# 29 JAN – 5 FEB 2023 BRAFA ART FAIR BRUSSELS EXPO | HEYSEL

www.brafa.art

### GOKELAERE & ROBINSON BOOTH 35

### Contacts

Seaside gallery Golvenstraat 6 | 8300 Knokke T + 32 50 658 388 knokke@gokelaererobinson.com Open Friday to Sunday - 11am to 6 pm

#### Brussels

47, avenue des Statuaires | 1180 Brussels brussels@gokelaererobinson.com By appointment

Paris 34, rue de Penthièvre | 75008 Paris T + 33 1 44 07 04 56 paris@gokelaererobinson.com Open Tuesday to Saturday - 10.30am to 6.30pm

Gokelaere & Robinson is pleased to announce its participation to the 2023 edition of BRAFA. On this occasion, the gallery will present a selection of Italian and Brazilian historic furniture and lighting fixtures created by the greatest designers of the 20th century.

In the first decades of last century, new furniture and lighting fixtures companies were created in the region of Milan. Engineer *Gino Sarfatti* founded the modern lighting design company Arteluce in 1939. Arteluce created iconic pieces while experimenting new materials and production techniques.

Our rare adjustable floor lamp is a beautiful example of Sarfatti's innovative designs.

Later, in the context of the Italian reconstruction post World War II, architects and designers sought to find new solutions responding to the industrialization induced changes. *Domenico "Ico" Parisi* was one of the leading figures, contributing to « Renaissance » of Italian design. We will present a remarkable 1952 desk designed by Parisi as private commission.

Artist and designer *Piero Fornasetti* developed an original and whimsical decorative style that he transposed onto functional objects.

Our unique hand painted "Uccelli" folding screen perfectly illustrates his playful yet sophisticated work.

In the 1950's, Brazil also experienced a major turning point in the field of architecture and design. A land of opportunity for many artists who fled Europe after the war, Brazil observed an artistic renewal assimilating the best of European creation and traditional Brazilian materials. *Joaquim Tenreiro* was one of the greatest furniture designers and leaders of the Modernist movement in Brazil.

Our sideboard displays the perfect balance between modern concepts and traditional values that characterizes 20<sup>th</sup> century Brazilian design.

Exceptional and timeless pieces of furniture from both hemispheres will coexist to offer an original panorama of the excellence of modern design in the 20th century



**Gino Sarfatti** 1912-1985, Italy *Rare floor lamp*, 1946-1948 Brass, painted aluminum, marble Height 160 cm (variable) Manufactured by Arteluce, Milan, Italy

#### Provenance

Private collection, Milan

#### Literature

Marco Romanelli and Sandra Severi, Gino Sarfatti: Opere Scelte 1938-1973, Milan, 2012, p. 446

#### Description

Supported by a round brass fitting on a marble base, this floor lamp is composed of a rotative brass stem that simply rests on a marble sphere used as a center of gravity. A second sphere, in polished brass, serves as a counterweight to adjust the lamp to any required height. Designed by Gino Sarfatti between 1946 and 1948, this elegant floor lamp depicts the designer's search for subtle originality and engineering prowess.



Ico Parisi 1916 - 1996, Italy Unique desk, 1952 Walnut, walnut-veneered wood, painted wood, reverse-painted glass, brass 74.3 x 125.2 x 90.4 cm 29 1/4 x 49 1/4 x 35 5/8 in Manufactured by Fratelli Rizzi, Intimiano, Italy.

#### Provenance

Commissioned directly from the designer, 1952

#### Description

In 1952, Ico Parisi was commissioned by an Italian family to design a bespoke study room for their two ten-year-old twin sisters. This desk is part of a unique pair of desks that could be used simultaneously in the room.

Defying gravity, the four-drawers chest is lifted up the floor on one of its sides and secured by a horizontal slat that links it to a very sculptural supportive leg. Composed of a red painted glass, the irregular corner shape desktop overlays the whole structure and brings an original final touch to the piece. With its inventive and innovative construction, this desk represents Parisi's modern aesthetics that combine visual amusement and physiological practicality.



**Piero Fornasetti** 1913-1988, Italy *"Uccelli" folding screen*, 1953 Hand painted wood, brass 207 x 200 x 3 cm 81 1/2 x 78 3/4 x 1 1/8 in

#### Provenance

Private collection, Turin

#### Literature

P. Mauries, Fornasetti, "La Follia pratica", Archivi di Arti decorative, ed. Umberto Allemandi & Co. 1991
Fornasetti: the complete Universe, other version of the model pp. 44-445

#### Description

This beautiful folding screen was created in 1953 by Italian designer Piero Fornasetti. The designer was strongly inspired by Art Nouveau and placed ornamentation at the heart of his creations. The sinuous lines, the delicate designs as well as the *trompe l'oeil* representation of paneling with architectural motifs give this screen a refined decorative aspect, an essential quality of Art Nouveau artistic productions.

The naturalistic decor of this piece, with depictions of birds and floral motifs, also evokes the English tapestries of the Arts and Crafts movement.



Joaquim Tenreiro 1906-1992, Brazil Sideboard, ca. 1960 Wood 85 x 336 x 50 cm 33 1/2 x 132 1/4 x 19 3/4 in

This outstanding sideboard impresses by its dimensions and its skillful conception. The massive rectangular cabinet is carried by two delicate rectangular supports. With "lightness" as the key word of his production, Joaquim Tenreiro managed to create a remarkable piece that defies our understanding of gravity.

The elegant and timeless design is perfectly complemented by the choice of wood, which has a very expressive, contrasted and intricate pattern, as often seen in Tenreiro's works.