

The Sydney Morning Herald

SE Domain
HD **Madame Souffle unit has bids rising**
BY »ANITA BALALOVSKI
WC 496 words
PD 20 July 2014
SN Sun Herald
SC SHD
ED First
PG 37
LA English
CY © 2014 Copyright John Fairfax Holdings Limited.
LP

A one-bedroom treasure trove owned by the late Sydney chef Robert Yates that attracted thousands of online hits has **sold** for \$776,000, \$26,000 over reserve.

The oversized, one-bedroom **apartment** in a converted warehouse at 204/105 Campbell Street, Surry Hills was one of 396 Sydney auctions listed for Saturday.

TD

Every room of the 87-square-metre **apartment** is adorned with Mr Yates' unique collection of Georgian furniture, French paintings, **Chinese** porcelain artefacts and **Chinese** glass paintings. Even the modest bathroom has hanging art and, in an ode to his profession, there are three silver cloches mounted on the kitchen wall.

Executor of the will, John Ward, who was happy with the result, reminisced about his good friend who was affectionately known as Madame Souffle and was a flamboyant entertainer.

"His dinner parties were legendary," Mr Ward said. "His guests dined in opulence on the finest **china**. He had 700 plates and used about 200 hosting a party of just eight people; he would swear a lot from the kitchen and plate everything individually.

"Most of his possessions will be bequeathed to individuals and others will be auctioned off. He was a generous and private man, and went out of his way to help someone. If you had a problem, he'd call you over and whip up something to eat at the drop of a hat; he was that sort of friend."

Auctioneer Gavin Croft **sold** the unit in under 10 minutes with two local owner-occupier groups going head to head.

BresicWhitney agent Romany Brooks said the result set a new standard at the landmark Carlisle building. "We had lots of interest online and 50 **group** inspections but seven buyers **purchased** mid-week elsewhere," she said.

"The great photos of the art in the **apartment** got people's curiosity and took people into another world. Everyone also loved the 3.4-metre ceilings, practical layout, alfresco terrace and the fact it has parking.

"There has been no slump in winter for selling in Surry Hills; it's still one of the most popular inner city remaining viable investments but apartments, houses or terraces, we can't get enough stock."

The **apartment** last **sold** for \$490,000 in 2006, has a strata levy of \$1634 a quarter and has a rental potential of \$650-700 a week. It is pet friendly and has a heated indoor pool, sauna, spa, gym and concierge in the building.

The Lumex **Property Group** on Saturday launched its new Strathfield **residential** development, Centric.

Within 40 minutes of going to market, 81 per cent of the seven-level development was **sold**. The 57 one- and two-bedroom apartments were snapped up by owner-occupiers and investors, with prices ranging from \$629,000 for a one-bedroom unit, to \$685,000 for a one-bedroom plus study and from \$780,000 for a two-bedroom unit.

IN irreal : Residential Real Estate | i85 : Real Estate Transactions | icre : Real Estate/Construction | ireest : Real Estate

NS ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | grelis : Real Estate Listings | gcat : Political/General News | greest : Real Estate/Property | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfce : FC&E Exclusion Filter | nrgn : Routine General News

RE austr : Australia | nswals : New South Wales | sydney : Sydney | apacz : Asia Pacific | ausnz : Australia/Oceania

PUB Fairfax Media Management Pty Limited

AN Document SHD0000020140720ea7k0000t