

Quality Furniture for Less

Welcome to our blog series which highlights some of the great finds available at Michaan's Auctions monthly Annex Auctions. In this series, we will highlight a few examples of furniture and other home goods recently sold at Michaan's Annex Auction and compare them with their supposed equivalent from a big retail option such as IKEA, Wayfair, and others.

Luckily quality options from years past are still available at Michaan's Annex Auctions. Every month, we sell hundreds of gently used furniture pieces, each featuring a unique and beautifully crafted design that will last decades longer than the modern alternative. Better yet, gently used furniture from Michaan's Auctions

regularly sells at much lower prices than in-store options.

Annex Highlights

The first item sold in Michaan's Auctions March Annex sale is the **Square Coffee Table**, which sold for \$7. This table's fine wooden construction is highlighted by a deep amber finish, which brings the materiality of the wood front of mind. Each corner features thin dual legs, which are reinforced by similarly slim cross braces, providing incredible durability without losing any of the design's elegance. The coffee table also includes practical design elements, including a raised edge to prevent spills, while overall offering a distinct,



sophisticated design allows it to be placed in even the most high-scale design schemes.

Reaching a similar level of sophistication at major retailers requires spending significantly more money. One option, the IKEA Aesperod, costs \$160, and although it matches the thin forms and elegance of the option from Michaan's Auctions, it is made of metal and feels too cold to be the centerpiece of a living room. Like many contemporary options, it effectively blends into the background of an interior design scheme, while

alternatively, the **Square Coffee Table** from Michaan's would be an excellent centerpiece to any room it is placed in. In contrast, the Bria Coffee Table from Wayfair features excellent design but misses many of the features evident in the **Square Coffee Table**. Without a raised edge, and with a smaller size, the Wayfair piece may work in specific installations but is unlikely to fulfill the needs of a homeowner or young family.

Another interesting item that recently sold at Michaan's Annex Auctions is a **Pair of Green Upholstered, Queen Ann style**

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Wing Chairs, which sold for \$52 on Tuesday, March 12th. This pair of chairs features an intricately scalloped back, and dramatically sweeping wings, which curve downwards into armrests that blend seamlessly into the seat cushion. The chairs feature intricately carved feet that mimic the angles of the curves found throughout the chair and pull the design into a cohesive whole. The classic, timeless design fits with any number of interior design schemes, from the most antique to contemporary. The cushioning is durable yet comfortable, and in good shape. Overall, the chair is in perfect structural condition with only minor wear evident.

In comparison, a big-box option, such as the IKEA Strandmon Wing Chair, sells for over \$300, more than six times the price of a pair of quality chairs available at Michaan's Auctions. Despite the huge price difference, the IKEA

option is of significantly lower quality, as it is upholstered with a thin, scratchy cover, and constructed of budget materials which will fail to survive over the decades. Additionally, the chair must be assembled, while the **Pair of Green Upholstered, Queen Ann style Wing Chairs** from Michaan's Auctions are ready to use. Similarly, the Anndi Armchair, available on Wayfair, mimics high-quality options but falls short because of budget choices in several areas. For example, the chair only features two carved feet, rather than four, and again features a cover that



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uses significant amounts of polyester, leading to early wear and tear.

Next Sale

As you can see, Michaan's Annex Auctions can offer a higher quality item for a lower price than major retailers. Registration and bidding are intuitive processes and can be done 100% online! You don't even need to watch the auction, simply submit an absentee or online bid, and check back at the end of the sale to see if you've won the item.

The April Annex Auction is being held Monday, April 15th; Tuesday, April

16th; and Wednesday, April 17th. This venue gives collectors a wide variety of jewelry, fine art, decorative arts, furniture, Asian art, stamps, and coins to choose from. The auction includes over 2,500 lots, most estimated under \$300.

Michaan's Auctions catalogs can be viewed on our website (www.michaans.com) and on our Michaan's Live site. Bid live in our gallery or remotely via absentee or online.

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