

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 22nd WINTER FINE ART & ANTIQUES FAIR, OLYMPIA November 12-18, 2012



The Winter Fine Art & Antiques Fair at Olympia, now in its 22nd year, is considered one of the most important annual art and antiques events and is the only fair of its calibre between October and February. Highlights include artworks by Chagall, Miró and Braque, furniture by Trotter, glass by Lalique and even Bond-style accessories alongside silver, glass, jewellery, textiles and clocks for the collector and Christmas shopper. Attracting over 24,000 visitors, the Fair, which opens at 4pm on **Monday, November 12, 2012** features around 130 exhibitors in an elegant setting.



Well positioned for buyers furnishing a home or shopping before Christmas, it has become an event in the annual social calendar. The buzzy preview night attracts over 3,000 keen buyers with queues down the road before opening and plenty of red dots and empty glasses at the end of the night. Attendees include Jemima Khan, Jools Holland, Jasper Conran, Bryan Ferry, Nicky Haslam, Sir Paul Smith, Sir David Tang and Sir Peter Blake.

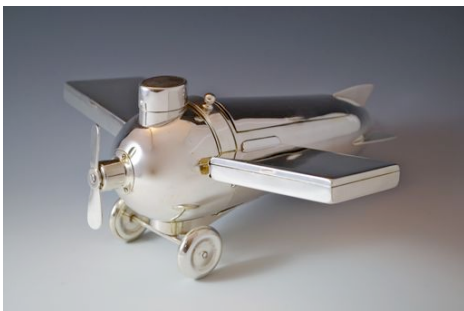
Furniture is an important element of the Winter Fair with a number of the UK's top furniture dealers exhibiting. **Wakelin and Linfield** brings an early 18th century English walnut bureau and **Hansord** will be

showing a myriad of interesting objects such as a late 19th century armchair constructed from timber from Nelsons ship *The Foudroyant* as well as a rare pair of early 19th century Dutch colonial burgermeisters chair with carved decoration and a fine George III period mahogany partners desk, with original brass swan neck handles and good veneers to the drawer fronts dating from 1775.

Fine Art makes up a good proportion of the fair with prices ranging from the hundreds to the hundreds of thousands. Print specialists **Dinan & Chighine** has two important sets of prints by Marc Chagall and Joan Miró while **Court Gallery** brings an oil on card laid on canvas, '*l'aquarium au verre*', 1944 by Georges Braque. Held in the Vassar College Collection from 1956 until 2012, the work was the first of the artist's fish bowl series and the motif was repeated many times by him in the 1940s and 50s.



Scottish-based, Victorian picture dealer, **Campbell Wilson** has an oil on canvas portrait of Isadora Duncan by Paul Swan (1883-1972) signed and dated. The most famous dancer of her time, Isadora is known as the 'mother of modern dance'. It is for sale for £15,000. **Nicholas Bagshawe's** Philip Alexius De Laszlo (1869-1937) portrait of Major Henry Frederick Elliott Lewin was painted during the First World War, and is a fine example of one of 38 portraits that the artist painted in 1915 of officers going to the front, as their families feared they might not return. Ironically after painting these patriotic and poignant portraits, Laszlo was imprisoned for two years in 1917 (at the hands of the very establishment he had been portraying so handsomely) and suffered a nervous breakdown.



For anyone inspired by the latest James Bond film, which will be released in late October, **Hampton Antiques** have several items that could leave you shaken and stirred. A very rare Art Deco 'Smokers Companion', in the form of a stylised aeroplane, manufactured in Germany by J.A. Henckels in the late 1920s. This wonderfully rare smokers companion has a cigar box in the fuselage, a pair of removable cigarette cases in the wings, a set of four ashtrays housed in the cockpit, behind a match safe with removable cover and striker. A very simple but very stylish touch is provided by the propeller which is sprung and serves as a cigar cutter, the clippings drop into undercarriage. It has its

original plated finish, with gilded interior to cigar receptacle, cigarette cases and ashtrays will be offered at £6,500. A chromium plated, 1960 Rolls-Royce decanter in the shape of a radiator with 'Spirit of Ecstasy' Silver Lady will be offered, while a chrome Bugatti Spirit Decanter with a super red enameled Bugatti badge and black grill, all incased around a single glass decanter has an asking price of £775.

Japanese specialist **Laura Bordignon Antiques**

will be bringing a selection of Japanese ivories, bronzes and works of art from the Meiji Period.

These include a Japanese silvered bronze okimono of an eagle, signed *Seiya saku*, dating

from the Meiji period. The BADA (British Antique Dealers Association) are also holding a lecture

titled, *The Flamboyant Mr Chinnery: an artist in India and China*. At a time when the West's eyes

are looking towards China and India this lecture, given by Patrick Conner, reminds us of how 200

years ago one wayward genius, George Chinnery,

interpreted through his brush the turbulent times of imperial expansion and the Opium Wars in the region*.



The fair will have a strong section devoted to clocks and barometers, which in this current economic times can be a shrewd investment as they are seen as machines,

so therefore exempt from Capital Gains Tax. **Richard Price & Associates** will be offering a Louis XVI white marble, bronze and ormolu mantel clock, dating from circa



1780, while **Alan Walker Barometers** will be

displaying an impressive and very unusual aneroid barometer by Negretti & Zambra of

London, dating from 1915. The barometer is in a mahogany case, made from timber removed

from HMS Empress - a seaplane carrier during World War 1, having been refitted in 1914 from

a cross-channel steamer.

Amongst the smaller objects such as silver, ceramics and glass; **Paul Bennett** will be exhibiting two exceptional pieces dating from the 17th century. A continental silver-mounted carved coconut cup, dating from

circa 1680 and inscribed by maker BA measures 10½inches tall, while a William and Mary flagon, made in 1694 in London by Frances Garthorne, weighs 51 ounces and measures 12¾ inches high. Oxfordshire-based **John Howard**, who specialises in Early English ceramics, will be bringing a Staffordshire creamware model of a seated squirrel eating a nut. Measuring 8 inches high, the delightful squirrel dates from c.1775 and will have an asking price in the region of £4,750. Meissen specialist, **Alexandra Alfandary** brings a Meissen vase, dating from c. 1880, and measuring 36cm high. It is a very unusual shape with 'pâte-sur-pâte' decoration to front showing a Centaur with a female on horseback.

For visitors searching for a one-of-a-kind Christmas present, many of the exhibitors will have interesting suggestions. **Geoffrey Breeze Antique Canes** has a cane inspired by Darwin's 'Origin of the Species'. Dating from 1870, the cane comprises a palm wood shaft with silver collar with a carved handle depicting an ape holding a human skull. There is a button on the handle, which makes the ape turn his head and open his mouth.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

- Winter Fine Art & Antiques Fair, Olympia is ideal for both new buyers and seasoned collectors, with a wide range of pieces, visitors are reassured by the strict 'vetting' process that sees 100 experts across all the categories inspect every single piece at the fair before it opens to the public.
- Supported by the UK's top trade associations, the British Antique Dealers' Association (BADA) and The Association of Art & Antiques Dealers (LAPADA), every exhibitor has been approved by a panel of experts and these include some of the UK's top dealers.

*Tickets to the BADA lecture can be obtained from Anne Green at anne@bada.org or tel: (0)20-7581 5259 at a cost of £45 which includes fair entry and two-course light lunch with wine at Mossiman's.

Ends

For more information on opening hours and ticket prices, please visit www.olympia-antiques.com and follow us on Twitter @WFAAF

FOR FURTHER PRESS INFORMATION AND IMAGES, PLEASE CONTACT:

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CAPTIONS:

- A late 19th century armchair constructed from timber from Nelsons ship The Foudroyant Exhibitor: Hansord
- André Derain - Grand visage Bronze Size: 8.5 inches high inc. base Numbered 4 from the edition of 8 Christian Maas Foundry stamp Provenance: The Artist's Estate Exhibitor: The Court Gallery
- Philip Alexius De Laszlo (1869-1937) portrait of Major Henry Frederick Elliott Lewin. Exhibitor: Nicholas Bagshawe.
- A very rare Art Deco 'Smokers Companion', in the form of a stylised aeroplane, manufactured in Germany by J.A. Henckels in the late 1920s. Exhibitor: Hampton Antiques
- A Japanese silvered bronze okimono of an eagle Signed Seiya saku, Meiji Period. Size: height 62cm x width 48cm. Exhibitor: Laura Bordignon Antiques Price: £8,500
- A Staffordshire creamware model of a seated squirrel eating a nut. Exhibitor: John Howard.