

WINTER 2006: LONDON'S TOP WINTER FINE ART & ANTIQUES FAIR

The Winter Fine Art & Antiques Fair at Olympia (November 6-12, 2006) is a long-standing, glamorous annual event as well as the only fair of its calibre at this time of the year. Positioned at the beginning of the Christmas party season, and now in its 14th year, the fair is now renowned for its exceptionally fine furniture, art and traditional antiques. 240 top English and International dealers in very elegant surroundings offer endless inspiration for interiors, collecting and original Christmas presents. Previous visitors to the fair include Jemima Khan, Claudia Schiffer, Valentino, Bryan Ferry and Isabella Blow.

The Fair is run in association with BADA and LAPADA* and includes exceptional, often rare, examples of glass, ceramics, textiles, clocks, prints, sculpture, Asian art, lighting, Art Deco, mirrors and maps.

Visitors can be reassured by the knowledge that every item has been checked for authenticity by over 100 experts across 28 categories.

Art in Glass: an Exhibition of Paperweights at the fair

This exhibition of over 300 paperweights marks the 25th anniversary of the Paperweight Collectors Circle. On show will be examples of many of the world's rarest and finest paperweights tracing the history and development from 19th century English and French classical paperweights of the 1850s, including works from the Saint Louis and Baccarat houses, through to some contemporary works from America, France and Scotland.

There will be a Leiths Restaurant as well as cafés and a champagne bar.

Events

'On the inadvisability of being an expert' by Rupert Maas

Tuesday 7 November 6pm

This illustrated talk by one of the Antiques Roadshow experts chronicles the establishment of The Maas Gallery (specialising in Victorian painting) through two generations to the present day, with a particular examination of the chemistry and ever-changing relationship between dealers and collectors.

'Chinoiserie in 18th Century Europe' by Anne Haworth, Art Historian & Lecturer

Wednesday 8 November 11.30am

This illustrated talk explores the origins and expressions of the style and considers how a fabulous blend of images inspired by Chinese porcelain, Indian textiles and Japanese lacquer represented a European vision of a fairytale ancient China.

In association with Asian Art in London.

'Beatrix Potter and her love of Regional Furniture by Dr B D Cotton,

Furniture Historian & founder Chairman of The Regional Furniture Society

Wednesday 8 November 6pm

Beatrix Potter is universally known for her writings and illustrations for children, but what is lesser known is her passion for regional and in particular locally made oak furniture. This illustrated talk traces her adventures in seeking out, buying items from farm sales and questioning every aspect of their design, decoration and construction.

Lecture tickets are £10 each.

Editors' note

The Fair is open from 5pm-10pm on Monday 6th November 2006 and daily thereafter from 11am. Closing times vary. Tickets cost £10/£16 double on the door.

Ticket booking: 0870 126 1727 or www.olympia-antiques.com

For more information or high res images contact:

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