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# ANIMALS IN BRONZE

Reference and Price Guide

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CHRISTOPHER PAYNE



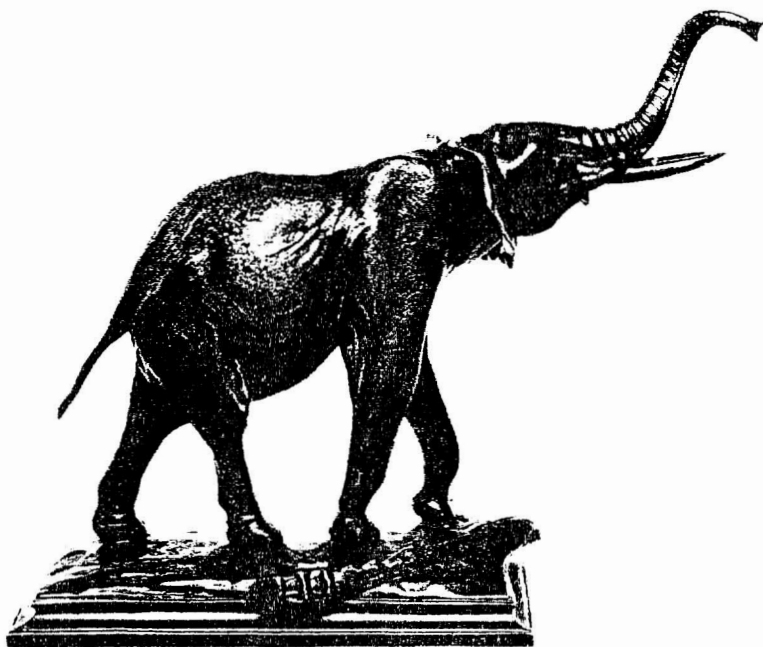
Antique Collectors' Club

1986

1-424

# Elephants and Rhinoceroses

The large mammals of the world hold as much fascination for people today as they did in preceding centuries. The majesty of the elephant is a natural target for the realist sculptor and most modellers of these fine beasts succeed well. The rhinoceros appears in sculpture, prints and drawings from the 16th century onwards but is not common in the 19th century. Barye, once again, is an early and convincing sculptor of the elephant with Valton and Godchaux at the beginning of the 20th century, a century splendidly heralded by Rembrandt Bugatti. Once again, as in the previous century, there is a gap until the modern sculptors, mainly from the 1970s such as Kenworthy and Terence Mathews, took up the modern trend in animalier work with their animals modelled realistically, as though in their natural environment.



E1 A good and rare cast of a young African elephant trampling a palm tree by Auguste Seysses, a portrait and genre sculptor born 1862 who lived and exhibited in France from 1884 to 1937. Although a good study, it is not a highly commercial bronze as the comparatively unusual movement of the animal, frozen in time, seems a little awkward.

Signed 'Aug. Seysses', founder's signature 'Susse Freres Edts.'  
19cm (7½ins.): rubbed brown patination

c.1900

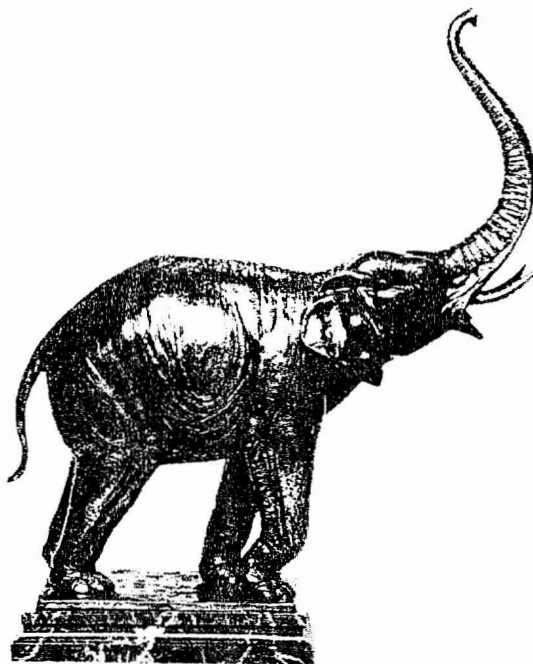
£800 — £1,200

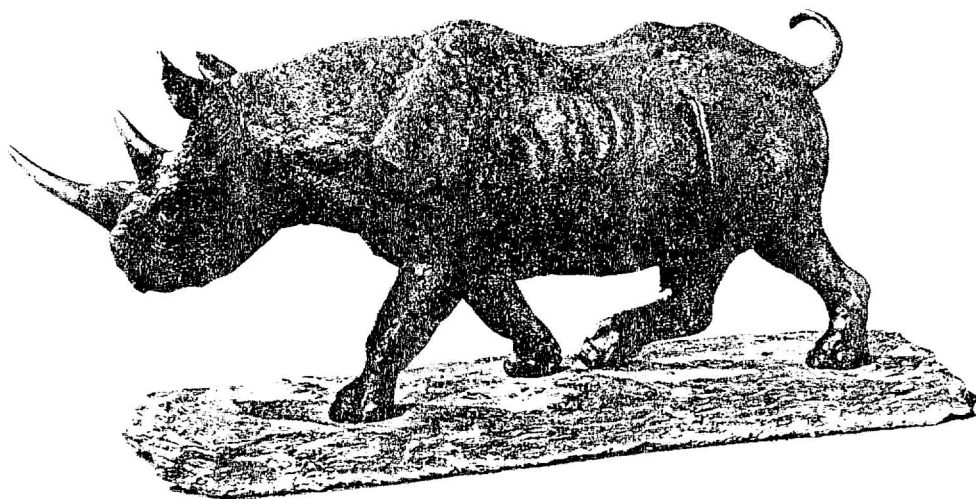
E2 An Italian cast by G. Beneduce of Florence. Whether the elephant is in the act of pulling down a tree with his trunk or is simply trumpeting angrily is debatable. A well modelled and beautifully cast bronze that almost breaks away from traditional realism into the more angular form of the early part of the 20th century. The sculptor appears to have been influenced by impressionist technique in his treatment of the folds of the skin, but has not followed the idea right through.

Signed 'G. Benduce Firenze': 67cm (26¼ins.)  
light to dark brown patination

Dated 1910

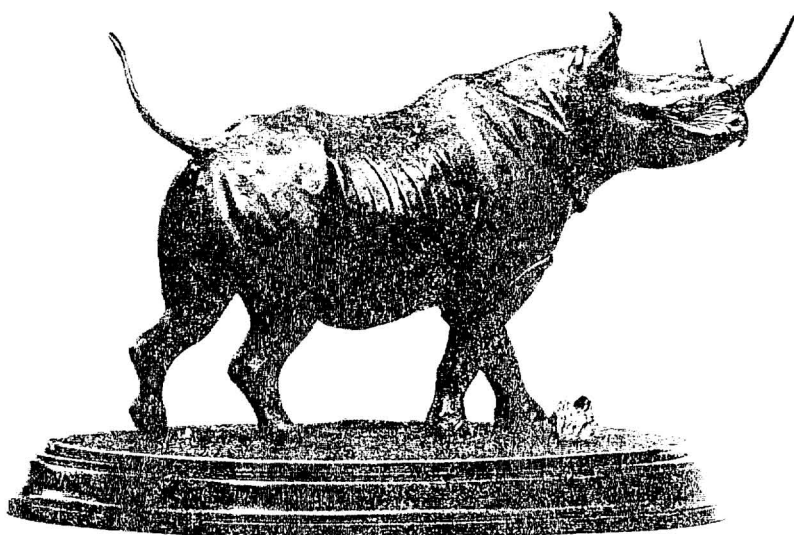
£1,200 — £1,800





**E23** A view of the rhino through the eyes of the established wildlife sculptor Terry Mathews. It is a very well balanced model with an uncanny reality in the lumbering gait and tiny eye giving the onlooker a sideways glance. It shows the product of years of real-life study of animals in the bush. The

casting is very fine and every detail of the sculptor's carefully worked surface of the thick irregular hide has been preserved. Signed 'T O M' and numbered 6/6  
c.1970s



**E24** A rhinoceros by a young sculptor from southern Africa. Very well modelled and exceptionally well cast with fine detailing on the encrusted hide and in the folds of the neck, the alertness of the beast is well emphasised by the lifted head and

tail which balances the model well. That enormous horn would be a fabulous prize for an illegal hunter!  
c.1970

£550 — £800