

# Antiques Trade GAZETTE

THE ART AND ANTIQUES WEEKLY

115 SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, LONDON WC2H 8AD

PAGE 52

ANTIQUES TRADE GAZETTE, 11TH FEBRUARY 2006

## OVERSEAS EVENTS

# All-singing, all-dancing, it's the show with the glow

FAIR REPORT:  
THE WINTER ANTIQUES SHOW

AT 52 years old, the *Winter Antiques Show* is as fresh as ever. Enormous lights illuminated the façade of its setting, Park Avenue's Seventh Regiment Armory, for the January 19 vernissage which was packed with a record 2000 people.

**Arie Kopelman**, former chief executive of Chanel USA and show chairman for the past 12 years, has made things even more lively by adding 18 different events, including a museum curators' evening and even a whisky tasting.

With a number of fashion world figures, such as **Reed Krakoff**, Coach bag CEO, on the show committee, the opening night drew a glittering crowd. To top it all, a massive advertising campaign boosted attendance for the January 20-29 fair.

Four new dealers made the 74-dealer show an even more emphatic Americana event: from Manhattan came **Charles Pollak**, an Americana specialist, and **Alexander Gallery** with an eclectic mix of colonial and European paintings and case pieces; then there was **David Wheatcroft**, a Massachusetts dealer with painted furniture and folk art, and **Jan**

**Whitlock**, Delaware textiles specialist.

The loan exhibition of examples from Mount Vernon, our Founding Father's Virginia home, set a patriotic tone and that spilled over into the offerings as well as the sales. Sold immediately were a 2½in (6.3cm) miniature of George Washington for \$1.5m at Alexander Gallery, a Chinese Export porcelain platter from the Washington Memorial Service for \$135,000 at **Hirsch & Adler** and an Edward Hicks oil, *Peaceable Kingdom*, for over \$3m with Connecticut dealer **Jeffrey Tillou**. Collectors also zoomed in on Manhattan dealer **Graham Arader** with more than 40 engravings of the US's first President.

American painted furniture was also enormously popular, with strong sales at

**James and Nancy Glazer**, **Wheatcroft**, and **David Schrosch**.

Marine antiques dealer **Hyland Granby** of Massachusetts reported significant sales. On opening night he sold two scrimshaw teeth, each priced in six figures. An Antonio Jacobson oil of a steamer dated 1880 went to the Connecticut Griswold Inn and a Bellamy carved wooden eagle with the banner *The Lord is my Shepherd* sold for a six-figure price.

Philadelphia miniatures dealer **Elle Shushan** said: "It was a sensational show and, for the first time in years, I sold European pieces along with the American examples." In all, she sold 41 miniatures priced from \$400 to \$25,000.

Suddenly, the American Aesthetic



Rupert Wace Ancient Art reported 41 sales at the Winter Antiques Show in New York on January 20-29, including this 1069-715 BC Egyptian faience winged Isis pectoral priced at \$70,000 (£41,175). It measured 2½ x 5½in (6.4 x 13.2cm).

BY BROOK MASON

movement is a huge draw and **David Parker**, who heads up **Associated Artists** based on the Connecticut coast, witnessed a rise in sales. "My sales volume is up 25 per cent over last year," he said, having despatched a Philadelphia Gothic sideboard c.1880, Aesthetic stained glass lanterns c.1875 and an 1870 rosewood pedestal. He also had a number of pieces on reserve at six-figure prices.

But it wasn't only Americans buying back their heritage, Brits and Europeans bought furiously in a range of other specialties. London antiques dealer **Rupert Wace** reported his fifth *Winter Show* as his best ever, with 41 pieces leaving his stand.

Five sales were to UK collectors including an Egyptian faience winged Isis pectoral, pictured above and priced at \$70,000. Mr Wace also welcomed

Swiss buyers.

London arms and amour dealer **Peter Finer** made over 20 sales, including two gold-hilted, English presentation swords, one dating from 1795, the other from 1803; each made a six-figure price. "This is my best fair since the one immediately after 9/11," says Finer, who made a number of sales to UK buyers.

**Gordon Cooke** of London's **The Fine Art Society** also racked up banner sales. A painting by Harrington Mann, a Henry Moore drawing, Samuel Palmer prints and Whistler etchings, two Gothic Revival chairs by A.W.N. Pugin, as well as William de Morgan tiles and ruby lustre ceramics were all among the 30-plus sales he racked up.

Such heavy buying at most levels left dealers aglow. "The gate has been fantastic," beamed Hyland Granby, a tribute to the organisers' marketing efforts.