

international events

Warming to the vibrancy of the New York City winter

FOR much of the next month the art market spotlight is trained on North America – first in New York before moving south to Florida.

With sub-zero temperatures the norm, January in New York can be cruel, but it is at this time of year that the city's art and antiques scene is at its most vibrant. For that reason a post-Christmas trip to the Big Apple has become a yearly pilgrimage for many international dealers and collectors who contribute to the glut of fairs, exhibitions and auctions while London is still working off its turkey belly.

The venerable *Winter Antiques Show*, now celebrating its 61st staging, was the original fulcrum for this shift stateside but gradually a whole series of events have sprung up in the Big Apple in January. They range from the specialist coin event, *The New York International Numismatic Convention* (held this year from January 3-11), through Americana auctions to Old Masters centred upon specialist auctions and the annual *Master Drawings New York* initiative.

Plenty to see then, for those planning a visit, and here ANNA BRADY and ANNE CRANE preview a selection of highlights that will be on sale on the other side of the Atlantic over the next few weeks.

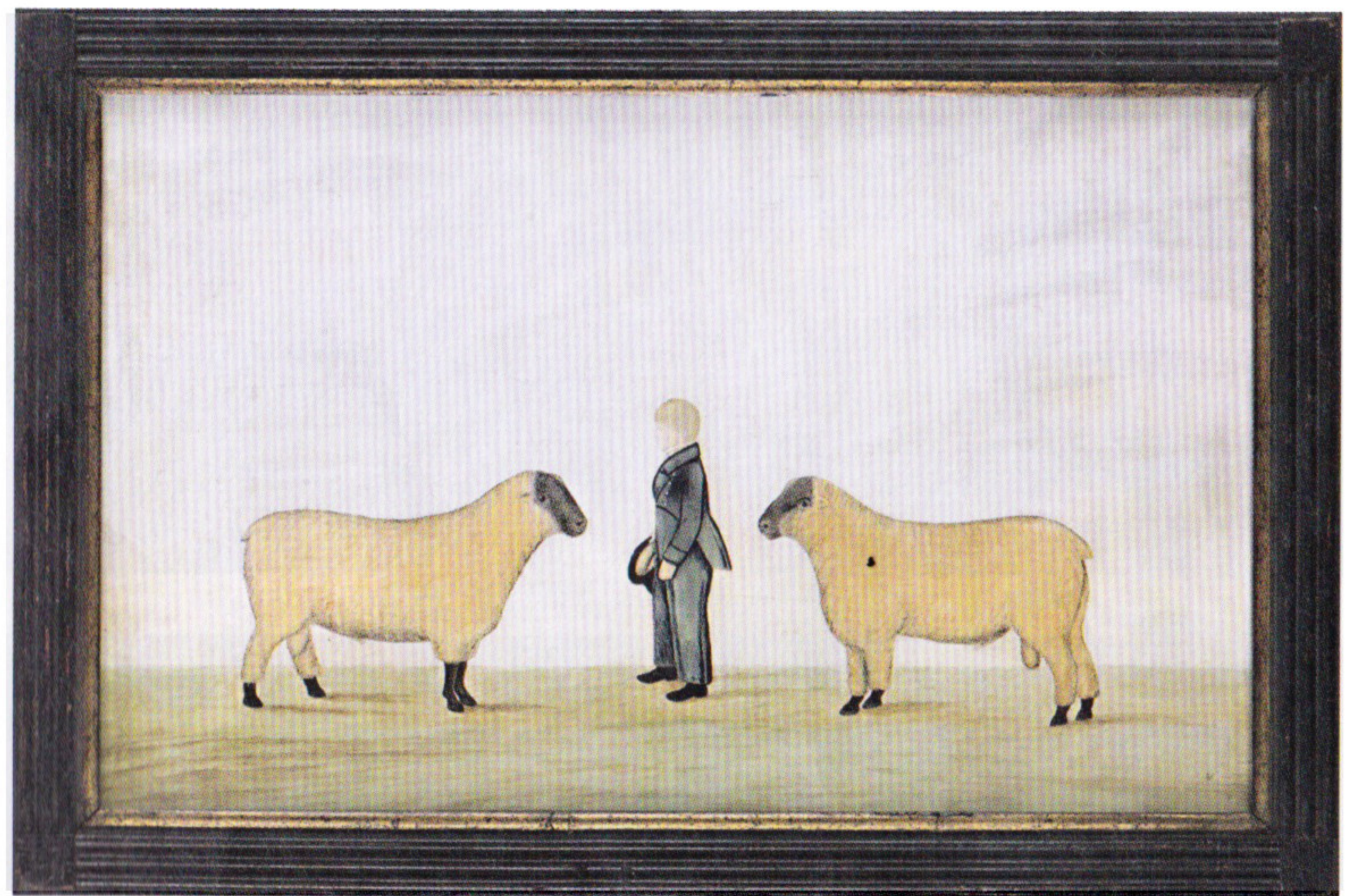


Above: browsing at the Metro Show – this year renamed Metro Curates (January 22-25) – see page 42 for more information

Right: for 15 years, London folk art dealer **Robert Young** has exhibited at WAS. This year he brings this c.1830 English naive school pencil and watercolour drawing of a *Boy Flanked by Two Rams*, in its original frame. Measuring 16½in x 2ft (42 x 61cm), it is priced at \$7500.

Below centre: Throckmorton Fine Art. New York based specialists in pre-Columbian art, exhibit at WAS for the 29th time this year. This Mayan polychrome ceramic vessel with dog effigy, c.600-900, is priced at \$25,000.

Below: Didier. London-based specialists in artist-designed jewellery, will feature this 1950s gilt bronze necklace by Ibram Lassaw, *Bosom Sculpture*, priced at £22,500.



THE WINTER ANTIQUES SHOW

Now in its 61st year, *The Winter Antiques Show* needs little introduction as North America's oldest antiques fair. It is a New York institution and – with America's rich flying in for the occasion – the original force for the annual January migration stateside.

Although at 73 exhibitors it is not a huge event by today's standards, entry is by invitation only and rumour has it there is a substantial waiting list to take part.

The 2015 event runs from January 23-February 1 in its habitual venue, the Park Avenue Armory in the heart of the Upper East Side, with the opening night party on the evening of January 22 thronging with New York society.

Although an international event, the fair is still dominated by American dealers and there is a clear bias towards Americana, but a significant number of top-level European galleries also participate.

The mix includes English, European, and Asian fine and decorative arts and jewellery from antiquity through to the post-War era. There's a strict cut off of 1969 for most objects, extended to 1979 for those items seen by the vetting committee as of "exceptional merit", however recent years have seen the arrival of more 'on-trend' modern and mid-century exhibitors.

Notably, the 2015 fair welcomes a cluster of six, well-established British based dealers in traditional fields. Three period furniture dealers, Apter-Fredericks, Thomas Coulborn & Sons Ltd and Ronald Phillips are joined by H. Blairman & Sons, specialists in English furniture and decorative arts; 19th and 20th century sculpture gallery Bowman Sculpture, and Daniel Crouch Rare Books with atlases and maps.

Added to this are three new American dealers: Conner Rosenkranz with American sculpture; American folk art dealer Kelly Kinzle, and Americana firm Bernard & S. Dean Levy.

As usual, all net proceeds from the Show benefit East Side House Settlement, helping underprivileged residents in the South Bronx. This year's loan exhibition is titled *Ahead of the Curve: The Newark Museum 1909-2015*.

www.WinterAntiquesShow.com

