

# ART & AUCTIONS

FEBRUARY 2008

## Eric Clapton's 12 bore Purdey sold for £13,750

**HOLT'S HELD A** sale of fine modern & antique guns on December 13. With a total hammer price approaching £1.1m there were several lots of note - in particular two items featured in the Auction Rarities section of last month's *Shooting Gazette*.

Firstly, a pair of 16 bore double-barrelled percussion sporting guns by John Manton & Son, made circa 1844. Once the property of Albert, His Royal Highness the Prince Consort of the United Kingdom, Prince of Saxe-Coburg & Gotha, and featuring a variety of excellent engraving, they sold at £29,000.

Meanwhile a 12 bore self-opening sidelock ejector by J. Purdey & Sons which had belonged to legendary guitarist Eric Clapton also went on sale. Created as a matched number three gun for Prince Duleep Singh, selling for £13,750.

Along with a fine collection of Purdeys, which sold for a combined total of £84,750, were a number of flintlock pistols – including a pair of 18 bore silver-mounted holster pistols by Heylin of London, which sold for £16,000 and £12,000 respectively.

Holt's next sale takes place on March 20 at Princess Louise House, Hammersmith, London. ○



*The Heylin silver mounted holster pistols.*