



**50917  
JOHN RHYS-DAVIES SCREEN USED GIMLI DOUBLE HEADED AXE**

This massive axe, composed of metal and wood, was a gift from director Peter Jackson to John Rhys-Davies who played the dwarf Gimli in *The Lord of the Rings* (New Line Cinema, 2001, 2002, 2003) film trilogy.

Rhys-Davies can be seen wielding the axe beginning in the second *Lord of the Rings* film *The Two Towers* and again in the third installment of the franchise, *Return of the King*. Peter Jackson presented the axe to Rhys-Davies on the final day of filming. Each cast member was given a gift on their last day of shooting, generally a prop that was significant to their role.

The axe was part of the 88 pounds of equipment that Rhys-Davies wore for his role. In total, two or three axes were made for the film. In addition there were lighter weight models for throwing and miniature axes made for Gimli's doubles, who were smaller than Rhys-Davies and required proportionately smaller axes for visual consistency. Another "gift" Rhys-Davies received was the opportunity to burn the Gimli mask he wore during production which had given him trouble throughout filming.

The double-sided axe is a bit of invention on the part of Jackson. In JRR Tolkien's book Gimli uses only one axe which is representative of the Tolkien dwarves mining culture. The double headed axe of the film is obtained by Gimli in the Mines of Moria while accompanying Frodo Baggins on his quest to destroy the One Ring. The mines were once a dwarf realm led by Gimli's cousin, Balin, who died in a battle with orcs, wielding this great axe.

The axe was made by the weapons division of WETA Workshop, the five-time Oscar Winning conceptual design and physical manufacturing service co-owned by Peter Jackson.

Accompanied by a photograph of Rhys-Davies as Gimli swinging the axe and a letter of authenticity from John Rhys-Davies stating the history of the axe and that this was his film-used axe.

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this lot will benefit La Leche League New Zealand.

"My wife Lisa and I are great supporters of breastfeeding having seen firsthand the benefits to our daughter Maia. We are indebted to La Leche League, an international organization founded in the US, which supports breastfeeding mothers. This year it's the 50th Anniversary of La Leche League in New Zealand where Lisa is a counselor and board member. I will be making a donation to LLNZ and hope the publicity attending this auction will draw attention to the benefits to the health of the breastfeeding mother and her child."

JRD

PROVENANCE From the Collection of John Rhys-Davies

\$125,000-150,000



**50924  
JOHN RHYS-DAVIES THE LORD OF THE RINGS  
PUBLICITY IMAGES AND FILM STILLS**

A group of six publicity images and film stills of Gimli, played by John Rhys-Davis, in *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers* (New Line Cinema, 2002). Three of the images have studio information printed at the bottom.

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this lot will benefit La Leche League New Zealand.

"My wife Lisa and I are great supporters of breastfeeding having seen firsthand the benefits to our daughter Maia. We are indebted to La Leche League, an international organization founded in the US, which supports breastfeeding mothers. This year it's the 50th Anniversary of La Leche League in New Zealand where Lisa is a counselor and board member. I will be making a donation to LLNZ and hope the publicity attending this auction will draw attention to the benefits to the health of the breastfeeding mother and her child."

JRD

PROVENANCE From the Collection of John Rhys-Davies

\$600-800

