CLASSIC DRIVER

Concealed cameras at Bonhams' Hong Kong sale

Lead

Of course, we would never advocate clandestine photography but, should a situation where it is truly warranted arise – e.g. if you're a secret agent in the field – these concealed cameras from Bonhams' 'Important and Rare Cameras' sale should be of use...

Discretion is key



Probably the coolest 'concealed camera' on offer at Bonhams' 'Important and Rare Cameras' sale, taking place on 3 December in Hong Kong, is that found in the genuine Lucky Strike cigarette wrapper – one of two ever made for the U.S. Signal Corps in 1949/1950, featuring a five-element 17.5mm Sonnar-type lens. Also included are two pistol cameras designed in the 1950s for use in surveillance operations by the Japanese police, a 1940s matchbox-sized Kodak used by secret agents, and a very rare GF81 ring camera that, despite its miniature size, doesn't look that discreet. Find the complete auction catalogue here.

Photos: Bonhams

Gallery

