

Press Release

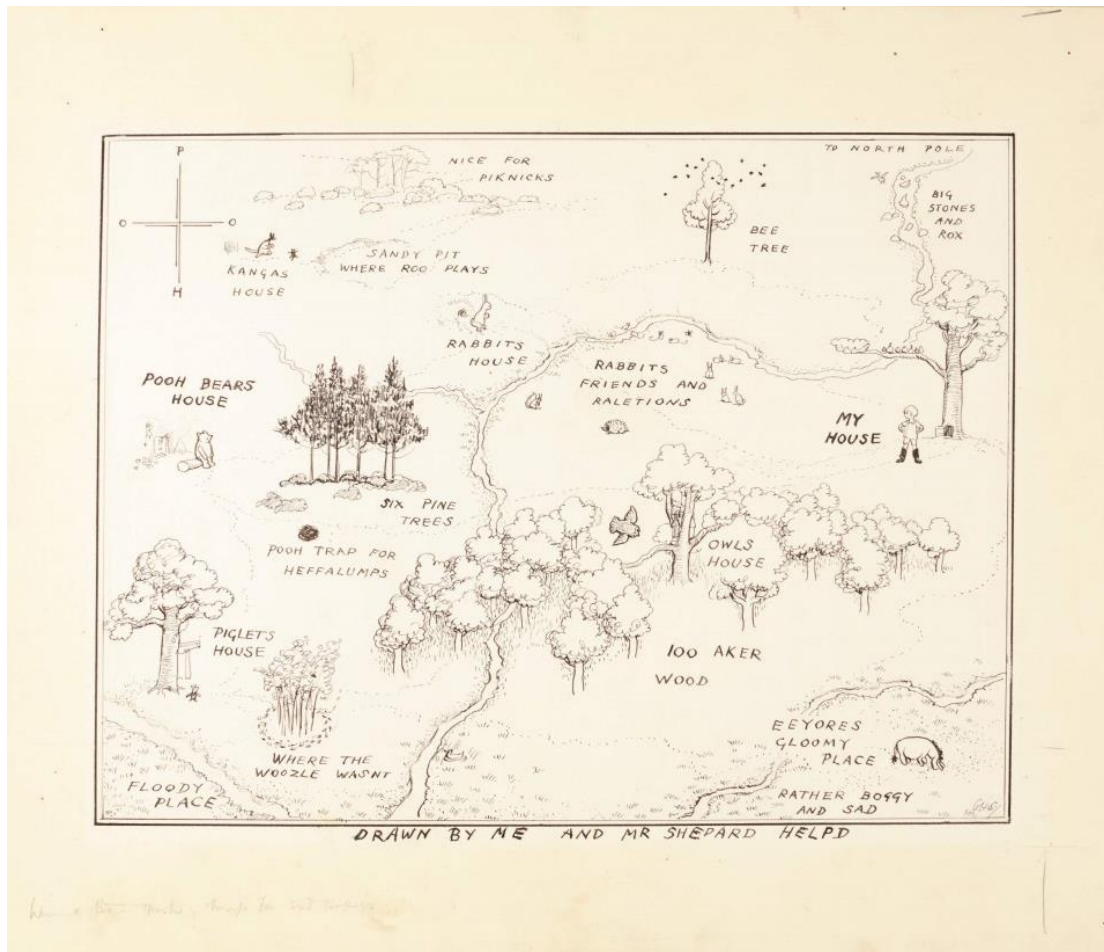
Sotheby's London | +44 (0)20 7293 6000 | Hanae Rebelo | Hanae.Rebelo@Sothebys.com

Rosie Chester | Rosamund.Chester@Sothebys.com

The Original Map of Winnie-the-Pooh's Hundred Acre Wood
By E.H. Shepard Comes to Auction

Probably the Most Famous Map in English Literature
Unseen for Half a Century

Offered Alongside Four Further Long-Hidden Original
Winnie-The-Pooh Illustrations



E. H. Shepard

The Original Map of the Hundred Acre Wood

Original ink drawing, signed, 1926

Estimate: £100,000-150,000

31 May 2018 – This July, Sotheby's will offer for sale the original map of Winnie-the-Pooh's Hundred Acre Wood by E.H. Shepard. Possibly the most famous map in children's literature, this charming sketch from 1926, has been unseen for nearly half a century and will be offered with an estimate of £100,000-150,000 at the English Literature, History, Science, Children's Books and Illustrations sale in London on 10th July.

Featuring on the opening end-papers of the original 1926 book, the sketch introduces readers to the delightful imagination of Christopher Robin and his woodland friends. Exactly 40 years later the map played a starring role in the landmark Disney film - *Winnie-the-Pooh and the Honey Tree* - where it was brought to life as an animation in the film's opening sequence.

As well as mapping the magical world of Winnie-the-Pooh the sketch also captures the unique personalities of A.A. Milne's much-loved characters. Eeyore is depicted in his "rather boggy and sad" "gloomy place" with his head hanging sluggishly in the grass, whilst the energetic Roo bounces towards the "sandy pit" where he plays. A solitary Winnie-the-Pooh sits thoughtfully looking out over the wood to his friend, Christopher Robin, who stands with boyish arrogance looking back.

The charming childishness of Christopher Robin is marked by clumsily spelt locations, such as "NICE FOR PICNICKS" and "100 AKER WOOD", as well as a compass marked with points spelling out the title character's name. Shepard's own amusing personality seeps into the illustration, as the map is signed off with the words "Drawn by me and Mr Shepard helped".



"...an enchanted place on the very top of the Forest"

Original ink drawing, signed, 1928

Estimate: £70,000-90,000

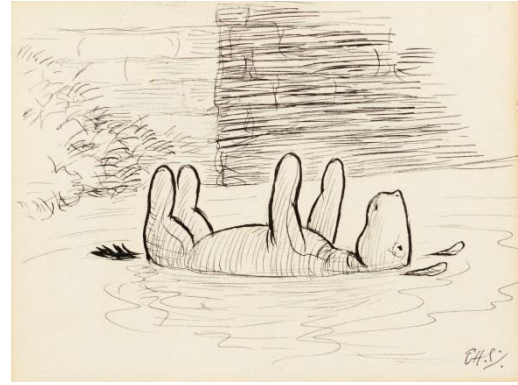
The map will be offered alongside four further original Winnie-the-Pooh illustrations by E.H. Shepard, none of which have been seen for almost 50 years. Among them is a most poignant illustration showing Christopher Robin and Pooh walking hand-in-hand to 'an enchanted place on the very top of the Forest' to say their final goodbye. In the emotional conclusion to his much-loved book – *The House at Pooh Corner*, A.A. Milne finally signs off with one of the most heart-rending farewells in children's literature: "...wherever they go, and whatever happens to them on the way, in that enchanted place in the top of

the Forest a little boy and his bear will always be playing." The illustration, printed as a double-page, is, excluding a silhouette of the two friends, the penultimate time we see Christopher Robin and Pooh together as they make their way to the place of parting.

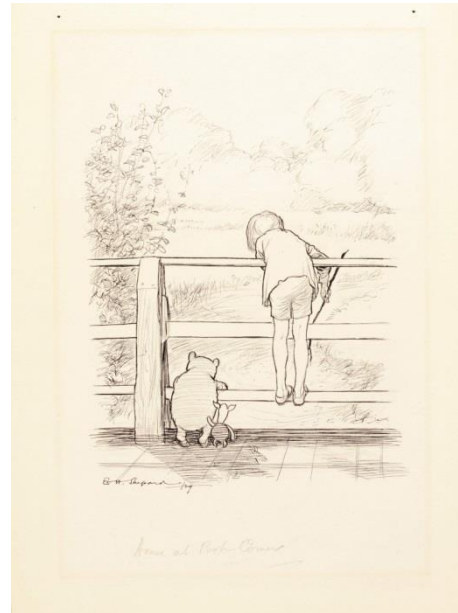
Two additional illustrations taken from Chapter Six of *The House at Pooh Corner* show the characters and a game of 'Pooh Sticks'. Originally reproduced on pages 95-6 of the published book, the ink drawings record the creation of the game with the first drawing showing Pooh, Piglet, Roo and Rabbit eagerly peering over the Poohsticks bridge, and the second, depicting an unexpected but comic turn of events, with Eeyore floating from beneath the bridge.



Two ink drawings from
The House at Pooh Corner
Original ink drawings,
signed, 1928
Estimate: £80,000-
120,000



The fourth, perhaps most familiar image, is a re-drawn version of another illustration from the "Poohsticks" episode which concludes with Christopher Robin, Pooh and Piglet left on the famous bridge by themselves. The tone of the illustration is somewhat different with the excitement of the Poohsticks game changing to a more contemplative mood, with the three friends looking wistfully at the river beneath them, saying nothing. Used twice in the published book, within the chapter and also as the frontispiece, this illustration accompanies a moment of unified friendship and forgiveness, in which Piglet breaks the silence and volunteers his view that "Tigger is all right, really" and Pooh suggesting further that, "Everybody is really... But I don't suppose I'm right...".



The five original illustrations will be offered in Sotheby's English Literature, History, Science, Children's Books and Illustrations sale in London on 10th July 2018 with a combined estimate of £310,000-440,000.

E. H. Shepard
*"For a long time they looked at the river
beneath them..."*
Original ink drawing, signed, 1929
Estimate: £60,000-80,000

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