

## Quality Chairs for Less

Welcome to our blog series which highlights some of the great finds available at Michaan's Auctions monthly Annex Auctions. In this series, we will highlight a few examples of furniture and other home goods recently sold at Michaan's Annex Auction and compare them with their supposed equivalent from a big retail option such as IKEA, Wayfair, and others.

Luckily quality options from years past are still available at Michaan's Annex Auctions. Every month, we sell hundreds of gently used furniture pieces, each featuring a unique and beautifully crafted design that will last decades longer than the modern



alternative. Better yet, gently used furniture from Michaan's Auctions regularly sells at much lower prices than in-store options.

### **Annex Highlights**

The first example of excellent furniture sold at Michaan's Auctions is Lot 969, a **Pair of Bamboo and Rattan Arm Chairs** that sold for \$523 in our June Annex Auction. This pair of chairs are constructed of bamboo, stained in a deep brown which lends the

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chair a classic feeling fit for any number of interior design concepts. Light and airy, both in design and material, this chair maintains its strength through careful craftsmanship, with the back and wings of the chair divided into structural shapes reinforced with additional pieces of bamboo. The seat is woven from rattan, or palm leaves, into an intricate pattern of overlapping knots, adding to the pair of chair's sophistication. The chairs are both in excellent condition, with strong joints and attachments, with only minor signs of use from clothes rubbing against the arms and edge of the seat.

Finding contemporary examples of bamboo armchairs with this level of quality is a difficult task, particularly in light of the low prices offered at Michaan's Auctions. One such option is the Leilani Rattan Bistro Chairs offered by FrontGate for an inflated price of

\$699. Unfortunately, these chairs, despite their higher price tag, fail to match the durability or excellence of the chairs offered at our Annex auctions. Instead of bamboo backrests and arms, this option relies on rattan, meaning the chair is as a whole less reinforced. To compensate, the design incorporates a significant amount of binding material, ruining the sleek lines of the bamboo. Finally, the stain is lighter, making the chairs less suited to the semi-formal spaces that our pair of chairs would fit comfortably within.

The next highlight is another set of chairs sold at Michaan's Auctions during our June Annex Auction. Offered as Lot 2199 on the final day of the sale, **Four Oak Armchairs** finally sold for \$123. These chairs are an excellent example of the value provided by shopping second-hand. They feature a classic design with full-wood

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construction and are in excellent condition. These chairs have easily another several decades of additional life and will fit naturally into any home or apartment. Constructed of oak, a hardwood that will serve for decades, these chairs feature anatomically-formed seats for increased comfort and mid-height backs that sweep gently down towards the finely beveled arms. Each of the four square legs is supported with an I-brace while the feet are protected by metal inserts, preventing wear to the long-lasting wood. The chairs are finished in a beautiful caramel stain in excellent condition, further emphasizing the quarter-grain cut of its pieces.

Compared to the competition, the options from Michaan's Auctions monthly Annex sales

continue to exceed the value and quality of the alternatives. Hardwood furniture is expensive to construct, a fact that rules out most lay flat retailers such as IKEA, however, one option is available from Penny Mustard Furnishings, the Harmon Arm Chair. These chairs cost \$465 each, totaling \$1,860 for a set of four, more than fifteen times the price of the option from Michaan's Auctions. Despite this extraordinary cost, they feature a slightly dated design that simply won't fit into every home and take over eight weeks to be built and



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delivered. It's easy to see why so many working adults, new homeowners, and young professionals choose to buy at Michaan's Auctions!

### **Next Sale**

As you can see, Michaan's Auctions Annex Sales can offer a higher quality item for a lower price than major retailers. Registration and bidding are intuitive processes and can be done 100% online! You don't even need to watch the auction, simply submit an absentee or online bid, and check back at the end of the sale to see if you've won the item.

The July Annex Auction will be held on Monday, July 15th; Tuesday, July 16th; and Wednesday, July 17th; featuring lots mostly estimated under \$300. This venue gives collectors a wide variety of jewelry, fine art, decorative arts, furniture, Asian art, stamps, and coins to choose from. The auction includes over 2,500 lots, most estimated under \$300.

Michaan's Auctions catalogs can be viewed on our website: [www.michaans.com](http://www.michaans.com) and on our Michaan's Live site. Bid live in our gallery or remotely via absentee, or online.

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