

Short Subjects

Han Solo's Blaster to be Sold at Auction.

Iconic prop expected to sell for between US \$300K and US \$500k in June 2018.

In the original "Star Wars" films, Han Solo once told a lightsaber-wielding Luke Skywalker: "Hokey religions and ancient weapons are no match for a good blaster at your side, kid."

Now, fans of the space saga can own one of the blaster pistol props Harrison Ford used in his iconic role as Solo in "Return of the Jedi" -- an item expected to sell for between \$300,000 and \$500,000 at auction in Las Vegas on June 23, 2018.

The faux weapon, mainly made of wood, was put on display in New York on Monday by Julien's Auctions -- after more than 30 years tucked away in the belongings of James Schoppe, the art director for "Return of the Jedi" (1983).

Actor Harrison Ford as "Han Solo" is seen using the blaster in many scenes throughout "Return of the Jedi." This original production-used BlasTech DL-44 blaster prop weapon was custom made specifically for the film, built on a metal working non-firing model version of the German Mauser C96 ("Broomhandle Mauser") from MGC (Model Gun Corporation) of Japan with additional found



The executive director of Julien's Auctions, Martin Nolan, believes the price for Solo's blaster "could go much higher." Photos: Hector Retamal.



parts, greeblies and cast resin pieces added on. This is one of four hero "Han Solo" blasters made for and used in the film, the production created one "practical" (blank fire) version and three "non-firing" versions. This auction will offer one of the three "non-firing" movie prop weapons made for and used in the film.

Once production was completed, the film's Property Master Peter Hancock presented Art Director James L. Schoppe with the "Han Solo" blaster and other props. Schoppe has kept this blaster and his memorabilia archive intact for the past 35 years.

Martin Nolan, the auction house's executive director, said Schoppe, an Oscar nominee for his work on the film, finally decided to part with Solo's gun and about 40 other 'Jedi' items, including an Ewok axe and plans for Jabba the Hutt's ship.

The price for Solo's blaster "could go much higher" at the auction, set for June 23 in Las Vegas, Nolan said.

Last year, an R2-D2 droid used in the making of several "Star Wars" films sold for \$2.76 million at auction in Los Angeles. Skywalker's lightsaber from the first two movies fetched \$450,000.

For more information, about the prop and auction, visit [Julien's Auctions website](http://www.julien's.com).

Black Panther Scars Made From Prosthetic Dots

Michael B. Jordan as Killmonger had over 3000 simulated scars applied to his body.

In Marvel's *Black Panther*, it is difficult to tell the differences between the motivations of the hero T'Challa and the villain Killmonger. It's also difficult to decide who to look at. But when Michael B. Jordan as Killmonger removes his jacket to show off the many scars for every life he took, focusing on his fight with the hero is even more difficult.

While it is disturbing to think that Killmonger had to kill 3000 people to become the antagonist and rival for the throne of Wakanda, it is also difficult not to consider how beautiful the scars look.



Michael B. Jordan as Killmonger with prosthetic scars. Photo: Marvel Studios.

Joel Harlow, Morphology FX founder and makeup artist, developed Killmonger's scar makeup using 3000 prosthetic beads that were individually glued to his body. Harlow said that the water fight scene between Killmonger and T'Challa was the hardest on the carefully placed prosthetics. With so much action, body friction, and water, are the natural enemy of makeup. After having Jordan in the makeup chair for two and a half hours each morning, Harlow sometimes found it nerve-wracking to watch a scene where it could all so easily come undone.

Harlow also did the makeup for Daniel Kaluuya's W'Kabi, who has similar dots on his face, as well as Isaach De Bankolé's lip disc, the traditional accessory worn by the River Tribe Elder.

Harlow and his team created clear silicone sheets of hundreds of precisely-sculpted scarification "hash mark" molds, each filled with a prosthetic gel. The sheets were then pressed onto and peeled off of Jordan's skin leaving very realistic marks, which were then blended in with makeup. Removing them was another matter. It was an ordeal that involved a two-hour steam and silicone oil to induce a sweat barrier to loosen up Jordan's chest prosthetics.

"So we got a sauna that was on loan from *Guardians of the Galaxy* – I guess it was Drax's sauna on that film," he laughed. "And it's like four guys in the sauna with Michael rubbin' him down with oil."



Traditional lip disc accessory worn by the River Tribe Elder. Photo: Marvel Studios.

A [YouTube video](#) shows how Harlow created Jordan's Killmonger prosthetic makeup. The video also includes time-lapse photos showing how the makeup is applied, and clips showing the combat scene between Jordan and Chadwick Boseman as T'Challa.



Hash mark molds filled with prosthetic gel. Photo: Insider.

Original Iron Man Suit has Gone Missing

Police are investigating the disappearance of the US\$325K suit from a prop warehouse.

Los Angeles police are investigating the disappearance of the original Iron Man suit worn by Robert Downey Jr. from a Pacoima warehouse, officials said Wednesday morning.

The costume, valued at \$325,000, vanished from a prop storage warehouse Los Angeles sometime between February when the owners of the warehouse last remembered seeing it and late April according to a spokesman for the Los Angeles Police Department.

The famous red-and-gold suit, which first appeared in the 2008 *Iron Man* film that launched Marvel's movie empire, was reported missing Tuesday. Employees at the warehouse "just happened to check" Tuesday and noticed the costume was gone. The business owners then called 911.

Hollywood memorabilia can be worth great sums to the right buyer. Props like Captain Kirk's chair from *Star Trek* or the original X-Wing fighter from *Star Wars* can fetch hundreds of thousands of dollars at auction.

There is still no word on how the costume may have gone missing, its whereabouts, or whether Thanos was involved.

Marvel Super Heroes on Exhibit in Seattle

Exhibition at new Museum of Pop Culture features artifacts and costumes.

The Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP) in Seattle Washington has just opened the largest exhibition that it has ever staged. "MARVEL: Universe of Super Heroes" features more than 300 original artifacts including artwork, costumes, and props from such comics and films as *Captain America*, *The Avengers*, *Jessica Jones*, and many others.

The exhibition features Marvel's 80-year history from inception to modern day with comics, films, artifacts, and interactives. It also celebrates the 10th anniversary of Marvel Studios. Immersive



Iron Man suit from 2008 film *Iron Man* is missing from a Los Angeles warehouse. Photo: Marvel Studios.



Captain America's costume worn by Chris Evans in Marvel Studios' *Avengers: Age of Ultron* (2012). Photo: Jonathan Pulley, Museum of Pop Culture.

set pieces place guests into classic comic book scenes like Tony Stark's lab, giving them a first person view of the super hero's world.

Themed sections dive into the narratives of Marvel's most beloved characters and showcase their connection to and impact on real-world issues like gender, race, and mental illness. They also uncover the narratives of individual characters such as Captain America, Spider-Man, Black Panther and Doctor Strange. Immersive set pieces bring the comic book world to life.

Some costume highlights include:

- Costumes worn by Chadwick Boseman (Black Panther), Letitia Wright (Shuri), and Danai Gurira (Okoye) in Marvel Studios' *Black Panther* (2018)
- *Captain America* costumes worn by Reb Brown (1979) and Chris Evans (2015)

- Peter Quill’s Walkman with Awesome Mix Vol. 1 and the orb from Marvel Studios’ *Guardians of the Galaxy*, (2014)
- Arc reactor and Mark III Iron Man Armor from Marvel Studios’ *Iron Man* (2008)
- Black Widow’s costume and batons worn by Scarlett Johansson in Marvel Studios’ *The Avengers* (2012)
- Thor’s costume and hammer as worn and wielded by Chris Hemsworth in Marvel Studios’ *The Avengers* and *Thor: The Dark World* (2012-2013)

The exhibition is open through January 6, 2019. For more information, about the exhibition, visit the [MoPOP website](#).

Paramount Costume Exhibit: “New Nostalgia”

Lancaster Ohio Decorative Art Center exhibits Paramount Studios Costumes.

Costumes play a leading role as movies transport viewers to other times, open doors to foreign cultures, and imagine wars in distant galaxies.

Now, some of those ensembles are on display for the first time in “Creating the Illusion: Costumes & Characters from the Paramount Pictures Archive,” opening Saturday at the Decorative Arts Center of Ohio and running through Aug. 12, 2018.

Visitors to the show can view more than 40 costumes linked to some of Paramount Pictures’ most memorable characters. The display includes the hippie

phase outfit worn by *Forrest Gump*’s Jenny, who slogged through the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool. From Star Trek’s Khan, Benedict Cumberbatch’s brown twill oil cloth coat with ribbed shawl collar is shown. Others include Morticia Addams’ purple gown that shows up black on-screen, as well as the Ulster coat, eye patch and hat worn by Jeff Bridges in his role as *Rooster Cogburn*.

The Decorative Arts Center is a step back in time. It’s located in a Greek revival home constructed in 1835 by wealthy lawyer William Reese and his wife, Mary Elisabeth Sherman. Sherman was the daughter of Civil War general William Tecumseh Sherman, who grew up next door.

It has become a favorite venue for curator Randall Thropp, who grew up in Lancaster and now manages the Paramount costume and prop archive in Hollywood.



Costumes from the 2001 film, *Zoolander*, and 2016 film *Florence Foster Jenkins* from “Creating the Illusion” exhibit at the Decorative Arts Center of Lancaster, Ohio. Photo: Julie Carr Smyth/AP.

The exhibit, which visitors enter by red carpet, features many costumes never before displayed to the public, as well as props, posters and concept art from 21 Paramount films since 1987, from classics like *Forrest Gump* to cult favorite *Zoolander*.

Wardrobe pieces on display include those from several films that received Oscar nominations for costume design, including *Coming to America* (1988), *The Addams Family* (1991), *Lemony Snicket’s A Series of Unfortunate Events* (2004), *Dreamgirls* (2006), *True Grit* (2010) and *Florence Foster Jenkins* and *Allied* (2016).

Designers represented include Colleen Atwood, Joanna Johnston, Ruth Myers and Michael Kaplan.

Thropp borrowed the title of the show from a 2015 book by Jay Jorgensen and Donald Scoggins that explored the history of Hollywood costume design.

[Read Jay Jorgensen’s *Virtual Author Talk* on his book in the [February 2016 issue of VC – Ed](#)]

“I loved the title, and I thought, ‘How would I build something around that,’” he said. “None of these costumes are store-bought. Every one was constructed from scratch, every one has some kind of story, something to tell about how the costume designer and the actor collaborate.

For more information, visit the [Decorative Arts Center website](#).