

APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

Heritage Auctions to host landmark Chanel sale this spring

April 17, 2025



The majority of the private collection was assembled over the course of the past three years. Image courtesy of Heritage Auctions

By ZACH JAMES FOR LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Auction house Heritage Auctions is preparing to offer a large group of sought-after accessories from an iconic maison.

On May 8, 2025, the company will place 80 rare handbags from French fashion house Chanel's back catalog on the block. The items come from the private collection of American entrepreneur Jeff Pryor and include clutches from late designer Karl Lagerfeld's tenure as creative director, spanning the Mtiers d'Art, Cruise and Resort selections, as well as many other one-off pieces.

"Jeff's collection is extraordinary," said Diane D'Amato, director of luxury accessories, private sales & The Boutique at [Heritage Auctions](#), in a statement.

"It's extremely rare to see so many special minaudieres and runway pieces in a single collection," Ms. D'Amato said. "In fact, I've never seen such an extensive collection of Chanel bags before.

"It's truly spectacular and a testament to how much Jeff appreciates, understands and genuinely loves the craftsmanship, artistry and intricacy of Chanel."

Personal connections

Mr. Pryor assembled his collection of several dozen Chanel handbags while in recovery from a series of medical emergencies three years ago.

What began as a selection purchased for his wife became a "buying frenzy" driven by his appreciation for Mr. Lagerfeld's designs and pieces from several seasonal collections and themed capsules spanning decades of the maison's history. The selection also includes rare Belt Buckle, Gas Can, Gold Bar and Hula Hoop purses, acquired from other collectors located around the globe.



Handbags from fashion houses Herms and Louis Vuitton will also be sold during the auction. Image courtesy of Heritage Auctions

Mr. Pryor is putting the lot on sale to give other enthusiasts a chance to own unique pieces from Chanel's history. The sale of the "World's Greatest Chanel Handbag Collection" will commence at 3 p.m. Central Time on May 8, 2025 as a part of the company's [Spring Luxury Accessories Signature Auction](#).

Earlier this month, French crystal maker Baccarat announced the sale of a rare glass once owned by Queen Marie Leszczyska, wife of Louis XV ([see story](#)). The piece was bought for \$41,160 at an event in Dubai.

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