



Left: the theodolite on offer from Uppsala Auktionskamrere on June 10.

Plotting a profitable course in Sweden

Uppsala Auktionskamrere are offering a jewel of Renaissance technology when they auction a 16th-century surveying instrument, the theodolite of Ulrich Schniep of Munich. The instrument is made of gilt brass and has a circular scale (50cm) in diameter and is engraved with scales and other markings. It is signed 'ULTRICH SCHNIEP MÜNCHEN MDCLXVI' and 'MDCLXVI'.

It is one of the earliest of its kind and one of a handful of others in the collection of the late 16th and early 17th century, most of which are in the collection of the Uppsala Auktionskamrere.

It is one of ten scientific instruments in another 20 or so lots of instruments from the collection of Major General von Siegroth, including a theodolite of Gustaf Adolf von Siegroth, and of the Royal Regiment in 1771. They will be featured in a stand-alone catalogue as part of the Uppsala Auktionskamrere's forthcoming sale on June 10-12.

Ulrich Schniep is listed among his instruments for the year 1566 but Schniep is recorded as receiving 40 gulden from the Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian II (1527-76) as payment for an 'artistic instrument'. The Munich and Prague kunstämmer were sacked by the Swedish king Gustavus Adolphus in 1632 and 1648.

Although we do not know much about the theodolite's early history, the provenance is much more detailed after its acquisition by Major General von Siegroth.

In 1778 he donated it along with books and other instruments to the Sodermanland Regiment's Military Academy and when that closed down in the early 19th century, what were then perceived as outdated instruments passed to the Regiment's Officers' Club where they were kept as traditional objects and stored in the officers' mess.

The Schniep theodolite emerged from obscurity in 2007 when, following the closure of the regiment two years earlier, the Officers' Club took it along to the Swedish version of the Antiques Roadshow where it was rediscovered

PARIS LEFT BANK...

Right: the Carré Rive Gauche, the association of over 100 Left Bank art and antiques galleries centred around the 7th arrondissement, springs into action this week with a five-day focus on its trading activities held from June 3-7 with an evening opening on June 2. The new management of the association, under the chairmanship of Alexandre Piatti, has selected 'metamorphoses' as an overarching theme across all media for the event, be it paintings, sculpture, furnishings or works of art. Dealers are either highlighting their latest stock acquisitions or mounting specialist themed exhibitions, many of which extend beyond the five-day themed run. In the latter category are the Sismann Gallery on the rue de Beaune who are mounting an exhibition titled *From Sand to Light* from June 2-August 2, featuring French stained glass from the 13th to the 17th centuries shown in conjunction with sculpture of the corresponding periods. The underlying idea behind the combination is that the gothic architecture of the cathedral was born out of stone, glass and metal.

The stained glass focus is very apposite given that it coincides with the reopening of the newly restored windows of the Sainte Chapelle just down the road. Prices at the gallery range from around €10,000-20,000. Pictured here is c.1400 panel of *Christ on the Mount of Olives* measuring 21in x 3ft (53 x 93cm).

■ carrerivegauche.com



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