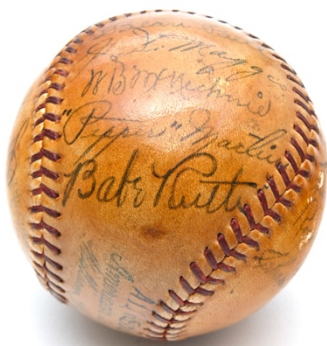


Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio Signed Ball

Few players unequivocally stand as the greatest to ever play, especially in baseball, which boasts one of the longest histories among American sports. Babe Ruth and Joe DiMaggio are certainly two names that have earned their place at the pinnacle of the history of the sport and the **1937 All-Star PSA/DNA Certified Multi-Signed Baseball** (\$8/12,000) offered at Michaan's Auctions December Gallery Auction



includes a total of 19 signatures from some of the best players of the era.

In the year of aviation disasters, including both the Hindenburg disaster and the loss of Amelie Earhart, baseball carried on. The 1937 MLB season was an all-New York affair, with the New York Yankees and New York Giants meeting in the World Series for the second year in a row. Joe DiMaggio led the league in home runs, with 46, an astonishing number given the depth of the Yankee's ballpark, while Lefty Grove (whose name is also signed to the ball) led the league in wins, ERA, and strikeouts.

The 1937 MLB All-Star game was held on July 7th in Washington D.C. and was only the fifth edition of the midsummer classic. The American

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League cruised to an easy victory, winning 8-3 after the ceremonial first pitch was tossed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The All-Star game was marred by the injury of star Dizzy Dean (also signature on the item), who broke his toe after a line drive hit by Earl Averill struck him in the foot. He rushed to return to play, which ultimately led to a change in his delivery that resulted in the career-ending arm injury at the young age of 26. While Babe Ruth did not appear in the game, having retired in 1935, he remained a huge draw for baseball fans and attended the game in support of his former teammates.

Babe Ruth, one of America's greatest sports heroes, came from unremarkable origins. He was born in Baltimore to German parents in 1895 and was sent to an orphanage at a young age after a particularly violent incident at the saloon run by his father. It was at

this orphanage where a Catholic monk taught Ruth to play baseball, which he quickly took to, playing over 200 games a year as a teenager. A prodigious pitcher, he earned a minor league contract at the age of 18, allowing him to finally leave behind the orphanage. Upon joining the Boston Red Sox in 1914, he quickly established himself as one of the best pitchers in the league, earning a 1.75 ERA in 1916, and won three World Series Championships with the franchise.

As a result of roster limitations in World War I and his ability to draw fans with his home run ability, Ruth was soon moved to the outfield, allowing him to play every day. With more opportunities, he quickly became an offensive force, especially after he was traded to the Yankees for the 1920 season. It was at the Yankees that he reached his full star power, winning four

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more World Series Championships and leading the league in home runs 12 times over his career, which drew to a close in 1935.

As Babe Ruth was making his professional debut for the Red Sox in 1914, Joe DiMaggio was born to Sicilian parents on the San Francisco Bay in Martinez, CA. After moving to San Francisco as a young child, DiMaggio quickly picked up baseball and joined the San Francisco Seals minor league team at the age of 17. He earned a 61-game hitting streak with the Seals and after five years in the minors, signed a contract with the New York Yankees in 1936.

DiMaggio would remain with the Yankees for the remainder of his 13-year career, earning a place at the All-Star game each year. He would win nine World Series championships, three MVP awards, and set the MLB record with a

56-game hitting streak. He remained in the spotlight even after his retirement, marrying, divorcing, and rekindling a relationship with Marilyn Monroe, a public affair that inspired Bob Hope's award-winning song, "The Second Time Around."

While a baseball bearing only the signature of Babe Ruth or Joe DiMaggio is typically valued at a few thousand dollars, multi-signed balls increase its value substantially. Together, the signatures of the two Yankee stars easily raise its expected value over the five-figure mark, and that's not to mention the number of other great names on the

1937 All-Star PSA/DNA Certified Multi-Signed Baseball Including Babe Ruth and Joe DiMaggio

(\$8/12,000) to be offered at Michaan's Auction's December Gallery Auction.

This ball includes 19 signatures, including Johnny Mize, Jimmie Foxx,

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Charlie Gehringer, Bill McKechnie, Tom Yawkey, Dizzy Dean, Lefty Gomez, Joe Cronin, Bill Dickey, Lefty Grove, and Joe Medwick, making it a truly rare opportunity to own an exceptional piece of baseball history.

Michaan's Auctions Winter Fine Sale on Thursday, December 14th, features notable names leading the fine art, decorative, and jewelry departments. BANKSY's 2004 screen print "Barcode" headlines a sale

featuring Tiffany Studios Bronze Lamp and Wisteria Table Screen, wristwatches by Rolex and Hublot, and a Chalcedony, Yellow Gold Brooch attributed to Suzanne Belperron.

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