

CRITIC'S NOTEBOOK

Worlds Within Worlds Mix It Up at the Winter Show

The venerable fair may have changed its name, but it has not forsaken its passion for quality.

Painted Furniture

If painted furniture is one of your failings, visit [Robert Young](#) to see an 1814 English wedding cabinet painted bright yellow with red flowers and vases. Outstanding at [Thistlethwaite Americana](#) is a small bureau, brushed, sponged and combed to resemble wood grain, only more voluptuous. [David A. Schorsch-Eileen M. Smiles](#), whose array of folk art and folk furniture is among the show's best, has a lift-top chest with black on dark green that exaggerates grain painting to the point of landscape. Equally strong: a pair of meticulous watercolor portraits by Dr. Samuel Addison Shute. Man and wife are seen with brushy sky-blue backgrounds that are themselves distinctly contemporary.

The New York Times