

## BRAFA: MARVELLOUS DISCOVERIES GUARANTEE

A fair's standard depends primarily on the quality of its exhibitors. In this respect, Brafa 2020 will once more keep its place in the small circle of leading international art fairs. This year, Brafa will again reunite 133 of the highest-ranking galleries specializing in ancient, modern and contemporary art and design. The figures underline exhibitor fidelity while reflecting the inclusion of prestigious new names who have made their mark in the fields of classical archaeology, old master paintings, furniture and art objects.

Faithful to its credo of eclecticism, quality and the representation of diverse specialities, the fair's rhythm will only alter by shortening by a day, taking place from Sunday 26 January to Sunday 2 February 2020. In line with tradition, Brafa will offer an extraordinary journey covering over 5000 years, incorporating countless historical periods, styles and continents, the whole sublimated by a touch of elegance and our unparalleled Belgian welcome!

Initially a pioneering venture undertaken by a few Belgian antiques dealers in 1956, the 'Foire des Antiquaires de Belgique', renamed the Brafa Art Fair in 2008, evolved over time into an international fair. This change accelerated over the last 12 years, since the fair moved from the Palais des Beaux-Arts into the huge industrial warehouses of the Tour & Taxis site, the first international event to establish itself there. Currently the proportion of exhibitors is 50 Belgian exhibitors (37%) and 83 from 16 foreign countries (63%).

At Brafa, quality and authenticity go hand in hand. Thanks to one of the strictest object admission processes in the sector, Brafa ensures it delights and satisfies the curiosity and demanding gaze of collectors and art-lovers. Each exhibited work is submitted to rigorous examination by a team of independent experts before the doors open.

The experience and erudition of all those involved are invaluable for visitors intent on enlarging their knowledge of the art world. What is more, the Brafa Art Talks offer a fascinating alternative to browsing the stands, proposing an incredible range of art-related topics.

BRAFA's visitors have come to expect a different guest of honour every year. These have included international museums, foundations and artists, who have all added their own unique touch to the event. In 2020, the art fair is choosing an innovative approach, launching an unusual initiative on the occasion of the 65th edition in the form of a charity auction of five original segments of the Berlin Wall. The proceeds from the sale will be split among five beneficiaries (associations and museums) in the areas of cancer research, the social integration of people with disabilities and the preservation of art heritage.

## BRAFA ART TALKS: PROGRAMME 2020

The BRAFA ART TALKS, a series of daily lectures, are organized in association with the non-profit organization BIAPAL. Join us every day for a talk given by an important figure from the art world, from museum curators to art dealers. Each will share their particular knowledge and expertise and the talks explore diverse themes. The talks offer a wonderful chance to discover artists, periods, artworks, famous art-world characters and to broaden your knowledge of art and its market!

### Free. Daily at 4:00 pm in the BRAFA Lounge (stand n° 46a) (except Monday 27 January at 3:00 pm)

Full programme available on: [www.brafa.art/en/art-talks](http://www.brafa.art/en/art-talks)

#### SUN 26/01 - KEITH HARING

By Darren Pih, Curator at Tate Liverpool, and of the Keith Haring retrospective at BOZAR (06/12/2019 → 19/04/2020)  
Language: ENG

#### MON 27/01 - CONVERSATION WITH BOB WILSON

An American director and visual artist, Robert Wilson discusses his passion for collecting  
Language: ENG

#### TUE 28/01 - MASTERPIECES FROM CHANTILLY, THE LARGEST PRIVATE COLLECTION OF WORKS BY RAPHAËL IN FRANCE

By Mathieu Delidicque, Cultural Heritage Curator at the Musée Condé, Domaine de Chantilly. The 500-year anniversary of Raphaël's death is the perfect moment to rediscover the largest French collection of his works after the one held at the Louvre Museum  
Language: FR

#### WED 29/01 - FROM THE PRINCESSE DE LAMBALLE TO JULES WABBES. GEMS FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE KING BAUDOUIN FOUNDATION. RECENT DISCOVERIES. NEW ACQUISITIONS

By Dominique Allard, Director of the Heritage Fund of the King Baudouin Foundation  
Languages: FR & NL

#### THU 30/01 - CROSSROADS - TRAVELLING THROUGH THE MIDDLE AGES

By Britt Claes & Alexandra Van Puyvelde, Curator of the exhibition of the same name at the Art & History Museum (until 29/03/2020)  
Languages: FR & NL

#### FRI 31/01 - VAN EYCK. AN OPTICAL REVOLUTION

By Till-Holger Borchert, Director of the Musea Brugge and Co-curator of the exhibition of the same name at the Museum of Fine Arts Ghent (1/02 > 30/04/2020)  
Languages: ENG

#### SAT 01/02 - A BRIEF HISTORY OF FRAMES AND FRAME MAKING OVER THE CENTURIES

By Guy Sainthill, Director of Sainthill Lijsten (Haarlem)  
Language: ENG

#### SUN 02/02 - FROM THE COLLECTION TO THE INVENTORY

Discussion between specialists in all the different aspects of collection by Eckman Art & Insurance  
Languages: FR & NL

## 65<sup>th</sup> EDITION: SPECIAL BERLIN WALL CHARITY AUCTION

To celebrate its 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Brafa is organizing a charity auction that's all about the joy of sharing.

The 9th of November 1989 is without doubt one of those historic dates that remains etched in the memory of all those who were alive at the time. On that day, after months of growing civil unrest in the Eastern part of Germany and increasing demands for a German Perestroika a botched press conference by the ruling party of the 'DDR' started the end of the wall.

The people from East Berlin rushed to the Berlin Wall separating the two Germanys and brought this symbol of division, suffering and painful separation peacefully down in front of cameras from around the world. The ever growing crowd and endless streams of 'Trabbi' rushed through 'Checkpoint Charlie', the Brandenburger Tor, Bornholmer Strasse and all the other new openings between the two parts of the city and quickly made a united Berlin a new reality. The parties on the vanquished wall, the impromptu concert played by Rostropovitch, complete strangers falling into each other's arms captured the feeling in everyone's heart that this day in November 1989 presaged a new era.

In the more recent past, Brafa's visitors have come to look forward to encountering the fair's guest of honour at each new edition. Museums, Foundations and international artists have all brought their own particular spice to the fair. Brafa, however, decided to do something exceptional to celebrate its 65th anniversary in 2020, and has therefore organized a charity auction of five segments of the Berlin Wall.

There is an element of historical irony surrounding this wall. Once detested and a symbol of oppression, it became, as it fell, an object everyone wanted to appropriate a piece of, as if it was made of some rare and precious substance. Countless fragments of the Berlin Wall are now scattered around the world and few whole segments like those acquired by Brafa in view of this anniversary charity event remain. All profits from the sale will be split between cancer research, the social integration of people with disabilities and, of course, our artistic heritage.

The decision to hold this charity auction might seem surprising, but it's in the fair's DNA. Brafa (formerly the Foire des Antiquaires de Belgique) is exceptional in the world of art fairs for it is in fact a non-profit organization. The internationally acclaimed event brings together professionals and collectors keen to share their passion, the money the fair makes going towards supporting the art market and those working in it.

The word 'sharing' sums up the whole operation. Let's follow Brafa's example and be generous!



BRAFA 2019 © Fabrice Debatty



Segments of the Berlin Wall © Raf Michels

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### DATES & OPENING HOURS

From Sunday 26 January to Sunday 2 February 2020 from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm  
Late opening on Thursday 30 January 2020 until 10:00 pm

### ADMISSION & CATALOGUE

Individual: 25 €

Catalogue: 15 €

Combination tickets:

1 entry + 1 catalogue: 35 €

2 entries + 1 catalogue: 60 €

Groups (≥ 10 people): 15 € per person

16-26 years old: 10 €

< 16 years old: free

### PARKING

Supervised outdoor parking on the site of Tour & Taxis: 7 €  
Free shuttle service offered by BMW

### SAFETY REGULATIONS

Animals, any type of large bag, backpacks, suitcases and umbrellas are not allowed at the fair. Please do not bring art or antiques for valuation. No photography or filming of artworks is allowed without permission from the exhibiting gallery. No use of tripods without permission. The security personnel reserve the right to search all visitors and their belongings at the entry of the fair.

### SERVICES

Restaurants, champagne bars, cloakroom, free WIFI, special parking & access for the disabled. Thank you for letting us know in advance if you need special assistance.

### CONCIERGE SERVICE

Brafa's aim is to make your visit a truly unforgettable experience. For all inquiries about Brafa before the opening of the fair, or about Brussels' museums, exhibitions or concerts, the booking of restaurants, hotels, car rental, plane tickets, transfers to the airport or anything else, please contact Patricia Simonart: p.simonart@brafa.be, t. +32 (0)2 513 48 31. During the fair, the Concierge of the Hotel Le Plaza Brussels, a member of the Belgian Royal Warrant Holders, will be delighted to assist you with any enquiries. He will be located in the entrance hall of the fair.

## BRAFA ART TALKS & BRAFA ART TOURS

### BRAFA ART TALKS

Free. Daily at 4:00 pm in the BRAFA Lounge, stand n° 46a (except Monday 27 January at 3:00 pm). Belgian and international curators, art experts and journalists give inspiring lectures on a variety of topics.  
Full programme available on: [www.brafa.art/en/art-talks](http://www.brafa.art/en/art-talks)

### BRAFA ART TOURS SUPPORTED BY HISCOX

Join us to discover the fair's highlights and gain a deeper understanding of the pieces on display.  
Public tours: daily at 3:00 pm, in English, French and Dutch. Free.  
Private tours: in English, French, Dutch and other languages on demand.  
For prices and bookings, please contact Patricia Simonart:  
p.simonart@brafa.be, t. +32 (0)2 513 48 31

26.01.2020 – 02.02.2020

# BRAFA ART FAIR

TOUR & TAXIS  
BRUSSELS

FLOORPLAN

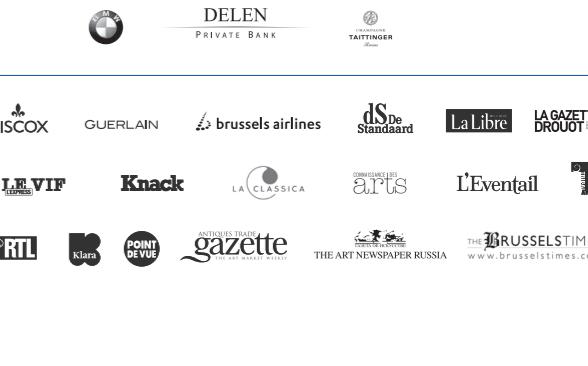
[www.brafa.art](http://www.brafa.art)

DELEN  
PRIVATE BANK

BRAFA  
ART FAIR

## ORGANIZATION - OFFICES

Foire des Antiquaires de Belgique asbl  
Antiekbeurs van België vzw  
Tour & Taxis - Royal Depot  
Avenue du Port / Havenlaan 86C Box 2A  
BE-1000 Brussels  
t. +32 (0)2 513 48 31  
[info@brafa.be](mailto:info@brafa.be) - [www.brafa.art](http://www.brafa.art)



## HOTEL PARTNERS

### HOTEL LE PLAZA

Boulevard Adolphe Max 118-126 / BE-1000 Brussels  
t. +32 (0)2 278 01 00  
[reservations@leplaza.be](mailto:reservations@leplaza.be)  
[www.leplaza-brussels.be](http://www.leplaza-brussels.be)

### HOTEL AMIGO, A ROCCO FORTE HOTEL

Rue de l'Amigo 1-3 / BE-1000 Brussels  
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