

Two Louis Vuitton Damier Ebene Leather Bags.

The Louis Vuitton name originated in humble circumstances but has since grown to become the world's most valuable brand of luxury goods, featuring a long history of excellent pieces by notable designers. From its historic connection to trunks and leather goods, the brand has expanded to become a leader in fashion, jewelry, and shoes, making it a global empire, whose

owner is the world's richest man.

Michaan's Auctions is proud to offer

Two Louis Vuitton Damier Ebene

Leather Bags (\$8/1,200) for sale in

our April Gallery Auction, held on

Friday, April 19th.

Louis Vuitton was born to a family of artisans in the Alpine foothills of the Jura Department in 1821.

Following the death of his parents, the



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young orphan began a 292-mile walk to Paris on foot, taking odd jobs at farms and small shops along the way to survive. After three years of travel, he arrived in the city and quickly found an apprenticeship with a successful trunk maker named Monsieur Marechal. Within a few years, the young Vuitton had established himself as one of the most skilled artisans in the city and was personally hired to fashion and pack the trunks of the French Empress. Soon after, in 1854, he left the apprenticeship and founded the company which bears his name to this day.

The Louis Vuitton company soon became extremely successful, due in large part to its innovative flat-topped trunk design, which allowed trunks to be stacked for the first time (previous designs featured a dome-top to allow for rain runoff). By 1896 the company had invented the unique lock that continues

to be featured on many of its pieces to this day and had trademarked the iconic Monogram canvas that remains a best-seller to this day. In 1930 the company introduced its extremely popular Speedy bag which along with the 2007 release of the Neverfull are the company's most popular bag launches, before joining with cognac producer Hennessy and champagne producer Moët & Chandon in 1987 to form LVMH. Over the following years, the company would grow to include over sixty subsidiaries and become the most valuable company in Europe.



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Although the company began by producing travel cases and trunks, Louis Vuitton has a long history of producing handbags, making its first as a bespoke commission for Coco Chanel in 1915. This bag was later mass-produced as the Alma, a model which continues to be sold to this day. The handbag line was expanded in 1935 with the introduction of the Keepall and Speedy bags, which later came to include the smaller Speedy 25 which was introduced in 1965 upon the request of Audrey Hepburn. The Babylone bag, designed for school or office use, diversified the Louis Vuitton's range by adding an even more functional option to the brand's range. The Babylone bags were produced between the early 1990s and early 2000s, before being replaced by the Neverfull in 2007. The Neverfull represents the brand's intentional return to its roots creating pieces that are both

durable and luxurious, importantly, it features all the marks of quality design evident in the Louis Vuitton name while also offering plenty of storage capacity and the ability to carry nearly 200 pounds.

Michaan's Auctions will be offering a lot of two bags, the Louis Vuitton Neverfull and Babylone, each featuring Louis Vuitton's signature "Damier" checkerboard pattern. First introduced in 1889, and rereleased in 1996, both bags are in the re-release's original Ebene brown color scheme, which has remained the manufacturer's most popular option. These bags feature two mid-length straps, allowing them to be easily carried either on the shoulder or in hand, and a small cinch strap is included in the Neverfull. The Babylone features gold-tone attachment hardware, as well as a base that allows the bag to stand independently, a

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feature that highlights its role as a versatile shopping bag.

Michaan's Auctions will be offering a number of additional Louis Vuitton items in our April Gallery Auction including a **Louis Vuitton Neverfull GM Damier Ebene Leather Bag** (\$6/1,000), a **Louis Vuitton Saleya GM Damier Ebene Leather Bag** (\$5/900), and a **Collection of Louis Vuitton Inclusion Bangle Bracelets** (\$4/600) amongst others.

Two Louis Vuitton Damier Ebene Leather Bags (\$8/1,200) will be offered in Michaan's Auctions April Gallery Auction on Friday, April 19th. The sale features excellent furniture pieces from the Asian Art Department,

in addition to important works from notable artists, and a number of fine jewelry pieces from the Fine Art and Jewelry departments. The auction is led by the Fine Art Department, which will be offering oil paintings by George Demont Otis and Gideon Jacques Denny, while the Asian Art Department offers a 12-panel folding screen and a hanging rug. Also included in the sale are platinum, diamond, and gold items from the Jewelry Department.

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

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