

# Art Fairs in Europe

## Brussels Oriental Art Fair (BOAfair 2009)

Now in its fifth year, the **Brussels Oriental Art Fair** will take place from 4 to 7 June, with a vernissage opening on 3 June (for details, see [www.boafair.be/index.htm](http://www.boafair.be/index.htm)). The fair is fast gaining a solid reputation for the calibre of works on offer, with more than 2,500 visitors last year, including collectors from the US, Asia and Australia. Twenty-six dealers will participate, with exhibitions at spaces in the popular Sablon antiques district in the heart of the city.



Dagger handle  
China, 205 BCE  
to 9th century CE  
Jade  
Height 5.5 cm, width 7 cm  
Georgia Chrischilles

the 3rd century BCE and 9th century CE. The ornate handle depicts two mythical bird-beasts facing away from each other.

At her gallery at Avenue Emile Duray 44, **Gisèle Croës** is showing Chinese objects dating from the Shang period to the 19th century. Highlights are a miniature bronze cart dating to the Shang/Western Zhou periods, a group of Tang earthenware figures, as well as gilt-bronzes from the imperial



Cart  
China, Shang (c. 1600-1046)/Western Zhou period (1050-771 BCE)  
Bronze  
Height 10 cm, width 9.5 cm, length 13.5 cm  
Gisèle Croës

period.

**Galerie Lamy** at Rue Van Moer, 1/Rue Ernest Allard will show Asian and Middle Eastern arms, including a royal Tibetan sword, as well as Ming porcelain and 18th century furniture from India and China. Also on show is a Chinese cloisonné pilgrim flask dating to the 16th century, with a decoration of peaches on one side and pomegranates on the other.

Participating for the fifth year, **Wei Asian Arts** will showcase recent acquisitions of Chinese art at Rue Van Moer 5. A Tang period bodhisattva torso will be displayed, along with a Qing table screen



Pilgrim flask  
China, second half of the 16th century  
Cloisonné  
Height 26.1 cm, width 20 cm  
Galerie Lamy

and a Ming period female immortal figure, in ivory with traces of gilding.

**Marcel Nies Oriental Art** of Antwerp will show sculptures and other objects, mainly from old collections, at



Skanda with peacock  
India, Tamil Nadu, Vijayanagar period, 16th century  
Bronze  
Height 74 cm  
Marcel Nies  
Oriental Art



Avalokiteshvara  
Tibet, c. 16th century  
Wood with polychrome  
Height 37 cm  
Renaud Montméat

Tibetan polychrome wood image of Avalokiteshvara.

Laurence Souski and Frantz Fray of **Espace4** have participated in BOAfair

Watteestraat 27. Alongside a Cambodian Baphuon standing Devi in sandstone and a Thai bronze of Buddharaja from the Lopburi period, he has from India a Vijayanagar bronze of Skanda and a Chola bronze of Somaskanda. He will also present works from the Himalayas.

At Rue Lebeau

45, **Raimann & Raimann** of Wiesbaden will feature a Cambodian sandstone Avalokiteshvara from the Angkor Wat period. Three of the four arms are intact and holding symbols associated with the deity – a *mala*, *kalasa* (vase) and *pustaka* (book) – but the lower right arm, which originally would have held a lotus bud, is missing. The crown is carved with lotus and precious stone patterns.

A number of Parisian dealers will take part, including **Renaud Montméat**, who will be showing Chinese, Indian, Tibetan and Southeast Asian sculpture at Rue Charles Hanssens 13. Highlights are a small gilt-bronze Chinese Buddha with the Xuande mark, a Shunga period terracotta plaque from India, and a group of Zhou period bronze masks from Mongolia. He will also show a *circa* 16th century



Female immortal  
China, Ming period (1368-1644)  
Ivory with traces of gilding  
Height 16 cm  
Wei Asian Arts



Detail of Avalokiteshvara  
Cambodia, Angkor Wat period, 12th century  
Sandstone  
Height 74.5 cm  
Raimann & Raimann



Snuff bottle  
China, Qianlong period (1736-95), dated 1767  
Glass with enamel  
Height 5.5 cm  
Espace4



Receptacle  
Vietnam, Giau-chi  
period, c. 1st century  
Bronze  
Height 30 cm  
Galerie Christophe Hioco

since the beginning. This year, they will be offering an eclectic mix of Chinese snuff bottles, Japanese works of art and samurai art at Rue de Rollebeek 32. Rounding out their display will be a selection of boxes and chests from the Asian and Islamic world.

Taking part in the Brussels fair for the third time, **Galerie Christophe Hioco** is at Place du Grand Sablon 5 with a collection of Pala period Buddhist and Hindu sculpture from northeastern India. These include an intricate 12th century dark grey schist stele from Bihar depicting Vishnu Vasudeva with Lakshmi, Sarasvati and various other figures, and a sandstone bust of Surya from Rajasthan or Madhya Pradesh. Hioco will also show some pieces from Vietnam, such as an imposing Giau-chi period bronze receptacle on a latticed base.

Japanese art specialists **Mingei Arts Gallery** will be at the Marc Heiremans Gallery at Rue Joseph Stevens 25. Their selection includes a wood *kagura* mask of Kijin, an Oni god, dating to around the 14th century, and a No costume with gold embroidery from the 17th century. They will also show Edo period Oribe ware dishes and 19th century rural textiles.



Kagura mask  
depicting Oto-men  
Japan, Edo period,  
c. 17th century  
Wood  
Height 16.5 cm  
Mingei Arts Gallery

**Alexis Renard** believes that the BOAfair 'is improving every year' and is happy to be participating again. His Islamic and Indian works, including Iznik tiles, a Safavid dynasty blue-and-white dish and a white marble stele from Africa, Indian stone or lattice screens and a Timurid mirror, will be on view at Rue Joseph Stevens 30.

**Carlo Cristi** from Milan will exhibit bronzes, *thangkas*, illuminations and textiles at Rue Ernest Allard 25. These works, each of which has been chosen for its aesthetic value and rarity, represent the second diffusion of Buddhism in the Himalayan regions. Cristi believes that art collecting is still a safe field of investment, and aims to provide high-quality works at affordable prices.

A 9th/10th century sandstone image of Vishnu is one of the star pieces of Milan-based **Renzo Freschi's** Indian collection, on

view at Place du Grand Sablon 5, along with a 2nd century BCE/2nd century CE terracotta Devi in the classic *tribhanga* posture, from Chandraketugarh. His examples of Himalayan art include a Tibetan image of Shakyamuni in gilt-embossed copper and a collection of classical and tribal masks from Nepal and Tibet.

Also at Place du Grand Sablon 5, Andrea Filippi of **Ethnologica** in Forli will have a range of Indian and Islamic art, including a marble sculpture of an Indian nobleman, carved in 1928 by M. S. Nagappa, from the renowned Indian sculptor family. Filippi will also show one of the few extant copies of *Iqbalnama-i Jahangiri* (*The Chronicles of Jahangir*), dating from 1731, which features 36 miniatures and details the history of Mughal India from Akbar to Jahangir.



Buddha head  
Thailand, Lan Na  
style, 15th century  
Bronze  
Height 38 cm  
Tony Anninos

Back at Rue des Minimes 32 this year, Sausalito-based **Tony Anninos** will show a group of later Tibetan paintings, as well as Buddhist sculpture influenced by the post-Gupta and early Pala periods. His highlights include a seated Maitreya Buddha from Swat and Indonesian figures in bronze, silver and gold.

Hong Kong's **Michael Woerner Oriental Art** will have an exhibition of

'Early Sculpture from South and Southeast Asia' at Rue des Minimes 24. These include Bactrian and Gandharan objects, as well as Khmer and Burmese sculpture. Among them are a group of previously unseen Bronze Age figures and jewellery from Thailand and Cambodia. An 8th century Buddha head in limestone from the Thai Mon-Dvaravati kingdom references the recent exhibition at the Musée Guimet.

#### Carré Rive Gauche in Paris

Dealers in Carré, the antiques district between St Germain-des-Prés and the Musée d'Orsay, will be holding special exhibitions from 4 to 7 June. There are several Asian art dealers among the 120 galleries in this area (for more information on this event, see [www.carrerivegauche.com](http://www.carrerivegauche.com)).

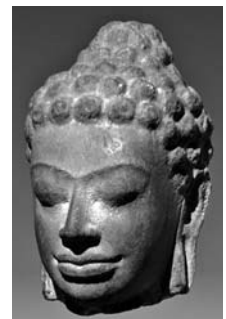
**Myrna Myers** will be presenting an exhibition of Indian jewellery from the collection of London-based dealer **Susan Ollemans**. Polychrome enamelled examples from the Mughal courts include



Vishnu  
India, Madhya  
Pradesh,  
9th/10th  
century  
Sandstone  
Height  
112 cm  
Renzo Freschi



Indian nobleman  
By M. S. Nagappa,  
1928  
Marble  
Height 168 cm, width  
85 cm, depth 110 cm  
Ethnologica



Buddha head  
Thailand,  
Mon-Dvaravati,  
8th century  
Limestone  
Height 20 cm  
Michael Woerner  
Oriental Art



Dish  
Iran, Safavid dynasty, c. 1700  
Ceramic with underglaze-  
blue decoration  
Diameter 44 cm  
Galerie Alexis Renard



Detail of an illuminated folio  
showing a red bodhisattva  
Western Tibet, 11th century  
Paper, gold and pigment  
Length 68 cm, width 24 cm  
Carlo Cristi





Pair of bracelets  
India, Varanasi, 18th century  
Gold, enamel and diamonds  
Diameter 7.6 cm  
Susan Ollemans at Myrna Myers

*makara*- and elephant-head bracelets inset with flat-cut diamonds. Gold jewellery for

dowries and gifts to temples are representative of social practices in South India. The expertise of Burmese craftsmen is reflected in work from Orissa and Assam. A selection of small, ivory portraits of maharajahs provide context for the exhibits.

**Bacstreet** will be showing both antique and contemporary works of art. The eclectic range of objects include a Japanese bodhisattva in wood, enamel and gold from the Momoyama period and a painted pottery earth spirit from the Tang period.



Earth spirit  
China, Tang period  
(618-906)  
Painted pottery  
Height 53 cm  
Bacstreet

### Olympia International Art & Antiques Fair

This year's **Olympia International Art & Antiques Fair** in London will be held from 5 to 14 June, with a collector's preview on 4 June. With about 250 participants, a huge range of material is available, and there is a vetting panel of 200 experts to ensure quality (see [www.olympiaartsinternational.com/](http://www.olympiaartsinternational.com/) for details).



Dignitary  
China, c. 1800  
Plaster  
Height 97 cm  
Vandervan & Vandervan  
Oriental Art

and England in 1717.

**Gibson Antiques** will be sharing Gerard Hawthorne's space with Brandt Asian Art this year. The fair will be Alastair Gibson's main exhibition in 2009 as his focus has been the development of his website and online business. The centrepiece of his display will be a pair of *circa* 1736 blue-and-white soldier vases which have been in a French chateau for the last 150 years. They are decorated with scenes of a tiger hunt that are reminiscent of Qing period imperial paintings.



Alastair Gibson  
with one of the  
pair of Qing period  
soldier vases

For Holland-based **Vandervan & Vandervan Oriental Art**, London remains a vital part of the art market and is the perfect place to maintain a yearly presence. According to Nynke van der Ven, Olympia has the space and atmosphere for them to present their collection to its full potential. Their display comprises export porcelain, Han and Tang pottery and some Japanese works of art. Highlights include a set of 15 *famille-verte* armorial plates from the Kangxi period depicting the members of the Triple Alliance formed by Holland, France



Incense burner  
China, Ming period, 16th century  
Porcelain with celadon glaze  
Height: 31 cm  
Jorge Welsh Oriental Porcelain and Works of Art

**Jorge Welsh** will be exhibiting an important collection of Chinese export porcelain together with a few pieces made for the Chinese market, such as a rare celadon incense burner in the shape of a Buddhist lion. They will also show a group relating to the Portuguese expansion, including Afro-Portuguese, Indo-Portuguese and Japanese export art.

### The Grosvenor House Art & Antiques Fair

The **Grosvenor House Art & Antiques Fair** is held this year from 11 to 17 June. To celebrate its 75th anniversary, there will be a celebratory party on the 15th in addition to the regular Royal Charity Gala Evening on the 11th (for more information, see [www.grosvenor-antiquesfair.co.uk/](http://www.grosvenor-antiquesfair.co.uk/)).

**S. Marchant & Son** have been exhibiting since 1975. Works from their *Recent Acquisitions 2009* catalogue are on display. The provenanced pieces include an imperial blue-ground bowl and cover with from a European collection.



Bowl and cover  
China, Yongzheng  
period (1723-35)  
Porcelain with underglaze-  
enamel blue/  
slip decoration  
Diameter 17.2 cm  
S. Marchant & Son

With a design of fish amongst aquatic plants, it is a fine example of the slip-decorated technique from Jingdezhen during the Yongzheng reign. There are two published examples of similar bowls.

In addition to a group of snuff bottles from two private collections, **Robert Kleiner** will be showing Tang dynasty pottery animals and later Chinese ceramics, works of art and jades.



Snuff bottle  
China, Suzhou,  
1750-1850  
Agate  
Height 6.5 cm  
Robert Kleiner

**Susan Ollemans** will bring a selection of Mughal and South Indian jewels. Highlights include a pair of 18th century diamond-studded *kada* bracelets from Benares, and a collar and a cuff, both dated to the 19th century and from South India.

Objects specially chosen for the fair's anniversary will be on view at **Gregg Baker Asian Art's** stand. Among the Japanese screens are two examples of the 17th century depicting horses in stables and scenes from Okuni Kabuki, respectively. The 18th century work of the Rimpa School is represented by a two-fold screen decoratively painted with a stag and doe amongst bamboo under a maple tree.



Detail of a screen  
showing a stag  
Japan, Rimpa  
School, Edo period,  
18th century  
Two-fold screen,  
ink and colour on  
gold-ground paper  
Height 170 cm,  
width 190 cm  
Gregg Baker  
Asian Art