

MODERN DESIGN



Auction

22 January 2021
11:00 am et

Rago

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438

ARTHUR ESPENET CARPENTER

Roll-Top desk and Wishbone chair

USA, 1979/1985 | American black walnut, brass, felt, rosewood, vellum, oak, African hyedua
39¼ h × 54 w × 31 d in (100 × 137 × 79 cm)

Chair measures: 30.75 h x 21.5 w x 23 d inches.

Desk features three drawers and a tambour top concealing interior illumination, an electrical outlet, nine small drawers, three letter holders, and writing surface with three rosewood butterflies. Carved signature and number to reverse of desk 'Espenet 7909', and to underside of chair 'Espenet 8010 3 Re 85 Ellis'.

Provenance: The Artist | Private Collection, California | Acquired in 2012 from the previous via Tripp Carpenter by the present owner

Literature: *Modern Americana*, Merrill and Iovine, pg. 85

An example of the Roll-Top desk is held in the permanent collection of the [Museum of Fine Arts, Boston](https://www.museumoffinearts.org/).

Estimate: \$20,000–25,000

Result: \$22,500

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