair with the original taped seat and back, signed and stenciled, with mushroom caps, achieved \$1,062; and an authentic 1807 manuscript letter request for military leave initialed by Napoleon Bonaparte rose to \$2,500. Unquestionably the surprise lot of the day was an AMPEX 351-2 reel-to-reel tape transport with amplifiers. Entering play with a \$400-\$600 estimate, it ended up finding a new home for \$3,250. EstateOfMind's next auction will be a two-session affair slated for Saturday, October 8th, starting at 10 am Eastern time. Watch the website for more details as the auction date draws nearer. To learn more about EstateOfMind and the firm's calendar of upcoming auctions and other info, please visit www.EstateOfMind.biz.

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