

QUILT *mania*

The Quilt Magazine

Patchwork

N°101 - www.quiltmania.com

May/June 2014

UK: £ 8.50 • US/CDN: \$ 13.99



MICHAEL & SETH FALLON'S 518-329-1142

COPAQUE AUCTION Inc.

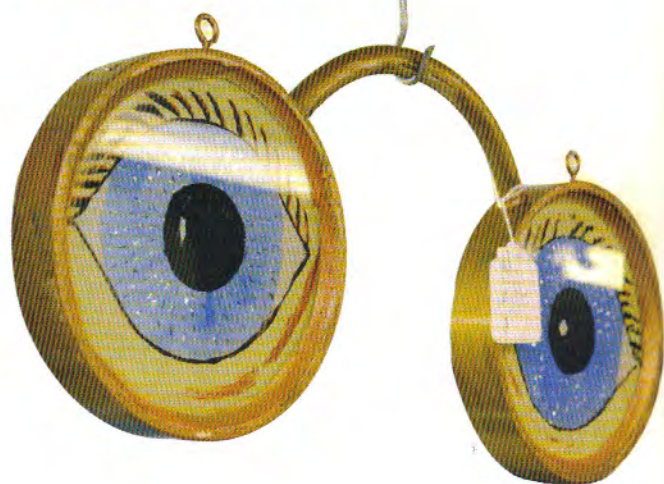
SPECIALIZING IN...

- ★ AMERICANA
- ★ FOLK ART
- ★ TEXTILES
- ★ BICYCLES

Full Service Auction Gallery in Columbia County Since 1952

WWW.COPAQUEAUCTION.COM

Quilts and Enchanting Homes



We are bringing you to a somewhat peculiar place this time! Copaque Auction Inc. is the oldest auction house in the whole county of Columbia, New York. Its owner, Mike Fallon, bought it in 1985 and his son Seth joined him in 1995. There were many twists and turns to the story of this purchase but it had a happy ending and, to cut a long story short, Mike says that he bought the auction house with God's help! As Mike was 40 and unemployed, his neighbours persuaded him to register for a religious retreat where everybody shared what they wanted to do with their lives. He said that he really wanted to buy an auction house and the next day he met the owner of Copaque Auction who sold it to him!



Armageddon tent and red two-tone square quilt with beautiful Stoneware jars in the background



Rosebud quilt and a King's Crown variation



Log Cabin variation quilt!!



Turkey Tracks





Star Medallion Quilt



Their most famous auction happens three times a year and is dedicated to bicycles. It is a great event covered by the newspapers and television because you can find extremely rare items there. This year, the 23rd edition was held on April 21st. This is where collectors and museums from all over the world meet and some of them did not hesitate to spend \$35,000 apiece this year for exceptional specimens from the 1880's. The December auction made \$488,000! Such a high figure is far from breaking records as gorgeous items are sold here: Americana (weather vanes, wooden signs, decoys, quilts, etc), pieces of furniture (especially painted ones, their specialty), sculptures, paintings, vintage weapons and many other antiques. Two years ago, their high standards and trustworthiness as experts lead them to buying a return ticket to Germany with a specific work in their luggage to ask the maker, a German artist, to authenticate it for a collector who had seen it on their website. The collector bought it for over \$300,000 as soon as its authenticity was verified, and Seth went back home with the cheque!



Crazy Quilt

We visited them after our friend Jane Lury from Labor of Love recommended them, as she always visits them when she knows that they have quilts. We were very lucky as Mike and Seth were just preparing a sale for the coming week. The way they set up all their items, and especially the quilts, made us want to feature them in this column!

The success of Copake Auction comes from Mike's strict principles: honesty, integrity, hard work - and passion, of course!

If one day you feel like participating to an online auction, it is possible thanks to their direct online auction system: www.liveauctioneers.com. By the way, online auctions make up 55% of their sales and for the bicycles, participating customers originated from 38 states and 18 different countries including New Zealand and Crete! If you want to have a glimpse of their Ali Baba's cave, log on to their site: <http://www.copakeauction.com> For a 'real life' visit: Copake Auction 266E Main Street COPAKE NY