

Brooke Astor's 800 item-strong collection of jewellery, furniture and favourite dog paintings set to reach \$5million at [auction](#) By Victoria Wellman Published: 21:08 BST, 15 March 2012 | Updated: 08:32 BST, 16 March 2012 e-mail 9 View comments Tireless philanthropist and Manhattan socialite, Brooke Astor, will be sharing her wealth from beyond the grave in September as part of her estate is put up for auction at Sotheby's. The charitable millionaire who died in 2007 at the ripe age of 105 was a keen supporter of The New York Public Library, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Animal Medical Center in Manhattan.

Though details of the impending sale have yet to be revealed, what is known is that the 800 personal items up for sale will include pieces of precious jewellery and a vast array of furniture with an estimated total worth of \$5million. Barking mad: The staircase at Brooke Astor's Westchester estate, Holly Hill, is lined with the paintings of the late socialite's favourite animal that will go up for auction in September Also up for grabs by admiring collectors will be Mrs Astor's beloved paintings of dogs, antique Chinese lacquer furniture dating back to the Qing dynasty and old master drawings.

RELATED ARTICLES Previous 1 Next Before she was Queen: Portrait of Elizabeth II prior to her coronation Now even the editor of Vogue is recycling gowns: Anna... Share this article Share In December Sotheby's confirmed that Aaron Shikler's 1983 painting Mrs. Vincent Astor, Seated would also be included in the sale. Treasures: The 800 items up for auction include priceless designer jewels including this emerald necklace and ring set and diamond and gold lion brooch Auction attendees can expect to view the items at the Park Avenue duplex and Holly Hill, her mansion in Westchester County, both currently under administration of New York State.

[external site](#)Last year, Sotheby's estimated the collection to exceed \$5million in worth cementing the auction as an event not to be missed by art and antiques enthusiasts. Originally the date for the auction was set for April 19 and [tranh sơn mài phong cảnh](#) the reason for the delay until later this year has not been determined. Antique chic: Mrs Astor's ornaments and decorative accents like these Chinese lamps and George III mirror date back hundreds of years and were purchased in different parts of the world Priceless: William Nedham's A Toy Spaniel and a Springer Spaniel in a Landscape is just one of the many paintings of dogs owned by the late Mrs Astor Proceeds from the auction to be held on September 24 and 25 are hoped to be donated to these and others she favoured.

But although the state, as administrator, has the authority to sell assets of the estate, some have said that donating proceeds to Mrs Astor's preferred beneficiaries is not quite as simple as they would hope. An old favourite: Mrs Astor stepped out numerous times wearing the dazzling diamond and emerald necklace Phillip C. Marshall, the philanthropist's grandson told the Wall Street Journal in December: 'This complex estate remains in surrogate's court in Westchester.

'And it is much more complicated than initially presumed in this statement that monies realized from the sale would go to charity.

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