

**ART REVIEW**

# *Multifaceted Antiques Show Only Burnished by Adversity*

## 48th Annual Winter Antiques Show

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By ROBERTA SMITH

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At Robert Young Antiques, a London dealer of European folk art and another first-timer, there are two outstanding painted marriage chests. One is a two-door cupboard from northern Austria on which delicate trompe l'oeil plaques painted with flowers are surrounded by dark green marbleizing so clunky it creates a forestlike mass.

The other is a truly ravishing painted chest from Jersey

in the Channel Islands, with cabriole legs and tulip and rose motifs in pale red and blue finished with feathery white lines. It will make you think of French peasant furniture as well as Pennsylvania German decoration, but its similarities to certain early 18th-century Connecticut chests attributed to a Jersey immigrant named Charles Guillaume have especially intrigued scholars.

The Young booth is among several where every object on display reward scrutiny

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# The Arts

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**The New York Times**