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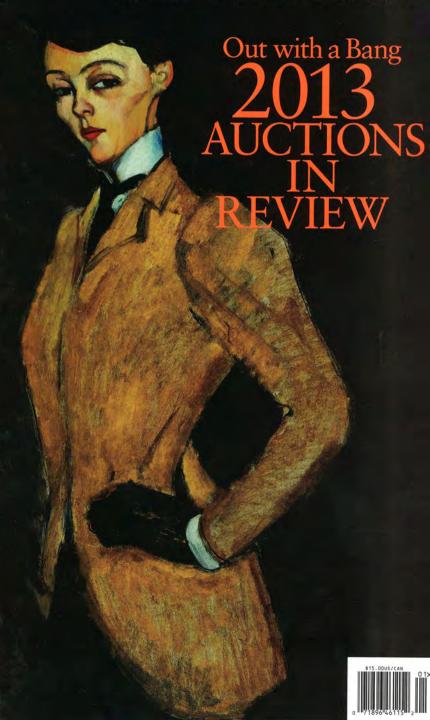
BRONZE ALLY
AT HOME WITH
J. TOMILSON HILL

Cartier's Deco Heritage

COLLECTIBLE CARS ZOOM TO NEW HIGHS

Winter Antiques Show

Mikhail
Piotrovsky
on the
Hermitage's
Future





At a time when all periods are in vogue, mixing styles has become the focus of the Winter Antiques Show, which for its 60th year hosts such galleries as that of Robert Young, who is bringing this English copper weather vane from ca. 1850.

"People are beginning to understand that a room doesn't have to be a purist statement—of English country, 18th-century French, or even contemporary," says Arie Kopelman, chairman of the Winter Antiques Show, which will celebrate its Diamond Jubilee when it opens January 24 at the Park Avenue Armory. Of particular interest to Kopelman, a 20-year veteran of the fair, are folk art pieces from London dealer Robert Young, who is bringing a 19th-century French horse-and-rider figure and a British weather vane in the form of a ship, and the whimsical 17th- and 18th-century Delft puzzle jugs tendered by Robert Aronson of Amsterdam. "With their perforated necks and









divergent spouts, the wine and ale jugs provided endless amusement for guests as they tried to drink without spilling a drop," says Aronson, whose nine outstanding examples range from \$16,000 to \$25,000. For those inclined toward modernism, Maison Gerard has installed Jean Dunand's 1928 lacquered breakfast room from the San Francisco residence of explorer Charles Templeton-Crocker (on offer for \$750,000), while Peter Pap tempts buyers with a late-19th century Persian Serapi for \$55,000. "Because there aren't any dealers in New York focusing on great village and nomadic rugs," explains Pap, "our collection is always greeted with a lot of enthusiasm." With such variety on view, Kopelman concludes, "It is all about creating a dynamic mix of really great things." -ANGELA M.H. SCHUSTER

Other finds at the Winter Antiques Show include, from left: <u>Jean Dunand</u>'s lacquered 1928 room at Maison Gerard; <u>Lillian Bassman</u>'s 1949 <u>Fantasy on the Dance Floor</u>, \$12,500 at Peter Fetterman; a late 19th-century Persian Serapi rug being brought by Peter Pap; and Cantonese <u>Spollum's Portratt of a Western Merchant in a Chinese Landscape oil</u>, 1774, at the booth of Martyn Gregory.



NEW YORK

30

PATRIOT ACTS

There's no such thing as a

for collectors of Americana,

post-Christmas slump

especially at this year's
January sales. Christie's
leads off with Colonial silver
on January 23, offering some 30
examples from the collection of Eric
Martin Wunsch. Highlights include
a 1690 communal drinking bowl made
for a New York Dutch patron by
Cornelius van der Burgh and a pair
of Paul Revere sauce boats created
for Revere's Boston compatriot Moses
Michael Hayes. Both lots are estimated
at \$150,000 to \$250,000. "Wunsch was
a skilled collector," says head of sale
Jennifer Pitman. "We're very lucky to

have these-Colonial silver doesn't grow on trees." Wunsch's eye also figures in the house's American furniture sale on the following day, when it's hoped that a Pennsylvania scallop-top tea table once shown in a 1929 Girl Scouts Loan Exhibition will fetch \$800,000 to S1.2 million. "We're big-game hunting," says senior specialist Andrew Holter of the piece. On January 25, Sotheby's presents Visual Grace: Important American Folk Art from the Collection of Ralph O. Esmerian. "It's a collection we've known about for a long time," says Nancy Druckman, director of folk art at Sotheby's. Among the 200 or so lots are the 1825-35 Fireboard with View of Boston Harbor, above. estimated at \$250,000 to \$350,000, and Wilhelm Schimmel's Lion, circa 1860-90, at left. -DEBORAH WILK

LOS ANGELES

Left Coast Leaning

Despite urban sprawl and the 405's choke hold on traffic, two fairs make a case for the City of Angels as a stop on the annual art world circuit. First, the 19-year-old LA Art Show expands with the launch of a sister event, the Los Angeles Jewelry & Antique Show, January 15-19 at the Los Angeles Convention Center, featuring pieces such as Marc Chagall's Les fleurs rouges, 1973, below, at Denis Bloch Fine Art. "It made sense to bring this component to our show," says producer Kim Martindale; "connoisseurs collect across all categories." Next up is the fifth edition of Art Los Angeles Contemporary, January 30 through February 2. Director Tim Fleming admits that "the physical landscape of L.A. is one of our greatest challenges." The event,



featuring work made in the last five years, plays host both to local and out-of-town dealers—60 percent of the exhibitors, including Josh Lilley of London and Clifton Benevenuto of New York—as well as collectors. -pw

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