

# Auctioneers for three generations

IA is proud to welcome Bruun Rasmussen as the newest member.

Bruun Rasmussen is one of Denmark's oldest auction houses and among the world's ten most important auctioneers. It was established in 1948 in Copenhagen, and since then further offices have opened around the country. This year the auction house celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a number of high-profile auctions scheduled for autumn 2008.

Arne Bruun Rasmussen brought down the ivory hammer for the first time on 6 October 1948, at Bredgade 33 in the heart of Copenhagen. From the beginning, the auction house focused on fine works of art for the international market. In 1985, Jesper Bruun Rasmussen took over from his father, and although the company has expanded significantly since then, the same ivory hammer is still in use. Today, the third generation – Alexa and Frederik Bruun Rasmussen – are involved in the company.

## Danish Modern and modern technology

Bruun Rasmussen conducts three international auctions of modern and contemporary art and design every year. A large number of buyers from outside Denmark are interested in the Danish Modern style, particularly in design classics by Poul Kjærholm, Arne Jacobsen, Georg Jensen and Axel Salto. Danish contemporary art is also popular and Bruun Rasmussen achieves high prices for works by contemporary artists such as Tal R, Michael Kvium, Olafur Eliasson and Per Kirkeby, as well as by the founding father of the CoBrA movement, Asger Jorn. CoBrA celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, and the auction house will pay tribute to the movement with a special CoBrA auction this autumn.

Online auctions, begun in 2004, now account for 25 % of the annual turnover, as a rapidly growing international audience bids daily on old masters, furniture, modern art and design, as well as books, coins, stamps, weapons and wine. The online auctions are conducted in a spectacular Egyptian-style building designed by the Danish architect Kim Utzon on Copenhagen's waterfront. The company has also embraced new fields of business, such as real estate brokerage and book publishing.

## Exceptional auction prices

Through the years, Bruun Rasmussen has achieved a number of exceptional auction prices, such as € 1 050 000 for "La conversion du feu" by Max Ernst. A work by painter Edvard Munch reached an impressive € 1 150 000 for "La Promenade des Anglais, Nice" a C.W. Eckersberg painting was sold for € 900 000, and an early painting by Piet Mondrian brought € 350 000.



OPPOSITE PAGE ABOVE  
Pedersholm Manor, a landmarked building dating from 1770, is the home of Bruun Rasmussen in Vejle. Vejle is located 250 km west of Copenhagen and 280 km north of Hamburg

OPPOSITE PAGE BELOW  
The historic mansion from 1794 in the heart of Copenhagen. The building was purchased by Arne Bruun Rasmussen and has been the home of Bruun Rasmussen since its founding in 1948





### Facts

Arne Bruun Rasmussen founded the auction house in 1948.

Bruun Rasmussen is the market leader for fine art auctions in Denmark. The annual turnover is € 65 000 000.

Bruun Rasmussen has 110 employees and representatives in several countries.

Bruun Rasmussen specializes in the fields of fine arts, antiques, decorative art and design as well as books, stamps, coins, wine and weapons.

Every week Bruun Rasmussen has live online auctions at [www.bruun-rasmussen.dk](http://www.bruun-rasmussen.dk).

ABOVE LEFT  
Frederik Bruun Rasmussen, auctioneer and IA representative.

ABOVE RIGHT  
The spectacular building on the Copenhagen waterfront designed in 2003 by the Danish architect Kim Utzon, which houses Bruun Rasmussen's online auctions.

LEFT  
Poul Kjærholm  
"PK-12" armchair with frame of chromed steel and seat of cognac-colored leather Sold for €35 000 in October 2006

