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Guaranteed wonderment at the 69th edition of BRAFA



BRAFA 2024 – General View © Olivier Pirard

BRAFA 2024, held from Sunday, January 28th to Sunday, February 4th in Brussels Expo's Halls 3 and 4, will feature 132 leading galleries from a wide variety of fields, who will be presenting their perfectly finished stands and big names from the history of art.

Amongst the 20 new exhibitors, more than half specialise in Old Masters art (paintings, sculptures and art objects), such as Nicolás Cortés Gallery (Madrid-Stand 89), which will be exhibiting two portraits by Lavinia Fontana (Italy, 1552-1614), the daughter of Prospero Fontana, a Mannerist painter who was recognised as one of the leading artists of her time. Romigioli Antichità (Legnano-Stand 46), specialising in the Haute Epoque, will be presenting a pair of Carrara marble cherubs by Giovanni Baratta (Italy, 1670-1747) dating from 1699, a fragment of a lost altar from the church of Santa Trinita in Florence. Zebregs&Röell Fine Art and Antiques (Amsterdam-Stand 110) will be displaying a piece of inlaid furniture, exceptional for its size and workmanship by Jan van Mekeren (Netherlands, 1658-1733 Amsterdam), who was considered to be the most important cabinetmaker in Amsterdam in the late seventeenth century. The gallery will also be showcasing a large Japanese Nambam lacquer chest for the Portuguese market, Kyoto, Moyoyama period, late sixteenth century, made of black-lacquered Hinoki cypress, decorated with gold lacquer, inlaid with mother-of-pearl and gilded copper mounts.

These newcomers will be joined by BRAFA regulars such as **Costermans & Pelgrims de Bigard (Brussels-Stand 17)** which will be presenting a pair of Louis XVI-period candelabra attributed to the bronzesmith François Rémond (France 1747-1812), probably produced under the supervision of Dominique Daguerre, circa 1780. Daguerre supplied two pairs of this model in the 1790s to the Prince of Wales (later George IV) for his London residence, Carlton House (Royal Collection 2695).

Galerie Florence de Voldère (Paris-Stand 25), will be showcasing a work entitled *The Adoration of the Magi* by Cornélis van Cleve (Belgium, 1520-1567), the son and pupil of the great Antwerp Master, Joos van Cleve (Belgium, 1485-1541) and Floris van Wanroij Fine Art (Dommelen-Stand 18), who will be displaying two museum-quality sculptures, *La Vierge et l'Enfant sur le croissant de lune*, late fifteenth century, and *La vierge et l'enfant*, early sixteenth century, made in Malines. Klaas Muller (Brussels-Stand 4) will be exhibiting a major Baroque work by Willeboirts Bosschaert (Netherlands, 1613-1654), *Amor Triumphans*, dating from around 1640-1645.



BRAFA 2024 – Stand Klaas Muller © Olivier Pirard

On the non-European arts side, **Galerie Kevorkian (Paris-Stand 34)** will be exhibiting a rhyton, a terracotta vase with moulded, modelled and turned decoration under a turquoise glaze, Iran, late Parthian - early Sassanid period, second-third century A.D. This type of vessel was used in both religious and secular ceremonies, as well as in investiture rituals and those pertaining to the transfer of royal power.

Also not to be missed on the **Dalton Somaré** stand (Milan-Stand 7) is a rare zoomorphic figure by the Tellem Dogon people, Mali, 1309-1424 AD, which served as an altar for sacrifices. Montagut Gallery (Barcelona-Stand 103) will be presenting an unusually large (60 cm) and highly refined Baule statue, Côte d'Ivoire, nineteenth century, a masterpiece of exceptional quality from this culture. Claes Gallery (Brussels-Stand 35) will be exhibiting an elegant Yaure mask, Côte d'Ivoire, late nineteenth- early twentieth century. This mask sits atop a unique *Balanced hanging furniture* by Jean Prouvé from 1946, made of wood, folded sheet steel and aluminium (330 x 800 x 69 cm).

On the stand of **Bertrand de Lavergne (Paris-Stand 5)**, visitors will be able to discover a group of porcelains from the Qing dynasty (1644-1912), including a blue-white porcelain serving dish known as a "kraakporselein" with a lively landscape decoration, China, seventeenth century, circa 1620-1630. Diameter: 46.5 cm.

Thomas Deprez Fine Arts (Brussels-Stand 117), which specialises in Belgian Fin-de-Siècle art, will be presenting a monumental triptych by Emile Fabry (Belgium, 1865-1966): *Le péché originel, Les Déesses de la Vie* and *Prométhée & Pygmalion*, circa 1896, reunited for the first time by the same owner after several decades.

In modern sculpture, **Galerie Nicolas Bourriaud (Paris-Stand 61)** will be exhibiting *Femme assise les mains dans le dos* by Robert Couturier (France, 1905-2008), which was cast in bronze around 1991. Only three examples were cast during the artist's lifetime. On the stand of **Helene Bailly Gallery (Paris-Stand 88)**, a very rare *Tête d'homme* by Ossip Zadkine, made by the artist himself in Ceylon wood (Belarus, 1888-1967, France) in 1928, will dazzle visitors with its modernity.

Harold t'Kint de Roodenbeke (Brussels-Stand 32) will be unveiling a unique collection of twelve sculptures, washes and watercolours by Rik Wouters (Belgium, 1882-1916, the Netherlands), as well as a large oil painting by Keith Haring (USA, 1958-1990) in collaboration with his friend LA (Angel Ortiz).

Galerie Berès (Paris-Stand 66) will be presenting a fine reversible oil on canvas by Simon Hantaï (Hungary, 1922-2008, France), *Untitled*, circa 1969-1973, monogrammed and dated on both sides, while the Galerie A&R Fleury (Paris-Stand 45) will be exhibiting a work by Sam Francis (USA, 1923-1994), *Untitled SF75-601*, 1975.

One must-see at BRAFA 2024 is undoubtedly a work by Jean-Michel Basquiat (USA, 1960-1988) entitled *Blue Skies*, dating from 1985, that will be featured on the stand of **Zidoun-Bossuyt Gallery** (Luxembourg-Stand 126).

In terms of design, a side table by Carlo Bugatti (Italy, 1856-1940) in parchment with a polychrome decoration of dragonflies, enhanced by gilding and stamped copper with a rectangular top (39 x 44 x 44 cm), circa 1902, on the stand of the **Galerie Mathivet (Paris-Stand 3)**. This piece is remarkable for its polychrome and brass work, an allusion to a romanticised Orient. On the stand of **Gokelaere & Robinson (Knokke/Paris-Stand 37)**, one of the centrepieces is a 1959 *Guanabara* table in rosewood, concrete and leather (74 x 452 x 132 cm) by Jorge Zalszupin (Brazil, 1922-2020). Originally designed for a conference room, it is a perfect blend of monumentality and lightness, combined with the quality of Brazilian woods. Brazilian design can also be found on the stand of **Axel Vervoordt (Antwerp-Stand 129)** with the work of Joaquim Tenreiro (Portugal, 1906-1992, Brazil).

In contemporary art, the **Bernier/Eliades Gallery (Athens, Brussels-Stand 11)** will be exhibiting works (painting, sculpture, installation, collage, video) by the internationally renowned Belgian artist Martin Margiela, who has been delighting the world of fashion for over 20 years. On the same stand will be a work by Cameron Jamie (USA, 1969) entitled *Fuzz's Second Dream*, 2023, as well as two of his sculptures.

Amongst other things, **Pauline's Jewellery Box (Brussels-Stand 62)** will be presenting a Kreuter tiara made of unheated Ceylon sapphires with a platinum and diamond setting, fully preserved and dating from 1911. Another must-see is a necklace of emeralds, sapphires, gold and silver by Mario Buccellati (Italy 1891-1965), 1930, on the stand of **Barbara Bassi (Cremona-Stand 55)**.

An ode to dreams and poetry

This year's BRAFA will have Surrealist overtones, since it will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the death of the Belgian painter Paul Delvaux (Belgium, 1897-1994). The Paul Delvaux Foundation will be the guest of honour at this year's Fair, illustrating his artistic career with around fifteen works in a dedicated space. Some thirty works highlighting the recurring themes dear to the artist - women, stations, trains, antique decors and the presence of skeletons - will also be on display on several exhibitors' stands. **Boon Gallery (Knokke-stand 26)** will be showing a painting entitled *La ville lunaire* (1944) (and in a completely different vein, a work by the Korean artist Lee Ufan and a superb Jean Dubuffet, not to be missed at the Fair) and **Francis Maere Fine Arts (Ghent-stand 40)** a work entitled *L'été* (1963). **Galerie Taménaga (Paris-stand 87)** will be displaying *La tente rouge* (1966) and **Opera Gallery (Geneva-stand 107)** a work from 1968 entitled *La fin du voyage*.



BRAFA 2024 – Stand Boon Gallery © Olivier Pirard

2024 will also mark the 100th anniversary of the **Surrealist movement**. Amongst the many Surrealist works on display by various exhibitors is one of the nineteen original copies of André Breton's *Surrealist Manifesto* (France, 1896-1966) dating from 1924, presented by **Librairie Lardanchet (Paris)** on **stand 116** of the **Belgian Antiquarian Booksellers' Association (CLAM)**. Also on show is an imposing 1928 work by Magritte (Belgium, 1898-1967), *Le Palais de Rideaux*, on the stand of **Galerie de la Béraudière (Brussels-Stand 86)**, and a wall of drawings by the same artist on the stand of **De Jonckheere (Geneva-Stand 30)**. Not to be missed is a work by Giorgio de Chirico (Greece, 1898-1978, Italy) on the stand of **Repetto Gallery (Lugano-Stand 85)**, entitled *Piazza d'Italia con Arianna*, early 1950, and a drawing by Léon Tutundjian (Turkey, 1905-1968, France) which perfectly illustrates the Surrealists' humorous spirit, on display on the stand of **Galerie Alexis Pentcheff (Marseille-Stand 83)**.

Spotlights and solo shows at BRAFA 2024

Galerie Bernard De Leye (Brussels-Stand 42) will be presenting a fine collection of Spanish pieces, including approximately one hundred pieces of liturgical silverware in gilt silver, silver, gold, rock crystal and other noble materials from the fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, as well as several Italian pieces from the same period, all sourced from a single collection, as well as a case by Josef Hoffmann (Czech Republic, 1870-1956, Austria) produced by the Wiener Werstätte.

Over the past twenty years, **Galerie Flak (Paris-Stand 92)** has assembled a unique and exceptional collection of dozens of antique "Kachina" dolls dating from 1880 to 1930, sourced from major European and American collections. These are objects of transmission that bear vibrant witness to the ancestral traditions and beliefs of the Amerindian peoples.

Galerie Taménaga (Paris-Stand 87), specialising in Impressionist, modern and contemporary paintings, will be presenting a fine series of works by Marie Laurencin (France, 1883-1956), including the delicate *Jeunes filles aux jeux*, dating from 1938.

While the **Galerie Hadjer (Paris-Stand 132)** will be displaying a group of tapestries by Fernand Léger (France, 1881-1955), created in perfect collaboration with the famous Aubusson tapestry workshop, the **Richard Saltoun Gallery (London-Stand 76)** will be presenting textile productions by post-war women artists whose work has been acclaimed by various museums, such as Jagoda Buić (Croatia, 1930-2022) with her piece made of wool, *Cercle dynamique*, dating from 1976, and Ewa Pachucka (Poland, 1936-2020, France) with her dungarees entitled *The Trousers*, 1969, made of hemp and sisal.



BRAFA 2024 – Stand Richard Saltoun © Olivier Pirard

The **N.Vrouyr** gallery (Antwerp-Stand 68), which specialises in carpets and textiles, will be presenting a series of carpets from the Amsterdam School, including a very fine piece by Jaap Gidding (Amsterdam 1887-1955) dating from 1920, in the Tuschinski style (Abraham Icek Tuschinski, a Polish immigrant who settled in the Netherlands, used part of his fortune to build exceptionally decorated theatres to bring culture to the people).

The **Samuel Vanhoegaerden Gallery (Knokke-Stand 114)** will be showcasing Tom Wesselmann (USA, 1931-2004), one of the leading figures of Pop Art, renowned for his legendary series of works entitled "Great American Nude" and for his "Steelcut Works."

rodolphe janssen (Brussels-Stand 36) has chosen a classic theme, "Still Life," to create a dialogue between historical works (a seventeenth-century bouquet by Jacob Marrel, an engraving by James Ensor, a drawing by Félicien Rops, a drawing by René Magritte) and recent works by the gallery's

represented artists, including Sean Landers, Thomas Lerooy, Dan McCarthy, Alvin Ong, Tom Poelmans, Emily Mae Smith...

On **Marc Heiremans'** stand **(Antwerp-Stand 90)**, specialising in twentieth and twenty-first century decorative arts, visitors will be able to admire two dozen glass works by the designer Floris Meydam (Netherlands, 1919-2011) from the Royal Dutch glassworks, Koninklijke Nederlandse glasfabriek Leerdam, including a yellow vase of exceptional size without any deformation, a museum-quality piece that illustrates the technical prowess of glassblowing and its extraordinary production.

Press kits, press releases, photos and interviews : www.brafa.art

Consult the full list of participating galleries at BRAFA 2024 here: https://www.brafa.art/media/brafamedia/pressrelease/BRAFA2024-Participantslist_T638367601148154726.pdf

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BRAFA IN FIGURES

132 international galleries

14 represented countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan,
Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom
Two dozen specialities: furniture and art objects from the Middle Ages, the Haute Epoque and the
Renaissance, ancient and modern paintings and drawings, contemporary art, design, sculpture,
archaeology, tribal art, Asian art, porcelain and ceramics, goldsmithery and silversmithery, jewellery,
glassware, textiles and carpets, engravings, rare books, photography, etc.

10,000 to 15,000 objects in total

80 to 100 experts from all over the world

21,000 m² of exhibition space

2024 = 69th edition of the Fair

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