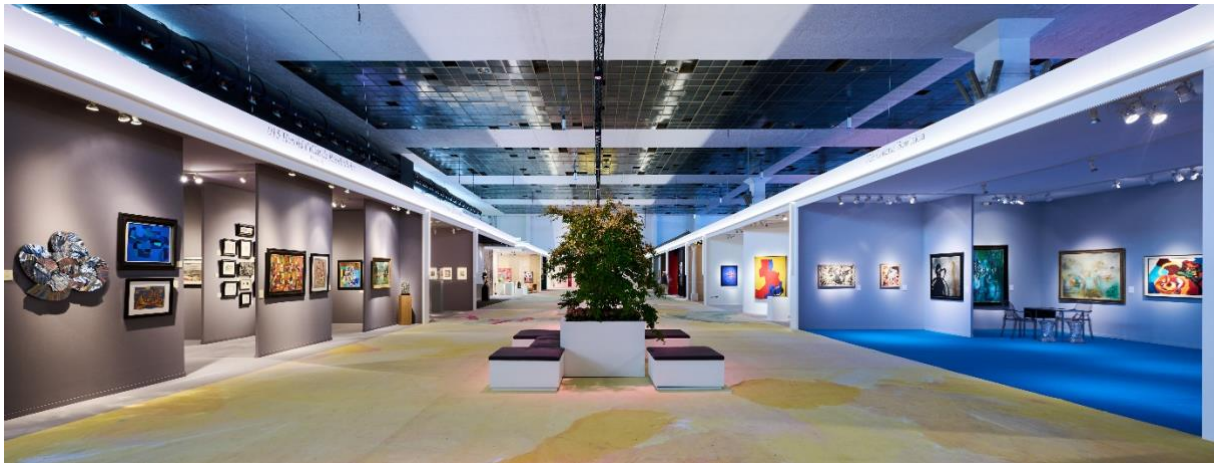


BRAFA ART FAIR

Press release: 17/06/2022

BRAFA 2022: a 67th edition which promises to be luminous



BRAFA 2022 © Fabrice Debatty

The 67th edition of BRAFA, which will take place from Sunday, June 19th to Sunday, June 26th, 2022, will open under a bright summer sun. As soon as they enter the Fair, visitors will be charmed by a richly-coloured decor inviting them to escape and dream. Elegantly flowered, covered with a unique carpet, and embellished by sculptures, paintings and drawings by our Belgian guest of honour, Arne Quinze, the Fair will welcome 115 Belgian and international exhibitors spread over two Palaces (3 and 4) at Brussels Expo, an emblematic venue steeped in history.

Whilst this change of scenery has undoubtedly breathed new life into BRAFA, the Fair has also retained its essential values: quality, authenticity and eclecticism. Collectors will be able to explore the aisles where long-standing galleries and 18 new exhibitors will be displayed in a circuit that promotes discovery and a mix of styles.

This year, amongst other novelties, and faithful to its constant evolution, BRAFA will be welcoming the Galerie Kevorkian, specialised in the arts of the ancient East and Islamic Civilization, alongside twenty other specialties. 80 independent experts were invited prior to the opening to rigorously scan thousands of works.

Collectors will find objects from all over the world. As a Belgian fair, BRAFA boasts many pearls of Belgian art, including Samuel Van Hoegaerden, who will exhibit logograms by Christian Dotremont. Francis Maere will present a stand devoted to the sculptures and drawings of Eugene Dodeigne. The Collectors Gallery will exhibit a beautiful bracelet by Pol Bury, not to mention the two exceptional Paul Delvaux which can be admired at Stern Pissarro and De Jonckheere.

Not to be missed, the stand of Maruani Mercier, which represents this year's guest of honor, Arne Quinze, is entirely devoted to him and forms a kind of total work with paintings, drawings, and carpets by the artist.



BRAFA 2022 – stand 57 MARUANI MERCIER © Fabrice Debatty

BRAFA 2022 will also be a great opportunity to get to know the works of artists from outside Europe, including the Cameroonian artist Barthélémy Togo at Nosbaum Reding, the American artist Summer Wheat at Zidoun-Bossuyt Gallery and the American-Kenyan artist Wangechi Mutu at Galerie Boulakia.

Key works at BRAFA 2022

The Old Masters

Klaas Muller (stand 68) will be presenting a work of great moral power, *Portrait of a bearded man holding gloves* by Adriaen Thomasz Key, a sixteenth century Dutch artist, whose portraits are silent witnesses of the deep gravity and self-awareness which characterised the Dutch Renaissance.



Adriaen Thomasz Key (1544-1589)

Portrait of a bearded man holding gloves

At **De Jonckheere** (stand 14), discover *La Montée au Calvaire*, a biblical subject painted by Cornelis Massys (Antwerp, sixteenth century) and at **Costermans & Pelgrims de Bigard** (stand 104), a study of Christ by Anthony Van Dyck (1599-1641). Amongst the newcomers to this edition, the London gallery **Giammarco Cappuzzo Fine Art** (stand 19) will present paintings inspired by Caravaggio, including a superb Giuseppe Vermiglio, *The Sacrifice of Isaac*, 1615.

Modern and contemporary art



Paul Delvaux (1897-1994), *Pénélope*, 1946

Stern Pissarro Gallery (stand 105) presents this museum-quality work, which was produced in 1946 by the Belgian painter Paul Delvaux, and has recently been put on the market. The illustrious Penelope, a symbol of feminine virtue in Greek mythology, was painted during the most important period of his artistic production.

Also on display will be two “kite” works, that of Kazuo Shiraga at **Opera Gallery** (stand 84) and that of Yayoi Kusama at **Helene Bailly Gallery** (stand 64), both resulting from the same artistic project conceived by the German collector Paul Eubel, the former director of the Goethe Institute in Osaka, who was passionate about the Japanese kite tradition. After buying a washi paper in 1987, he became aware of the material’s potential and decided to send it to internationally renowned artists so that they could make works with it.



BRAFA 2022 – stand 64 Helene Bailly Gallery © Fabrice Debatty

Amongst the beautiful works by Hans Hartung present at the fair (**Galerie Hurtebize, Galerie Brame & Lorenceau, Galerie Boulakia, Galerie Fleury...**), we note a pretty little painting by this artist, *Untitled* (1957), ink and watercolour on paper, at the **galerie AB-BA** (stand 50). The **Alexis Pentcheff** gallery (stand 78) will be presenting an unusual work by André Masson, *Le fond de la mer (Hommage à Botticelli)*, 1937. For lovers of Miro, an exceptional gouache by the artist at **Galeria Jordi Pascual, Femmes et oiseaux, 1973 (stand 81).**

The **Cortesi Gallery** (stand 76) will be showing various works by Walter Leblanc, including one of his flagship works, *Twister Strings PRX9* (1977), cotton strings and white latex on cotton canvas, a three-phase programme on a single canvas, with rounded corners. At the **Oscar De Vos** gallery (stand 72), we note the essential painting from this specialist of the Latem school: an oil on canvas by Emile Claus, *Vue sur la Tamise*, 1918. As a prelude to the summer holidays, **Harold t'Kint de Roodenbeke** (stand 15) will be presenting a luminous George Lemmen, *Knokke-Heyst*, 1891.

In the field of extra-European contemporary art, discover the works of the Cameroonian artist Barthélémy Toguo at **Nosbaum Reding** (stand 109), a Luxembourg gallery with an address in Brussels that will be exhibiting at BRAFA for the first time. The delicate work of the American-Kenyan artist Wangechi Mutu at the **Galerie Boulakia** (stand 26), the Chilean artist Roberto Matta at **Die Galerie** (stand 55) and at **M.F. Toninelli Art Moderne** (stand 6), and the American artist Summer Wheat and the South African artist Neo Image Matloga, the 2 artists presented at **Zidoun-Bossuyt Gallery** (stand 77). A newcomer, this Luxembourg gallery, known for having introduced influential African-American artists to the Luxembourg scene, will also be exhibiting a great Jean-Michel Basquiat, *Untitled (Head)*, 1986.



BRAFA 2022 – stand 77 Zidoun-Bossuyt Gallery © Fabrice Debatty

Twentieth-century decorative art and design

The **Galerie Mathivet** (stand 2) will present a bronze torchlight, 1934, by Alberto Giacometti, considered to be one of his most beautiful achievements, and an imposing bronze sculpture-object, *Tortue Topiaire II*, 1992, by François-Xavier Lalanne (France, 1927-2008).

On the stand of the Austrian gallery **Florian Kolhammer** (stand 113), specialised in Jugendstil, art deco, design and furniture, discover an elegant display case from 1946 by Josef Frank, and Louis Poulsen external wall sconces in polished copper, circa 1966, by Poul Henningsen. **Axel Vervoordt** (stand 12) will display a refined chair by the Brazilian designer José Zanine Caldas in pequi wood, circa 1970.



BRAFA 2022 – stand 113 Florian Kolhammer © Fabrice Debatty

Sculpture

For this comeback edition, **Benjamin Proust Fine Art** (stand 45) will be presenting *Serenity*, a classic marble woman's head by the Polish sculptor Elie Nadelman, dated circa 1917 and inspired by ancient and Hellenistic sculpture. It was Karl Lagerfeld's favourite sculpture, one of the very few works of ancient art he kept until his death.

At **Xavier Eeckhout** (stand 44), discover a full-size patinated bronze alligator by Tofanari Sirio, which displays exceptional realism and production quality. **Univers du Bronze** (stand 70) will present another refined animal sculpture in original plaster retouched with wax, *Lion Dévorant un Sanglier*, circa 1874, which seduces by its remarkable power of execution by the hand of a great master, Antoine-Louis Barye (1795-1875). Finally, the **Gallery Desmet** (stand 27) will be exhibiting a crucifixion with a vanity in bronze, wood and alabaster from the early eighteenth century, Florence, attributed to Massimiliano Soldani Benzi (1656-1740)

Tribal art

As the centrepiece of its stand, **Montagut Gallery** (stand 80) will be presenting an exceptional Soninke statue, from the Dogon culture, Mali, thirteenth century.

A selection of "fetishes" from the Democratic Republic of Congo will also be on display, at **Didier Claes**. The exhibition "Nkisi" focuses on the beauty of these "force-objects" which, through the addition of

various elements, were magically charged and enabled access to their ritual function of divination and communication with the spirits. **Dalton Somaré** (stand 111) will present a very graphic portrait mask, Baule, Côte d'Ivoire, late nineteenth century, with traces of polychrome.

Archaeology

For its first participation at BRAFA, the **Galerie Kervorkian** (stand 16) will present, amongst others, a set of bronzes from Luristan (Iran). Most of them come from a single French collection, including a large and elegant ibex and feline pin from the beginning of the millennium BC.



BRAFA 2022 – stand 39 Galerie Kevorkian © Fabrice Debatty

Also to be discovered at the **Eberwein Gallery** (stand 39), a Greek head of Eros in marble of exceptional quality, late Hellenistic period, around the first century AD, from a private collection, and at **Cavagnis Lacerenza Fine Art** (stand 106), a beautiful Roman head, “Herm of Hercules,” dating from the Roman Empire, mid-second century BC.

Asian art

Amongst other wonders, the **Galerie Hioco** (booth #94) will present a remarkable monumental capital with figures of lions in pink sandstone, from Northern India, second century, Kushan period, from the Pinto collection, which is reminiscent of a similar centrepiece exhibited at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, as well as a bronze Buddha head from the Sukhothai Kingdom, Thailand, late fourteenth - early fifteenth century, from a private English collection.

On display at **Bertrand de Lavergne** (stand 3) is a set of Chinese jewellery in two-coloured tourmaline, agate, carnelian, aquamarine in the shape of a seal, rock crystal, black and white jade, sapphire root and a rare Guanyin in yellow enamelled porcelain, aubergine and green, China, last part of the Ming period, sixteenth century.

Antique furniture

Brun Fine Art (stand 85) will present a gilded wooden console with a *pietra dura* top representing a view of Prague, created in Naples around 1775.

On the stand of the **Galerie Theunissen & de Ghellinck** (stand 102), discover a small Japanese lacquered cabinet inlaid with mother-of-pearl, from the Edo period, eighteenth century.

Clocks

The **Costermans & Pelgrims de Bigard** gallery (stand 104) will feature a large gilt and patinated bronze morello marble pendulum by the Emperor's watchmaker, Lepaute, modelled by Louis Simon Boizot for the dealer Mercier Daguerre around 1805. It is a rare Louis XVI period model which was still produced during the Empire.

At **Artimo Fine Arts** (stand 114), discover a blue porcelain clock from Sèvres, with an enamelled dial by the greatest French enameller of the Louis XVI period.

Jewellery

Epoque Fine Jewels (stand 48) will be presenting Art Nouveau jewellery from Lalique and a jewel from its Spanish counterpart Luis Masriera. It is a pendant, dated 1909, representing a winged girl with flowers in her hair, in white, green and pink enamel, white pearl, rose-cut diamonds and 18 carat gold.

At the **Collectors Gallery** (stand 98), discover unique creations by former students from the École de Métiers d'art de Maredsous, including necklaces by the brightest amongst them, Claude Wesel, who worked for the studio Fernand Demaret. **Bernard Bouisset** (stand 36) will present a platinum ring decorated with a stepped sapphire of exceptional size, embellished with trapezoidal diamonds.

Ancient and modern books

The **librairie Lardanchet** (stand 93) will present a rare original edition of *Madame Bovary* by Gustave Flaubert. The edition contains a handwritten letter by Flaubert.

At **Jean-Claude Vrain** (stand 5), discover the book *Jazz* by Henri Matisse, Paris 1947, published by Tériade, first edition.

Drawings from the 15th to the 20th century

Galerie Alexis Bordes (stand 88) will present a beautiful drawing by Louis Léopold Boilly (1761-1845), *La jeune dessinatrice*, quill, black ink, grey wash and white highlights, from a private collection, France.

At **Klaas Muller** (stand 68), a drawing of a great technical execution by Jacob Jordaens (1593-1678) shows a study of a woman of profile, black line on red clay with white highlights.

Ancient and modern tapestries

De Wit Fine Tapestries (stand 4) will be presenting a remarkably well-conserved Brussels tapestry of wool and silk dating from 1530 with exceptional colours, illustrating the episode when King Solomon invited his mother Bathsheba to share the throne.

On the stand of **N. Vrouyr** (stand 46), next to an elegant carpet by Petag Tabriz (Iran), discover textiles with shimmering colours by Chinese minorities, including the ceremonial cover of the Dai, Yunnan province. The weavings, with their geometric lines and creative drawings, had an important influence on contemporary art. Finally, the **Galerie Latham** (stand 96), will be presenting an embroidered work by Annabelle d’Huart (France, 1952), *Black Sea Princess*, 2013.



BRAFA 2022 – stand 46 N. Vrouyr © Fabrice Debatty

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Belgian press contact & international coordination

Vanessa Polo Friz – v.polofriz@brafa.be

T. +32(0)2 513 48 31 – M. +32(0)473 250 179

www.brafa.art