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## THE INTERVIEW: WITH ANTIQUE YOUNG GUN JAMES GOOCH

**When did you start dealing in antiques?**

In 2009, I left a good job at lovefilm.com and took some time out working in a farm shop until I realised what I wanted to do. I invested my Grandmothers legacy, which wasn't a lot, to start Doe & Hope.

**What inspired you to become an antique dealer?**

The invisible that lurks behind every good object.

**What was your first ever job?**

I worked in my fathers oriental carpet warehouse as a porter which was tough physically!

**What is your favourite thing about the industry?**

It is an art form and the best dealers are essentially artists. And, no, not just piss artists.

**What is your greatest achievement?**

I think establishing Doe and Hope as a respectable name in the trade inside 6 years is good but I hope my greatest achievement is still to come.

**If you weren't an antique dealer, what would you be doing?**

I'd still be in the television or film business in some capacity I'd imagine which I'd worked in and studied for years. I think decorative dealing is akin to set design and I try to approach it as art directing.

**What is your most treasured possession?**

Probably my wedding ring, which is an early 18th century gold posy ring with a nice inscription of 'I LYKE MY CHOYCE' on the inner band. I am keen on posy rings as I like the fact you can't see the inscriptions.

**Who would you invite to your dream dinner party?**

I actually have a list that I have stored in my phone for some time of people I'd like to have at a dinner party – it's a clash of morons and interesting types which would make for good foolery. It's a long list of about 20 names but it includes Sacha Baron Cohen, Harry Hill, Lars von Trier, Erwin Wurm, JRR Tolkien, and Daniel Day Lewis.

**If you could go back in time, which era would you chose to live in?**

This is really tough. My heart says medieval but then I'd be dead within a few years so the head says regency. At least then I could die of gout rather than smallpox.

**Where do you see yourself in 5 years time?**

I would hope to be in larger premises and be at the top of my game by then. More money more problems.

[www.doeandhope.com](http://www.doeandhope.com)

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