

## International: Sandzen, the American Van Gogh, to set sensation!

30/08/2011



"Summer in the mountains" by Birger Sandzen

The auction house, Santa Fe Art Auction has set a new record on the art market for the artist Birger Sandzen. His oil on canvas, entitled Summer in the Mountains, painted in 1923 and estimated \$ 150,000, sold for the incredible amount of \$ 632,500.

The sale consisted of eleven works of the same artist and other art objects mostly from the Bethany College collections that separated a part of their collection according to the rules of the American deaccessioning. The other important piece was Maynard Dixon. His oil on canvas, entitled The Monument was sold for \$ 525,000. Santa Fe Art Auction offered in the space of two days - August 13th and 14th - more than 570 lots. The auction house identified about 500 bidders and warmly welcomed this achievement.

Birger Sandzen (1871-1954) is often called the American Van Gogh although born in the Swedish city of Blidsberg. After studying at the Royal Swedish Academy of Art in Stockholm in 1894 he accepted a position at Berthany College and moved to Kansas, therefore, in the town of Lindsborg, where he ended his days. His paintings depict the most famous Rocky Mountains or Yellowstone National Park.

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