

VAN HAM

Press release

Follow-up report on the **Watches** sale on 15 May 2024



Record sale – sustained run on luxury watches

The demand for luxury watches remains unabated: with a total result of approximately 1.75 million euros this was the best watch sale in the company's history. The enormous increase of 167 per cent (!) on the last Spring sale can also be attributed to the sensational sales ratio: 96 per cent of the watches were sold at the auction – mostly to online bidders. Among the highlights and most popular collector's watches were the iconic Royal Oak from Audemars Piguet, which was offered as a special edition and achieved the highest result of the day at 145,000 euros. The Rolex watches on offer were almost all sold, and the interested participants also engaged in intense bidding wars for the models from IWC Schaffhausen, Patek Philippe and A. Lange & Söhne.

The **Royal Oak** from **Audemars Piguet** is one of the most popular and iconic collector's items among watch aficionados. The exclusive edition, limited to 120 pieces and created on the occasion of the 120th anniversary of Audemars Piguet in a version in pink gold (lot 360), was the highlight of the watch offerings. The total result of 145,000 euros ensured its top ranking on the sale's leaderboard.

This auction again demonstrated that watches from **Rolex** are sales guarantees. Nearly all models by the Swiss manufacturer were sold, some with large price increases. Especially the timeless design of the **Day-Date** (lot 230), also known as the President's Watch, is extremely popular due to its combination of high craftsmanship and practical functions. It is one of the best-known wristwatches in the world. The high-quality platinum version with reference number 18206 was awarded to an online bidder from Germany for roughly 29,000 euros. The popular models with established top names also aroused great interest among collectors. The **Submariner** in characteristic green, known as **Hulk** (lot 226), achieved

May 2024

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a price of 16,000 euros. The **GMT Master II** (lot 221) with the two-colour bezel in blue and red – therefore also called **Pepsi** – earned a result of 22,500 euros, and the iconic **Batman** (lot 223) changed wrists for a total of about 13,000 euros.



Lot 360: **Audemars Piguet**
Royal Oak | Ref. 25810 | Eternal
calendar
Result: €145,000



Lot 230: **Rolex**
Day-Date | Ref. 18206
Platinum | Revision 01/2024
Result: €29,000

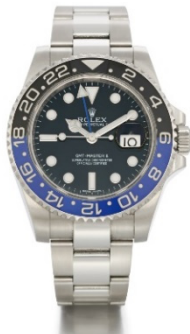


Lot 221: **Rolex**
GMT II "Pepsi"
Ref. 1675 | Radial dial
Result: €22,500

The limited **Big Pilot** edition **Le Petit Prince** (lot 341) from the renowned Swiss watch brand **IWC Schaffhausen** came from a private collection in North Rhine-Westphalia. Its proceeds go to a good cause. The watch, which was inspired by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's famous book *The Little Prince*, was acquired for a total of 31,500 euros by a live online bidder from Switzerland.



Lot 226: **Rolex**
Submariner "Hulk"
Ref. 116610LV | Full set
Result: €16,000



Lot 223: **Rolex**
GMT II "Batman" | Ref. 116710 BLNR
Full set | Revision 06/2023
Result: 13000



Lot 341: **IWC Schaffhausen**
Big Pilot | Le Petit Prince
Perpetual | Ref. 502802
Result: €31,500

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A number of top watches from various renowned brands on offer came from another eminent private collection. The highlights of the selection met with great interest: the **Langematik** (lot 205) from **A. Lange & Söhne** with the pinnacle of the watchmaker's art – an eternal calendar – was sold for 46,000 euros. The timeless **Grand Complication** (lot 212) from **Patek Philippe** earned 29,000 euros, while an **IWC Grand Complication** (lot 210) with a massive platinum case changed owners for 66,000 euros.



Lot 205: **A. Lange & Söhne**
Langematik | Ref. 310.221E |
Eternal calendar
Result: €46,000



Lot 212: **Patek Philippe**
Grand Complication | Ref. 5040R-016
Result: €29,000



Lot 210: **IWC Schaffhausen**
Grand Complication | Ref. 3770
Result: €66,000

Van Ham – About us

Founded in 1959, the Cologne-based auction house Van Ham is a family business run by Markus Eisenbeis, now in its second generation. The internationally acclaimed auctions cover the areas of Modern & Contemporary Art, Old Masters & Impressionism, Works of Art & Art Nouveau as well as Fine Jewels & Watches. In 2023, Van Ham achieved the best result in its history with a total turnover of around 53.8 million euros, putting it in second place among German auction houses. Van Ham is the market leader among art auction houses in Germany in the Jewels & Watches segment and is also the leader for online sales with over 40 curated Online Only auctions per year.

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