

JUNE 2016

mayfair times

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*Charlotte Olympia Dellal works her old-school glamour
PLUS: Property - Mayfair versus Manhattan
and an art special including Masterpiece London*



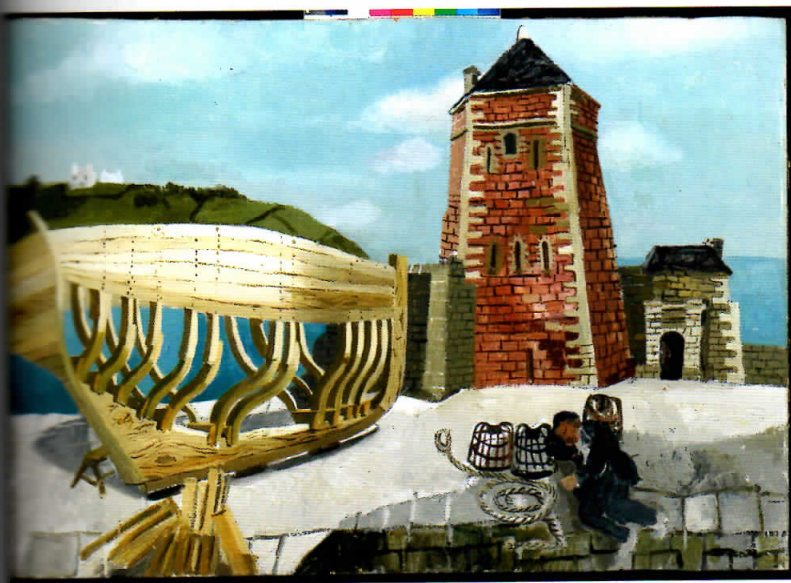
Tullio Crali, *Nose-Diving The City*
BELOW: Arnaldo Pomodoro, *Il Disco*
OPPOSITE TOP: Alighiero Boetti, *Mappa*, 1984
OPPOSITE BOTTOM: Christopher Wood, *The New Boat, Treboul*

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MASTERPIECE A MAYFAIR AFFAIR

We take a look at the Mayfair and St James's-based newcomers to the 2016 edition of Masterpiece, the art, antiques and design fair, which runs from June 30 to July 6, hosting 150 galleries and showcasing works spanning more than 5,000 years. This year Italian and British art is making its mark. By Lorna Davies





MASTERPIECE may take place in Chelsea – mainly because of the sheer size of the fair – but with some 52 out of the 150 exhibitors harking from our streets, it’s a distinctly Mayfair affair. Ursula Casamonti, director of Tornabuoni Art’s Albemarle Street gallery, says the breadth of Masterpiece attracted them to exhibit there for the first time this year.

“Because the fair spans several centuries of art, it gives us the opportunity to exhibit different types. We will be exhibiting a selection of works by Italian post-war masters such as Lucio Fontana, Alighiero Boetti and Alberto Burri but also earlier works by Giorgio de Chirico and Marino Marini,” she says.

In addition, Masterpiece’s main sponsor, the Royal Bank of Canada, has chosen a work by the young Italian artist Francesca Pasquali, whom Tornabuoni represents, for its 5th plinth project at Masterpiece, which will explore the theme of Women in Art.

Repetto Gallery (which exhibits modern and contemporary Italian art) is another newcomer. The Bruton Street gallery does eight fairs a year, and its most successful is the Armory show in New York. It decided to join Masterpiece this year after seeing the quality of works and visitors. “We believed our gallery presence was essential,” gallery director Saverio Repetto tells me.

“We will exhibit a selection of Arte Povera works, with Giulio Paolini, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Pier Paolo Calzolari and

Alighiero Boetti, together with works on paper by Giorgio Morandi and Fausto Melotti.”

Continuing with the Italian theme, Bond Street’s M&L Fine Art is also joining Masterpiece for the first time, bringing a selection of the modern and contemporary Italian art that it specialises in, such as Carla Accardi, Mario Ballocco, Agnosto Bonalumi and Fontana. One highlight is the Disco sculpture by Arnaldo Pomodoro.

“Over the past few years, Masterpiece has successfully established itself as a major event of London’s summer arts season, a must-attend international event,” says gallery manager Tatiana Boré. “The environment and atmosphere of Masterpiece is very friendly and glamorous, offering great opportunities to develop personal contacts, answer questions and share views on the evolution and trends of the art market.”



“We didn’t exhibit the first year of the fair, but I knew within 30 seconds of walking in on that first day that [Masterpiece] had the right ingredients for success”

This year, Masterpiece is on at the same time as London Art Week (LAW, July 1-8), which presents an opportunity for collectors to pack their schedule with Mayfair-based galleries. M&L is taking part in LAW, presenting a solo show on Salvatore Scarpitta’s artistic development from 1958 to 1968 – the first solo exhibition of his mixed media and flat art work in London.

Also taking advantage of the two events’ dual timings is St James’s Place gallery Agnew’s, the 199-year-old gallery owned by the same family until 2014, when former Christie’s old master head Lord Anthony Crichton-Stuart took over. Another newcomer

to Masterpiece, the gallery is also taking part in LAW, highlighting a recently discovered *Crucifixion* circa 1423 by the highly important Florentine artist Paolo Uccello, placing it in its art historical context and as an important early work within the artist’s oeuvre.

Also new to Masterpiece this year and taking part in LAW is St James’s Stephen Ongpin, which decided to exhibit to ensure enough space is given to the gallery’s show on 19th and 20th-century sketches.

At the Mason’s Yard gallery, the exhibition will include “drawings that I have been assembling over the past two or three years, including a number of works sourced from private collections, and all of the works will be for sale,” says Stephen Ongpin.

Artists include Frank Auerbach, Eugène Boudin, Paul Cézanne, Edgar Degas and Gustav Klimt.

At Masterpiece, Ongpin will be showing a selection of other works, including drawings and oil sketches by Pierre Bonnard, Mary Cassatt, Degas, Raoul Dufy, Lucian Freud, Egon Schiele and Graham Sutherland, among others.

This is the first fair that Patrick Bourne and Company has participated in, as the business itself is only two years old. Founder Bourne knows the fair well from his days running The Fine Art Society (FAS).