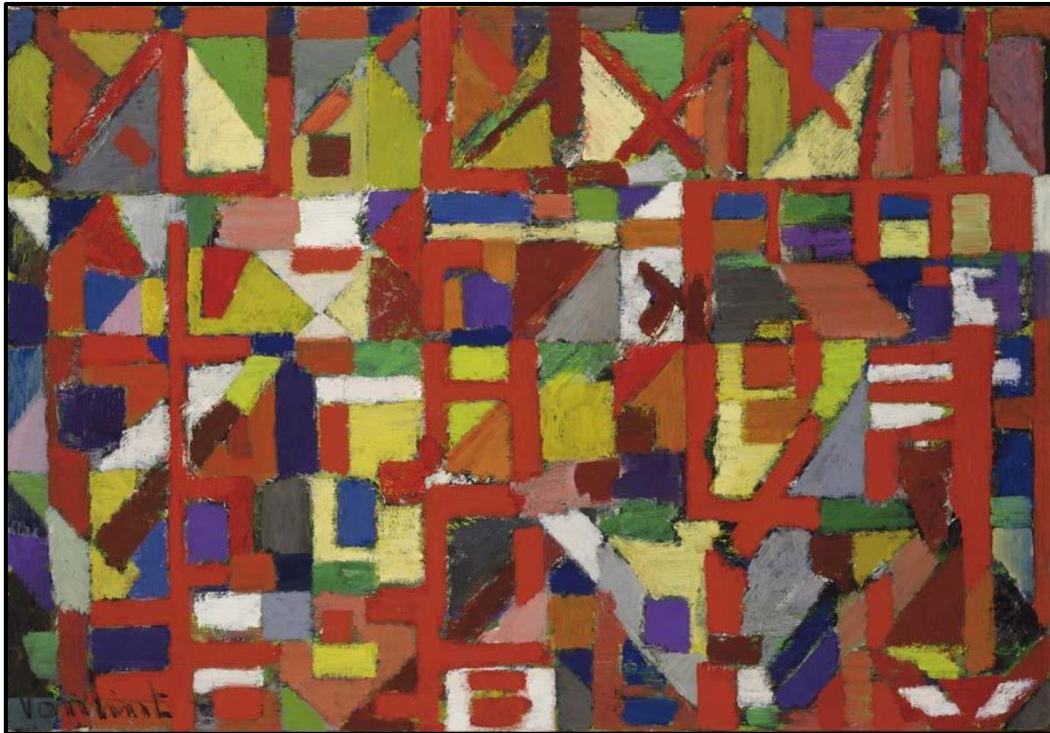


Brussels Art Walk, supported by BRAFA
Enthusiasm and the return of the art lovers



Harold t'Kint de Roodenbeke: Louis Van Lint, *Nieuport ensoleillé*, 1950

Press release – 21/02/2022

Art lovers travelled in droves to the **Brussels Art Walk, supported by BRAFA** to discover a selection of exceptional works presented by 37 BRAFA exhibitors, gathered in Brussels for the 4-day event. This circuit, as eclectic as BRAFA itself, was an invitation to travel through eras and styles.

Numerous sales

Sculptures, ancient, modern and contemporary paintings, installations, tapestries, porcelains, 18th and 19th century furniture, art deco, silverware: a wide variety of pieces were on display, and met with the enthusiasm of collectors, despite the unenviable weather conditions.

“It was a success,” says Harold t’Kint de Roodenbeke, the Chairman of BRAFA. *“We wanted to give galleries the opportunity to reconnect with their customers before they could meet at Brussels Expo in June for the Fair. The storm did not dampen the enthusiasm. Many visitors, both Belgian and foreign, came to encourage the initiative, and the sales followed.”*

Art lovers were delighted by the works on display. At the Sablon, on the day of the opening, Thursday, February 17th, an important 19th century mask from Lake Murik (Papua New Guinea) was sold by **Serge Schoffel**, a specialist in primitive arts. The **Collectors Gallery** sold a remarkable pendant by the American artist Louise Nevelson, whereas **Jean Lemaire**, who exhibited at the Maison

Costermans, found a buyer for his centrepiece; a rare vase in celadon porcelain from China (early Qianlong, circa 1740) with a gilt bronze mount (France, circa 1750-1755).



Serge Schoffel: Mask, Lake Murik area, Papua New Guinea, 19th century (1) – Jean Lemaire: celadon porcelain vase from China, circa 1740 (2)

The Parisian gallery **Univers du Bronze**, which had rented an exhibition space on rue Ernest Allard, sold an exceptional pair of candelabras by Antoine-Louis Barye (circa 1850).

In the avenue Louise district, at **Meessen De Clercq**, works by Nicolas Lamas, Benoît Platéus, Maarten Vanden Eynde and Clément Davout were acquired, and **Philippe d'Arschot**, specialised in European antique silverware dating from the 16th to the 18th centuries, made seven sales, including an 18th century perfume bottle which was acquired by a museum.

Associations appreciated by collectors

The dynamic of the **Brussels Art Walk, supported by BRAFA** was based on the exhibition of exceptional objects and works by Brussels dealers from BRAFA, as well as on the invitation of their non-Brussels and foreign colleagues to exhibit in Brussels in their galleries.

Xavier Eeckhout, a Parisian dealer, took up residence at the gallery of **Harold t'Kint de Roodenbeke** at the Sablon. A very positive experience that notably illustrates the mutual support between exhibitors. *“Given that Harold was my neighbour at BRAFA, I naturally accepted his invitation, especially since our pieces fit very well together. As a result, I met new clients and we shared our contacts. I am delighted with this initiative, it also allowed me to meet up with Belgian, Luxembourgish and Dutch collectors before BRAFA in June,”* said Xavier Eeckhout.

For its part, **Gallery Desmet** in the Sablon hosted the **Finch & Co Gallery** from London, specialised in Antiquities, ethnographica, natural history, sculpture and works of art. The Barcelona dealer **Montagut Gallery**, specialised in tribal art, was hosted by **didier Claes** near Avenue Louise.



Galerie Ary Jan and Galerie Mathivet at Costermans & Pelgrims de Bigard (1) – Klaas Muller (2) – Deletaille Gallery (3)

The Parisian galleries **Ary Jan** and **Mathivet** recreated the atmosphere of an apartment in a space provided by **Costermans & Pelgrims de Bigard**. Céline Mathivet explains: *“The association of our two galleries required each of us to look for coherent and harmonious pieces and in view of our success, it seems to have worked. We presented pieces by Franck Evennou in gilded bronze that brought warmth, placed on carpets by the Maison Leleu, surrounded by sculptures by François-Xavier Lalanne, dreamlike paintings by the Belgian artist Marcel Delmotte and portraits by Jean-Pierre Cassigneul, presented by the Galerie Ary Jan.”*

Brussels Art Walk: a thematic approach

Throughout the circuit, art lovers also had the opportunity to discover various thematic exhibitions such as that of the Ghanaian artist Kwesi Botchway: *Rumors of Blackness* at **MARUANI MERCIER**. On the topic of industry, the exhibition *Man-Made: Art & Industry in fin-de-siècle Belgium* by **Thomas Deprez Fine Arts** aroused great interest, as did Germaine Richier’s exhibition at the **Galerie de la Béraudière**. Aboriginal art was given pride of place at **Lin Deletaille** with the exhibition *Natures Mortes – Living Country: Tjanpi Desert Weavers & Michael Cook*. Finally, the *Inter Lineas* immersive installation by Carlos Cruz-Diez at **La Patinoire Royale | Galerie Valérie Bach** delighted the many visitors.

On the strength of this circuit of encounters and very positive exchanges, the exhibitors were able to unveil some of their acquisitions, as a prelude to **BRAFA 2022**, whose future looks bright.

BRAFA Art Fair from June 19th-26th, 2022, at Brussels Expo | Heysel

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MARUANI MERCIER: Kwesi Botchway, *Green Hair Swag*, 2021 (1) – Galerie de la Béraudière: Germaine Richier, *Le Couple peint*, 1956-1959 (2)

Organiser:

Foire des Antiquaires de Belgique asbl

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