

# THE SAN FRANCISCO FALL ANTIQUES SHOW 2010

By CLAUDIA JUESTEL

Publication Date 6 DECEMBER 2010

Robert Young Antiques (London, UK) English country furniture and folk art was as popular as ever. Once again they brought a rare example of a 19th century Noah's Ark from Germany, which was snapped up during opening night by a San Francisco collector. But Mr. Young said that they could have sold it four times over.



**Full hulled Noah's Ark with original animals in hand-carved painted wood from Germany, ca. 1875 (Photo: courtesy of Robert Young Antiques)**

These arks have an interesting history, as they were very popular with children in Europe because they were often the only toy they were allowed to play with on Sundays. They were considered educational. When parents ordered an ark from a carpenter they could select as few or as many animals as they liked. Often over time godparents, aunts and uncles would gradually add animals to a child's set by ordering additional ones each Christmas or birthday.