

PRESS RELEASE

**BRAFA announces the participants for 2016**

Thanks to an expanded exhibition space, Brafa 2016, to be held at Tour & Taxis from 23 to 31 January next year, will welcome more galleries (136) than ever, from both Belgium and abroad. The eighteen new participants include new prestigious exhibitors who will strengthen and bring even greater diversity to the already amply represented sections. The Ghent Floralties, the guest of honour for 2016, will seek to help us forget winter thanks to a generous touch of floral and vegetal decor to be entrusted to the Antwerp florist Mark Colle. On the same occasion, Delen Private Bank will celebrate the tenth anniversary of its collaboration with Brafa.

Brafa 2016 will count a total of 136 participants, spread across some twenty specialities covering nearly all artistic currents, origins and periods of art history. This increase in the number of exhibitors (up from 126 in 2015) has become possible thanks to the move by one of the two restaurants to an adjacent space. The additional room freed up in this way will make it possible to add new stands and restructure the visitors' entrance slightly in relation to the building.

**Eighteen new galleries** have confirmed that they will participate in the 2016 fair.

These include some returning participants: **Alexis Bordes** (Paris – old masters drawings), **De Jonckheere** (Paris, Geneva – old masters paintings), **K. Grusenmeyer** (Brussels – Asian arts), **Francis Janssens van der Maelen** (Brussels, Art Deco and Art Nouveau silverware), **Pascal Lansberg** (Paris – modern and contemporary art), **Michel Rooryck** (Courtrai – 19th-20<sup>th</sup> century paintings, drawings, sculptures). There are also several prestigious first-time exhibitors: **Albert Baronian** (Brussels – contemporary art), **Galerie Boulakia** (Paris, London – impressionist, modern and contemporary art), **Jean-Christophe Charbonnier** (Paris – Japanese weaponry, armour and *objets d'art*), **Deletaille** (Brussels – Pre-Columbian and non-European art), **Dierking Gallery** (Zurich – tribal art), **Galerie Le Beau** (Brussels – 20<sup>th</sup> century decorative arts and design), **Frank Landau** (Frankfurt – 20<sup>th</sup> century *objets d'art* and design), **Meessen DeClercq** (Brussels – contemporary art), **La Patinoire Royale** (Brussels – visual arts and design from the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century), **Günter Puhze** (Freiburg – archaeology), **Safari Gallery Inc.** (New York – archaeology), **Thomas Salis Art & Design** (Salzburg - 20<sup>th</sup> century European art).

*“For several years now, we have had a waiting list of galleries wishing to participate whom we have unfortunately not been able to accommodate due to insufficient space. It is partly to respond to that demand that we are trying out this formula this year, hoping that it will meet with success and the involvement of as many people as possible”,* explains Harold t’Kint de Roodenbeke, President of Brafa.

This year BRAFA is particularly proud to host the **Ghent Floralties** as the 2016 guest of honour. The Floralties are a Belgian event of international renown first held in 1808 – even before the birth of Belgium itself! – that will take place in April 2016. Its scenography at BRAFA has been entrusted to the talented Antwerp florist Mark Colle, who gained a reputation in particular for his audacious decor for the fashion shows of Dries Van Noten, Jil Sander and Dior.

The 2016 edition will also mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the collaboration between Brafa and Delen Private Bank, a fruitful relationship that has seen both partners grow and develop alongside each other.

Finally, there will once again be a cycle of daily lectures, titled “Brafa Art Talks”. Its programme will be announced shortly.

**BRAFA – Brussels Art Fair - 23→31.01.2016**

Tour & Taxis, Avenue du Port 86 C – 1000 Brussels

**[www.brafa.be](http://www.brafa.be)**

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**Press Contact in Belgium and international coordination**

Bruno Nélis – [b.nelis@brafa.be](mailto:b.nelis@brafa.be) – Mobile phone +32(0)476.399.579