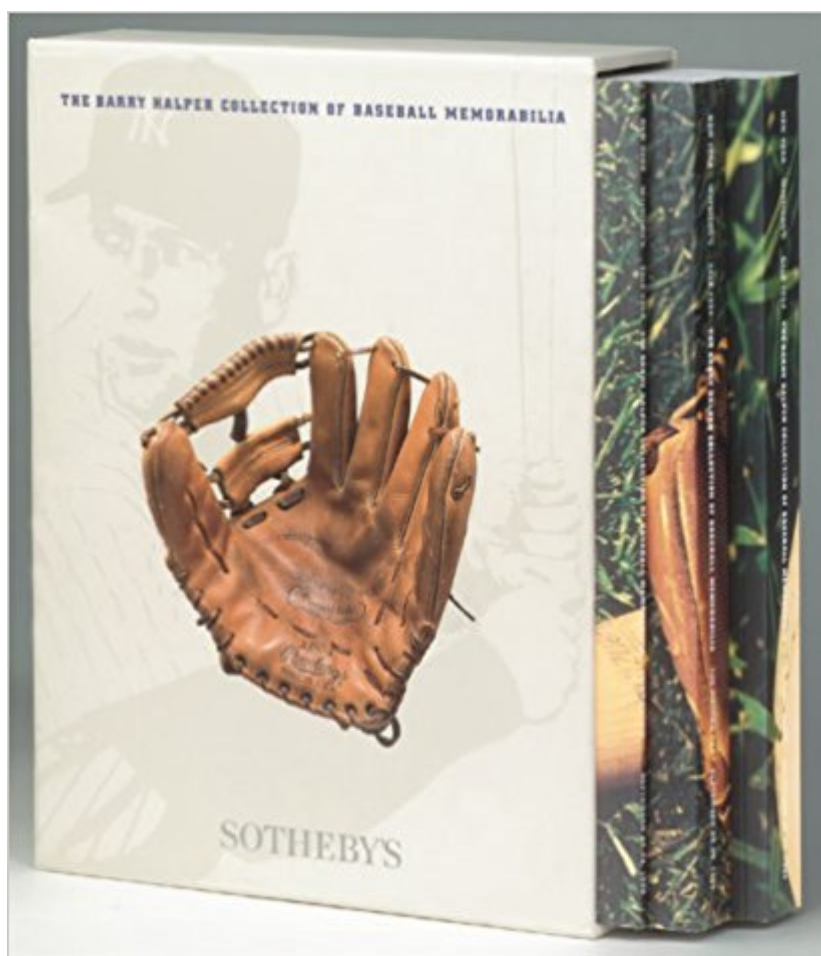


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Barry Halper Collection Of Baseball Memorabilia



Synopsis

Presented in a slipcase, a collection of three illustrated volumes on the subject of a private collection of baseball memorabilia, known as the Barry Halper Collection. It includes a catalogue of the collection, essays, anecdotes and historical information as well as the auction price list.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"By pursuing his avocation with the ferocity and determination of Ty Cobb stretching a two-base hit into a triple, Barry Halper assembled the world's largest and most significant private collection on baseball, an achievement that should be ranked with the great American collections of the American century...." This quote from Sotheby's auction catalog underscores the importance of Barry Halper, not only to the sports-memorabilia world but also to baseball history. During a 50-year stretch, Halper gathered over 100,000 items from the great game, including a 1912 World Series program signed by "Smokey" Joe Wood and President Woodrow Wilson, a ticket stub from the Lou Gehrig memorial game, and Mickey Mantle's 1956 Triple Crown Trophy. The entire legendary lot was offered in two separate auctions in 1999: one live at Sotheby's New York headquarters and the other via the Internet at <http://www.sothebys.com>. The handsome, slipcased catalog includes three volumes highlighting the event. The first two contain over 2,000 photographs (most in color), plus detailed descriptions and estimated auction prices of the items; the items are divided into 16 sale sessions arranged chronologically and by theme. The third volume examines the history of baseball

and includes a timeline of the sport's past as well as essays written by Yogi Berra, Ted Williams, and others. An essential resource for bidders, this catalog also makes an outstanding addition to any sports fan's library. --Andy Boynton

Not only is the collection of photos incredibly extensive, but the colors are great. This is a real treat for anyone who loves baseball and ephemera.

Barry Halper and I became friends as the result of being two of four roommates in a physical rehabilitation facility in West Orange, NJ, he being there for treatment due to cardiac and diabetic complications, I as the result of an auto accident. Barry could have afforded his own wing in the place but he wasn't the sort of entitled twit one encounters so often these days (Christopher Reeve, another quondam resident, I'll offer as an example of the latter). Anyway, had it not been for the visit of a friend who knew of Barry's collection, privately apprising me of same, I rather doubt I'd ever have heard it from him. What I did learn during many late night conversations when pain prevented sleep was that his love of the game of baseball exceeded even my own. He was a humble man prompted by an abiding enthusiasm, and I think it's a damn shame that a lying sack of s*** like Peter Nash took advantage of his demise to make all sorts of base and baseless accusations (no baseball humor intended, the subject being anything but humorous), intended to throw suspicion from his own nefarious activities, which had to be addressed and countered by others after Barry's passing. Buy this set of books, which, aside from being a sumptuous photographic feast of baseball memorabilia, is more affordable than when originally issued. If you're interested in historical baseball you really can't afford not to treat yourself to this magnificent collection, the life's work of an unassuming man whose character has been besmirched by a ne'er-do-well (and ain't that the way of the world?).

Only one word describes the catalog set.....INCREDIBLE. As a life-long baseball fan, collector, dealer, etc, this set of catalogs, pictures in beautiful crystal clear color, many of the artifacts of America's National Pasttime. Many people were upset at Halper for breaking this collection up. Contrary to that opinion, I believe breaking the collection up allowed SO many people to share in the history of the game. Five million dollars worth of collectibles were purchased by MLB for the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Twenty two million dollars worth were auction in the Sotheby's auction and an unknown amount on .sothebys.com. These catalogs contain relics from every facet of the game.....baseball cards dating back to the 1880's.....team and individual photos dating back

even farther.....uniforms, bats, balls, gloves from nearly every hall of famer.....personal trophies like triple crown, Cy Young, MVP and so much more. Nowhere will you find such a book that illustrates why Baseball is woven through the fabric of America than this catalog. The lot descriptions are carefully crafted to be both a history lesson and a thought (and pocketbook) provoking snapshot of baseball. Never again will there be such a collection amassed. No one has the access to players and probably the funds to acquire such a collection....you get a glimpse at everything important about baseball. Everything good about baseball.....you forget about the strike of 1994, you forget about the high paid cry babies of today and remember the guys that played the game for one reason.....the love of the game. There was team loyalty, work ethics, and so much more that baseball and America as a whole is sometimes seriously lacking today. Spend the bucks.....you won't regret it.....

This is the Hall of Fame of baseball memorabilia, without equal. Halper had put together a collection of almost every baseball-related item that could be collected, and these catalogues display most of that collection, including lots of items that you never would have thought even existed. The pictures of the items are terrific, and are worth the price just by themselves. But in addition, this post-auction printing also includes the final bid prices for items in the auction, so it serves as an excellent "price guide" for rare and unusual material - memorabilia you certainly won't find in Beckett's guides or other more generic price references. And, for those of us that think of some of the final bid amounts in terms of hefty mortgages rather than hobby expenses (e.g., \$305,000 for a Lou Gehrig jersey!) the book is great fodder for dreams, however unattainable they may be...

I have had this book collection for years. I bought it at Costco about 8 to 10 years ago. It is truly amazing to see everything this man had collected. Unfortunately it is now come to light that most of it is fake. He made it up, stole it, or paid people to lie about it for him. Turns out he was the Barry Madoff of Sports Collectables. He even fooled the MLB Hall of Fame (they ended up returning most of the 7 million dollars worth of bogus stuff they bought) and Billy Crystal paid over \$230,000 for a bogus Mantle glove. Sad.

This is an incredible reference, especially for uniforms. The pictures and detail are amazing, and you can generally tell what people thought was real, and what people did not from looking at the prices. The attention to detail in the descriptions is really helpful in identifying stuff today. I wish there were more photos, and sometimes I wish there was an acknowledgement of some of the

controversy surrounding some of the items. I really am in awe of the folks who put together this beautiful book, and the incredible pictures. I think this is a great starting point for anyone collecting seriously.

The pictures are indeed magnificent, however, I must demur about the accompanying text which does not provide appropriate, tightly written or in some instances, historically accurate information.

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