

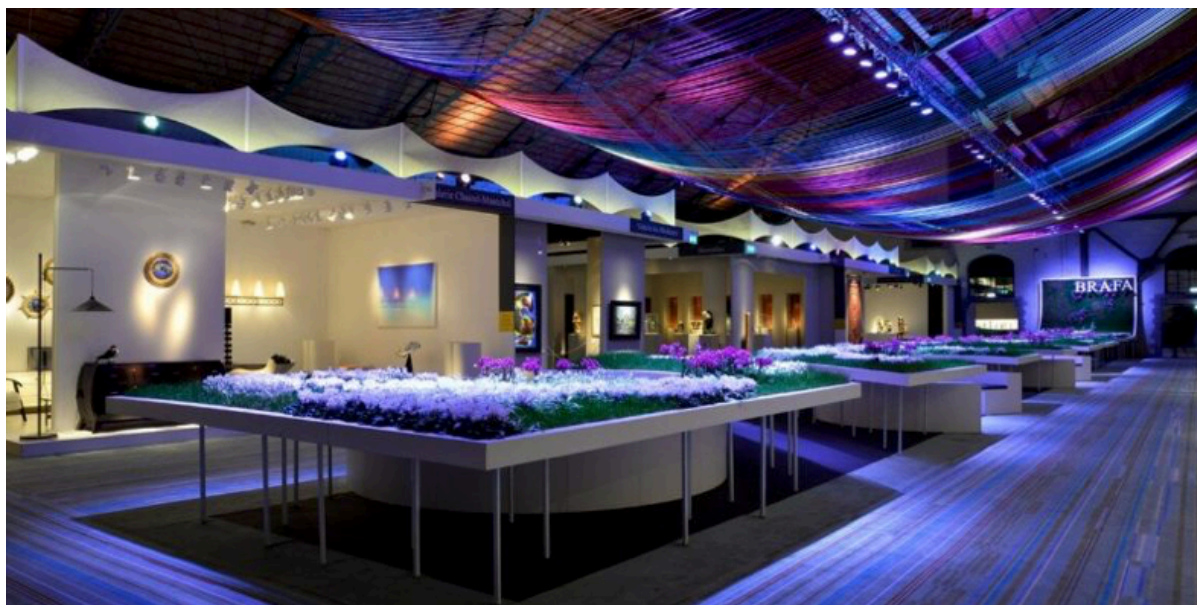
13TH DECEMBER 2018

## WELCOME TO BRAFA ART FAIR 2019

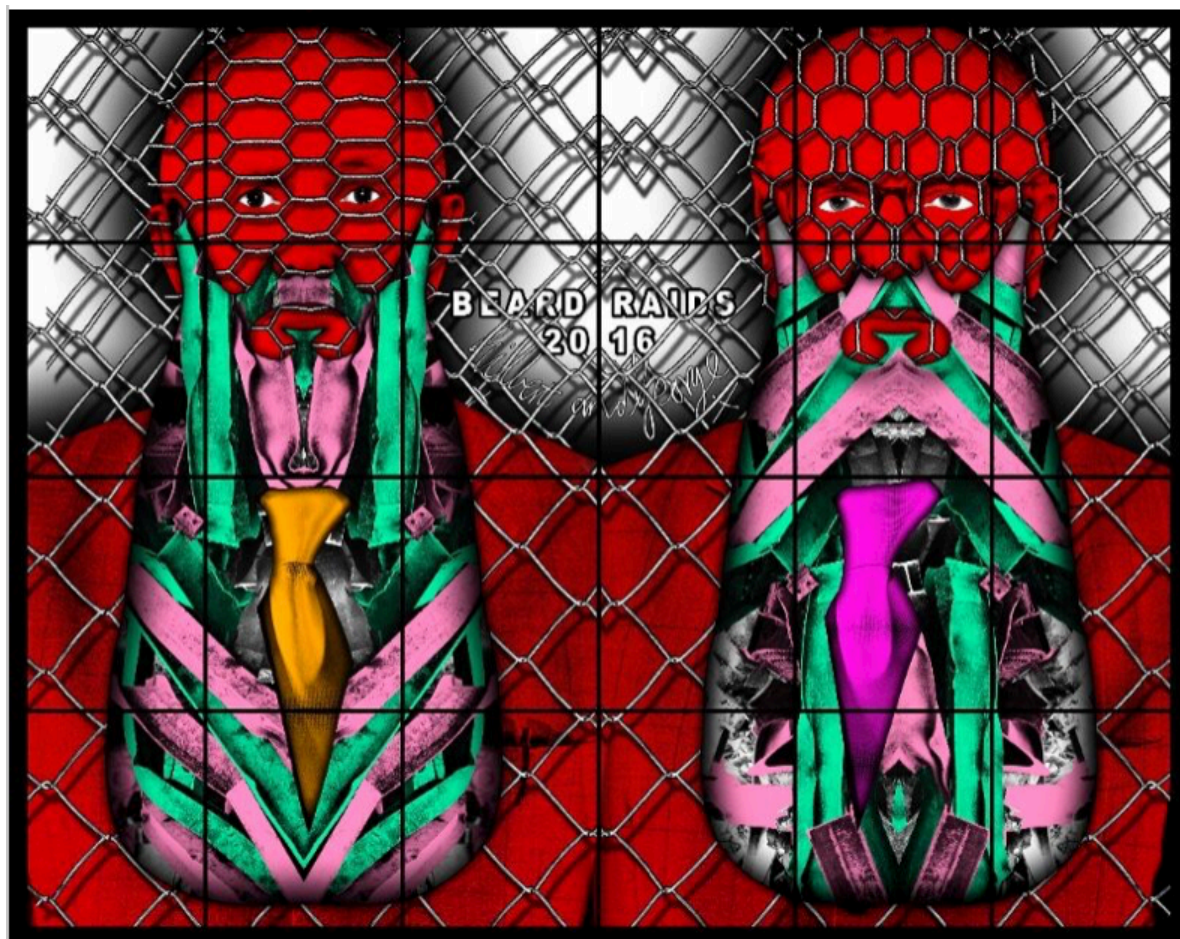
The 64th edition of BRAFA in Brussels will assemble 133 Belgian and international galleries. In January, the eyes of every art lover will turn to Brussels in acknowledgement of BRAFA, whose 64th edition will be held between Saturday, 26th January and Sunday, 3rd February 2019 inclusive, on the Tour & Taxis site. The 133 participating galleries and art dealers from sixteen countries, will select the finest, rarest or most valuable works from their respective art specialties, in order to meet the great variety of expectations stemming from a large audience of connoisseurs. This grand ephemeral museum, which will trace art history and archaeology down to our own era, crisscrossing various periods, styles and continents, will pay homage to artistic creation in all its forms.



“When I get older losing my hair, many years from now ... Will you still need me; will you still feed me, when I'm sixty-four?” It was with these slightly anxious words of his famous song produced in 1967 for the now mythic Beatles album Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, that Paul McCartney wondered about his future. Since then, Sir Paul has long reached and surpassed that venerable age, and is most likely reassured by the unflagging success he continues to enjoy among millions of fans globally!



A happy premonition? BRAFA will launch its 64<sup>th</sup> edition next January, and it too, seems more creative and appreciated than ever. An attest, the new record attendance that was reached during its past edition: more than 65,000 visitors, and an enthusiastic participation by many of the most highly acclaimed Belgian and European galleries. The leitmotif of its organizer's – quality / eclecticism / conviviality – appears to convince even more exhibitors and art lovers, both finding reasons to remain faithful. Rather than breaking with a tried and tested tradition, the Board of Directors wish is to continue seeing the art fair evolve in a positive direction. Meaning an 'evolution' rather than a 'revolution', in the words of its Chairman, Harold t'Kint de Roodenbeke. The aim is to refine the offer by making it even more complete, more specialized; rigorous demands in the selection criteria for both the galleries as for the works of art exhibited, thus guaranteeing the highest possible quality. The fair seeks to continue engaging new audiences and to remain attentive to the trends of an art market that is in perpetual transformation.



BEARD RAIDS. 2016. 302 x 380 cm



Exhibitors in 2019: a fine balance between tradition and novelty

Among the 133 Belgian and international exhibitors taking part in this 64<sup>th</sup> edition, 16 new names will be making an appearance:

- David Aaron (London, UK) – Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern works of art. Classical and Islamic art
- Bowman Sculpture (London, UK) – 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century and contemporary European sculpture
- Brame & Lorenceau (Paris, FR) – Impressionist, modern and contemporary art
- Cortesi Gallery (London, UK, Lugano CH) – Post-war European art
- Martin Doustar (Brussels, BE) – Ancient and tribal art
- Heritage Gallery (Moscow, RU) – Modern Russian art and Soviet design;
- Charles-Wesley Hourdé (Paris, FR) – African, Oceanian and American art
- Galerie L'Ibis (Marrakesh / MA, Brussels, BE) – Archaeology, Egyptian art
- Sandro Morelli (Florence, IT) – Haute Époque
- Morentz (Waalwijk, NL) – 20<sup>th</sup> century design
- Röbbig München (Munich, DE) – Meissen porcelain, furniture, objets d'art;
- Rosenberg & Co (New York, USA) – Impressionism, modern and contemporary art;
- Simon Studer Art Associés (Geneva, CH) – Impressionist, modern and contemporary art
- Gallery Sofie Van de Velde (Antwerp, BE) – Modern and contemporary art;
- Galerie von Vertes (Zurich, CH) – Paintings, works on paper and sculptures of the 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> centuries;
- Willow Gallery (London, UK) – Impressionist and European paintings.

Two galleries will return:

- Maison Rapin (Paris, FR) – 20<sup>th</sup> century decorative arts and contemporary creations
- Pierre Segoura (Paris, FR) – Paintings, drawings, objets d'art, antique furniture and photographs

Eight galleries from Switzerland will be present:

- Cortesi Gallery (Lugano CH / Milano IT / London UK) – Modern and contemporary art
- Galerie von Vertes (Zürich) – Paintings, works on paper and sculpture of the 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> centuries;
- Bailly Gallery (Geneva) – Modern and contemporary art
- Galerie Grand-Rue Marie-Laure Rondeau (Geneva) – Watercolors, Prints and Drawings, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Opera Gallery (Geneva) – Modern and contemporary art
- Phoenix Ancient Art (Geneva/New York) – Ancient art from Mesopotamia, Egypt, Classical Greece and Rome, Central Europe, Eurasia and South-West Asia.
- Galerie Schifferli (Geneva) – Modern paintings, works on paper and sculptures
- Simon Studer Art Associés (Geneva) – Impressionist, modern and contemporary Art



"It's always with great pride that we unveil the list of our participants", stated Harold t'Kint de Roodenbeke, Chairman of BRAFA, "for it is indicative of the health and attractiveness of our event. With sixteen new names, we are consistent with the previous editions, and from my point of view this is an ideal percentage. It means we are able to bring in novelty without calling into question the internal equilibrium among the various specialties, and without shaking everything up. I think it is important that we can offer our visitors a form of continuity, with galleries who have been faithful to the fair for many years and whom our visitors enjoy seeing each time, while also offering a touch of novelty. For it is thanks to this fine balance that our event retains its strength and attests to its openness."



A layout of stands is being elaborated, that is in line with the contemporary manner of collecting for a generalist fair like BRAFA, which comprises more than twenty different art disciplines, and that is equally important for the satisfaction of expectations from its varied audience. It is of utmost importance to awaken the interest of a less specialist public liking nothing more than to be won over by beauty or interest in a work, alongside experienced art loving collectors that are searching for specific works to add to their collection. The manner of collecting or acquiring works of art has evolved considerably in recent years, and the current trend is 'cross-collecting', a search of correspondences. By its original insistence of a non-sectoral arrangement of stands, and by placing specialties that are in principle alien to one another side by side, BRAFA seeks to enhance diversity, constantly refreshing the viewer's gaze and inviting harmony. This constitutes the fair's DNA!

Guest of honor 2019 – Gilbert & George, British eccentricity in the land of surrealism

This desire to refresh the viewer's gaze is given particular resonance by the guest of honor for the 2019 edition: the internationally renowned duo Gilbert & George. Starting out as performance artists, they became famous for their large-scale photo pieces. These are often in very bright colors with superimposed black gridlines, evoking the windows of yesteryear. The images are contemporary and immediately recognizable, with most displaying portraits of both artists in the picture. Although their art draws inspiration from (their) daily life, the vision they offer is in turns metaphysical, mystical, or polemical, but always with a touch of humor and conveying a message. At BRAFA they will display five recent large-scale works, that will be placed at various locations throughout the fair. Their quirky vision of the world will certainly to be a hit in the land of surrealism!



Centenary of the Belgian Royal Chamber of Antiques and Art Dealers

2019 also marks the centenary of the Belgian Royal Chamber of Antiques and Art Dealers. In light of their historically close ties, what better place than BRAFA to host a prestigious exhibition, made up from works of private collections, all of which were bought by members of the Chamber? This exhibition will be accompanied by the publication of a book that will address different aspects of the art dealer's trade, peppered with thousands of anecdotes, collected and edited by the author. This Demeulemeester, and by a lecture at BRAFA on Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> January, as part of the cycle of BRAFA Art Talks.





SFG. 2013. 302 x 381 cm

The BRAFA Art Talks 2019 – Pieter, Peggy, Bernard and Soviet art deco

An indispensable supplement of any visit to BRAFA, is the cycle of BRAFA Art Talks, offering daily lectures and addressing a wide range of topics within the art world. On the occasion of the anniversary year, Pieter Bruegel the Elder will be the subject of two separate lectures, one in French and the other in Dutch, examining in particular the state of the recent discoveries made in the course of restoration work done on several of his paintings, including the famous 'Dulle Griet'. The lecturer and art historian Christiane Struyven will focus on the criteria by which a piece is considered a major work, and a round table organized with CINOA (International Federation of Dealer Associations) will take stock of various themes currently at the forefront of the art market. Other topics include a passionate view of the great collector Peggy Guggenheim, and a fascinating plunge into Soviet Art Deco ... there will be something for everyone!

**BRAFA**  
**ART FAIR**

**26 JAN - 03 FEB 2019 / TOUR & TAXIS**  
**BRUSSELS / WWW.BRAFA.ART**  
*— save the date —*

Tour & Taxis, Avenue du Port 88 – 1000 Brussels

Visit the Website: [www.brafa.art](http://www.brafa.art)