

Einstein letter fetches \$100,000 at Jerusalem auction

March 6 2018



A picture taken on March 6, 2018 in Jerusalem shows an auctioneer holding up a letter by Nobel Prize-winning physicist Albert Einstein dated 1928 concerning the formalisation of the "Third Stage of the Theory of Relativity" that sold for \$103,700

A letter penned by legendary physicist Albert Einstein discussing one of



his groundbreaking theories sold in Jerusalem Tuesday for over \$100,000 as part of trove of documents that went under the hammer.

The handwritten missive, sent in 1928 by Einstein from Berlin to a mathematician about the formalisation of the "Third Stage of the Theory of Relativity", was snapped up by an anonymous buyer for \$103,700 (83,600 euros).

The <u>letter</u> was written during one of the "most exciting, feverish periods of Einstein's scientific career" as he worked to hammer out one of the major scientific breakthroughs of the last century, auction house Winner's said.

It included a second note jotted by Einstein on the back of the envelope refining his thinking.

The sum—while large—pales in comparison to the \$1.56 million that one purchaser paid for a letter from Einstein on the secret of happiness at a Jerusalem auction in October after it was initially valued at some \$8,000.

Among Tuesday's other lots were letters and photographs relating to the winner of the 1921 Nobel Prize in physics that also sold for several thousand dollars.

Winner's boss Gal Wiener told AFP that the trove "reveals the complex character of the great scientist".

German-born Einstein served as a non-resident governor of Jerusalem's Hebrew University up to his death.

© 2018 AFP



Citation: Einstein letter fetches \$100,000 at Jerusalem auction (2018, March 6) retrieved 23 April 2024 from <u>https://phys.org/news/2018-03-einstein-letter-jerusalem-auction.html</u>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.