

PRESS RELEASE

ANTICA NAMUR FOCUSES ON MODERNITY

Antica Namur, the biggest art fair in Belgium that is ranked amongst the European top, opens this autumn her doors from 9 until 17 November 2019. Antica Namur is the first event of the art market's calendar this season. The fair unites 135 top notch Belgian and international exhibitors. The important antique dealers are present at this not to miss meeting for collectors and art lovers.

ANTICA NAMUR AND THE NEW GENERATION

Also this year, Antica Namur attracts new young talent. The Belgian fair unites a new generation of antique dealers that is shaping the art market of tomorrow. Most of them have been trained in their home country, followed by a specialization abroad. These include Nathan Uzal, the sisters Raphaëlle and Ludivine Lassus, Sebastien Tercelin de Joigny, Georges Van Cauwenbergh (Artimo), Cédric and Stijn Moermans (Georgian Gallery), Nicolas Bourriaud, Tobias de Smedt, Adrien Denoyelle, Thomas Deprez, Simon de Harlez de Deulin, Romain Monluc, Rafael Zoï (Tobogan Antiques), Arnaud Jaspar & Cedric Pelgrins (Costermans), Laurent Hasaert & Alexis le Grelle, Laura Schmit (The old Treasury), Cyril Gaillard (Manuscripta), besides the young Italian gallery Alessandra Bardi (Dei Bardi art).

Antica Namur is a fair that can count on a lot of enthusiasm, and not just among the young galleries. The big European houses are also present. The fair is already sold-out a couple of months before its opening. It offers an excellent quality-price relation for antique dealers and gallerists who are on the look-out for collectors and art lovers. The fair gives access to 30.000 visitors including an important network of professionals from the sector. It is considered as a not to miss fair that functions as the first barometer of the season.

A BELGIAN FAIR THAT BECOMES MORE AND MORE INTERNATIONAL

Antica Namur's international development is guaranteed thanks to the presence of galleries from France, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Luxemburg and England. Antica enjoys an international reach that is more and more important as the fair stays a meeting place for antique dealers, a real 'fine art' fair with a reputation that goes beyond the borders thanks to the exhibitors' and visitors' international network.

France is represented by around thirty important galleries. Amongst them Galerie Ary Jan, Galerie Berès, Berger, Bernard Bouisset, Univers du Bronze, Martel Greiner, Jaegy Theoleyre, Pautot & Sugeres, Galerie Théorème and Nicolas Bourriaud and for the first time this year three new Parisian galleries: Monluc (furniture and XIXth century objects), Tobogan Antiques (Napoleon III) and gallery Marie Maxime (collection objects from mainly the 18th and beginning of 19th century).

Amongst the Belgians, there is also a section of 80 very prestigious galleries like Art & Patrimoine, Bernard De Leye, Gallery Desmet, Jan and Frederik Muller, Francis Janssens van der Maelen, Ming-k'i gallery, Galerie Lamy, La Maison Costermans, La Mésangère, Gallery de Potter d'Indoye, Leonhard's Gallery, Claeys Gallery, galerie Dus'Art, Raf Van Severen, Jacques Nève and K & G. van de Ven. Amongst the first participations, galleries Artimo Fine Arts (ancient marble) or the gallery association de Beukelaer & de Busschère.

The hall of Namur Expo, which covers more than 10.000 m², will get a special scenography for the occasion. The audience can discover all domains of ancient, modern and contemporary art. A committee of independent experts is available during the fair for all questions or a certificate of authenticity. Today, more than ever, the collectors are more eclectic and the art lovers more demanding. They are looking for information and authenticity.

The fair is animated with a programme of exclusive conferences. The City Namur, in partnership with the Fondation Roi Baudouin, proposes a selection of exclusive pieces from her museums.

PORTRAIT OF A YOUNG ANTIQUE DEALER, GEORGES VAN CAUWENBERGH, ARTIMO (SABLON, BRUSSELS)

Georges Van Cauwenbergh, 28 years old, is the youngest member of the chambre royale des Antiquaires et des Négociants en Art de Belgique. His desire to participate in the fair matches the gallery's ambitions to be active on a more international level.

Artimo was founded by the family Van Cauwenbergh in 1985, its seat is situated in the heart of the Sablon (33, rue Lebeau). In 2017, after a long restauration process, Artimo opens a second venue in a listed building in the same street, presenting a unique collection of marble sculptures of Belgian artists between 1800 and 1930. The family Van Cauwenbergh's love for art has been present since three generations, starting with the founder, Marcel, a Belgian post-war industrialist who is passionate about art. His son Luc was the brain behind the expansion of Artimo. Georges, the son of Luc and grandson of Marcel, and the current director of Artimo, continues the gallery's international network, hence reassuring the continuity of this passion. Artimo is specialised in buying and selling art works and collection objects, mainly sculptures and watches.

Regarding visual arts, the focus is on marble sculptures and sometimes bronze from the XIXth until the beginning of the XXth century. The offer of watches spans all periods. Thanks to Artimo's hard labour, many important pieces found their way to the biggest museum collections in the world, including the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam, the Patek Philippe museum in Geneva and many other specialized museums like the Observatoire Royal de Greenwich. Georges Van Cauwenbergh, the current director of Artimo, who studied at Solvay, works since almost 8 years in the family enterprise and is specialised in sculpture in white marble from Carrara from 1800 until 1930.

HIGHLIGHTS

Raf Van Severen is the specialist in painting. On his booth, visitors can discover a selection of paintings, mainly Belgian and French, covering various periods of modern art and various schools.

Raf Van Severen is fascinated by art and painting, a passion he inherited from his father, who lived in Congo and who was early on collecting Congolese art. One of the works that is presented at the fair, comes from

his collection. It is called 'Boxing' and was realised by Makuala Dingu. It dates from 1981 and translates the dynamics of a fight on canvas.

NF Art Gallery is specialized in Belgian painting and specifically in the period between 1900 and 1970. The gallery presents works by important Belgian artists like Léon Spilliaert, Paul Delvaux, Rik Wouters, Edgar Tytgat, Amédée Cortier, Georges Collignon, Reinhoud, Christian Dotremont, ... in combination with that of artists like Bram Bogart, Félix Labisse, Asger Jorn, Anton Rooskens, Lucebert, ... The work of the abstract painter Amédée Cortier was the subject of a real rediscovery the last couple of years. His «Composition in red and green» from 1963 is very representative of his oeuvre. This painting shows his remarkable use of colour which made him famous. On view is also «Pierre et le loup», a watercolour on paper from 1948 by Edgar Tytgat. This work is inspired by a piece by Serge Prokofiev from the 30s. It is characteristic for the narrative style of the artist.

Not to miss either is Pierre Alechinsky, one of the most important Belgian painters, who was a member of the famous Cobra movement and who is showcased by the **Belgian Gallery**, a gallery specialized in Belgian art at the end of the XIXth; beginning XXth century. The gallery also presents important contemporary artists.

Galleries de Beukelaer & de Busschère participate for the first time at Antica Namur and will show a fine selection of paintings.

NON-WESTERN ART

Non-western art is also presented at Antica Namur. **Ming-k'i Gallery** is specialized in Chinese and pre-Columbian art. The gallery presents an exceptional group of ten musicians and two dancers in coloured terracotta. This rare ensemble comes from China, from the province of Hebei or Henan, Dynastie des Qi du Nord (550 - 575 apr. J.C.).

Famarte Asian Art also shows an exceptional series of pieces. Like a Buddha and his four disciples, a Buddha head and a crowned Buddha.

Nohara Japanese Art is a gallery specialized in ancient Japanese art. It presents a unique series of figures of the Edo period (1603-1868) and the Meiji period (1868-1912). The first one represents a sitting Dutchman holding a fan. The second one a group of three boys making music. The gallery also proposes a beautifully decorated cabinet from the XIXth century.

COMICS AND JEWELS

Fans of comic books are at the right place at **Galerie Manuscripta**, a gallery specialized in manuscripts and signatures. On their stand at Antica Namur, collectors and art lovers can discover a selection of dedicated drawings by Hugo Pratt (Corto Malteste), André Franquin (Gaston) and Albert Uderzo (Asterix).

Jewels are also very well represented at the fair. It is even one of the strongholds, together with paintings and furniture. The gallery **The old Treasury** shows a brooch in 18 karat gold, realized by Georges L'Enfant for Hermès Paris. Also on view: a collection of earrings and ear clips by big names from the XXth century, like Leo de Vroomen, Chanel, Georg Jensen or Tiffany & Co.

The French antique dealer **Bernard Bouisset** is also specialized in jewels, but also in old watches.

FURNITURE

Furniture holds an important place in Antica Namur. The Luxemburg gallery **Antiques Trade Gallery** presents amongst others an exceptional cabinet decorated with wood and red marble from the beginning of the XVIIIth century. There is also a remarkable table from the XIXth century decorated with bronze.

At **Haesaerts-le Grelle**, the visitor is in the right place to discover furniture from the 40-60s, including some rare Belgian names.

Bie Baert, well known for her eclecticism, is also present this edition. Her booth unites a 'Elda lounge chair' from Joe Colombo, Eames chairs and a pair of 'puzzle tables' from Les Simonnet, a vintage chandelier and a very beautiful table in cedar.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

DATES AND HOURS

From 9 until 17 November 2019.

From Monday till Friday, from 2 PM until 7 PM.

Weekends from 11 AM until 7 PM.

ADDRESS

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2, avenue Sergent Vrithoff
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