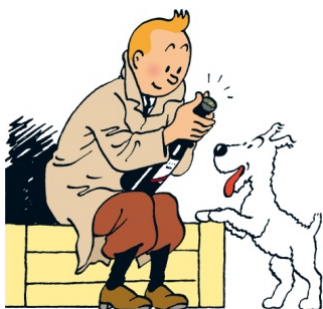


# 2011, TINTIN YEAR

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## Rops Auctioneers to host the latest *Hergé* sale,

Sunday 22 May 2011

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**Rops Auction House (Namur, Belgium) is set to host the latest sale dedicated to the work of Hergé. The sale will take place in Rops' auction rooms – 320 Chaussée de Waterloo, 5002 Saint-Servais, Belgium – at 1pm on Sunday 22 May.**

In May 2009 Rops organised – with the assistance of Studios Hergé and Moulinsart S.A. – its first *Hergé* sale, entirely dedicated to the work of the creator of Tintin. The sale was an extraordinary success and was widely covered by the Belgian and international press. A wide range of top quality items was showcased: original drawings, rare books (some signed) and diverse memorabilia including figurines, postcards, posters and other collectables.

Clients were overjoyed to see sales figures breaking records. Examples include the original plate for page 3 of *The Castafiore Emerald* reaching €312,500, and plate 38 of *The Calculus Affair* selling for €275,000.

In total 94% of lots were sold at consistently high prices. The total revenue of €1,172,000 was nearly double the pre-sale estimate of €654,000, demonstrating the passion and emotion that Hergé and his work continues to generate among the general public. Tintin continues to inspire generations of readers, and original work and derived products from the series are becoming increasingly sought-after.



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Despite being based in the provincial heart of Wallonia, Rops Auction House – the largest in the region – is an organisation modelled on the leading auction houses worldwide. Its multi-lingual (four languages) website provides international scope, while professional and welcoming staff and a high level of customer service has always endeared the company to its clients and to the general public.

Building on past success and responding to the demands of buyers and sellers, Rops has decided to continue its own particular Tintin adventure by organising a new sale, to be held **at 1pm on Sunday 22 May 2011**, in the Namur premises.

It is important to note that Rops is in partnership with – and benefits from the expertise of – Studios Hergé and Moulinsart S.A. (licensor). As per the 2009 sale, independent expert Mr Thibaut van Houte – one of Belgium's leading specialists in the field of comic strips – will be at hand to provide expertise and to evaluate potential lots. These appraisals are free of charge and do not bind the owner to sell. Mr van Houte works in collaboration with Studios Hergé: there could be no better guarantee of quality service.



Michel Demarets at work at the Studios Hergé. © DR

Most of the lots (roughly 600) will be exhibited at Rops on Thursday 19 May, from 10am to 6pm, and on Friday 20 and Saturday 21 May, from 10am to 7pm.

To mark the second anniversary of the Hergé Museum a selection of lots will be exhibited on Saturday 21 May, from 1pm to 5pm, on the first floor of the Fondation Wallonne: 20 Green Lane (Cortil Le Coq Hardy) in Louvain-la-Neuve, close to the museum.

Rops invites owners of books and all items relating to Hergé and to his work, to profit from this unique opportunity to discover the value of their treasures.

*With the first Tintin movie scheduled for release in October, 2011 is set to be a defining year for the series of Hergé sales!*

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## Pre-sale viewings

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### Rops Auctioneers:

**Thursday 19 May from 10am to 6pm, Friday 20 and Saturday 21 May from 10am to 7pm.**

320 Chaussee de Waterloo

5002 Saint-Servais

Tel: 00 32 (0) 81 74 99 88

Fax: 00 32 (0) 81 74 99 86

Mail: [rops@rops.be](mailto:rops@rops.be)

Website: [www.rops.be](http://www.rops.be)

### Exhibition at the Foundation Wallonne:

**Saturday 21 May, 11am to 5pm (selected lots)**

Salle Polyvalente (1st floor)

Verte Voie 20 (Cortil du Coq Hardy)

B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium).

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## Evaluations

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- Free appraisals at the Rops premises  
Every Saturday from 9am to 12 noon starting 5 March until 2 April 2011
- Or at Moulinsart: 162 Avenue Louise, 1050 Brussels (8th floor), Friday 4 and 18 March, and 1 April, from 10am to 12 noon, and 2pm to 4pm, or by appointment.
- Expertise: Thibaut van Houte 00 32 (0) 475 697 538 / [bdcomics2@hotmail.com](mailto:bdcomics2@hotmail.com)
- Last day of evaluations: Saturday 2 April 2011, Namur

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## Press Contacts

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Website : [www.rops.be](http://www.rops.be)

