international events



Above: Mullany bring their usual mix of early sculpture and other Haute Epoque objects to BRAFA, including a rare 15th century limestone Virgin of the Intercession from Burgundy, a 15th century Flemish bronze lavabo and this 22in (56cm) high carved limewood figure of Anna Selbdritt from Swabia c.1520, bearing traces of the original polychrome and gilt, which is priced at €38.000



Above: combining the attractions of antiquities and tribal art, this terracotta figure of a goddess from the Niger delta (now Mali) dated to the 13th-15th century will be taken to BRAFA by Dartevelle & Co of Brussels. The fully intact figure stands 22in (56cm) high and is probably from the old capital of the Mande empire, Jene-Jeno. It is priced at around

BRAFA breezes into Brussels for the first big fair of 2013

RRΔFΔ

It is to Brussels that collectors and afficionados go in mid-January for Europe's first big international art and antiques fair of the year: the BRAFA (Brussels Fine Art and Antiques Fair).

This year's staging, the 58th, runs from January 19-27 and will field no fewer than 128 galleries in the expansive space of the Tour & Taxis exhibition area, a former industrial site on the edge of town that has been its home for the past

For the latest staging the venue will be set out with a decor inspired by Byzantine architecture.

Exhibitors from 12 different countries participate in the event, but the majority come from the home country (53) or from France (principally Paris), which will field a similar number.

Traditionally the strength of this fair has been early European works of art and furnishings, what is termed Haute Epoque, alongside Old Masters. However, although these still have a strong representation, the fair has expanded into other disciplines, notably antiquities with nine exhibitors, tribal and Asian art, as well as Art Nouveau and Deco and Modern Art.

Manuscripts are also making an appearance this year as a special section with exhibitors **Signatures** and the Librarie Thomas Scheler from Paris, Sanderus Antiquariaat from Ghent and a selection of works from the members of the Belgian Professional Chamber of Antiquarian Booksellers.

Five dealers from the UK are standing at BRAFA, all of them returning exhibitors: Whitford Fine Art, Finch & Co, Aktis Gallery, Gallery 88 and Mullany

www.brafa.be

WINTER SABLON

While BRAFA draws in the visitors from Belgium and further afield to the Tour & Taxis, the network of galleries concentrated around the Sablon district of Brussels will also be in action holding the third edition of the Winter Sablon.

Timed to coincide with BRAFA, from January 16-20 the Sablon event, organised by BRUNEAF, sees more than 40 galleries mount an open-house trail around the galleries in the rues des Minimes, Watteau, Ernest Allard, Impasse St Jacques and other small streets around the Place du Grand Sablon.

Sablon's resident galleries open their doors to visitors to show a mix of antiquities tribal and Oriental art, and to boost the display and enrich the mix, they have also invited some guest exhibitors from other countries to share their space and show selections of their stock.

For further information see www.winterbsablon.com

Anne Crane



Left: Harold d'Kint de Roodenbeke of Brussels will be taking this polychrome composition by Serge Poliakoff (1900-69) to BRAFA this month. The 2ft x 20in (61 x 50cm) oil on canvas which has a provenance to the Galerie Di Meo, Paris, and the Scalabrini Collection, Milan, is priced in the region of €150,000.



Above: the Khawam Brothers from Paris will participate at the Winter Sablon showing a selection of works at the Boon Gallery at 24 rue des Minimes, including this limestone Egyptian Ptolemaic period 4¾in (12cm) high crowned head of Osiris priced at €60,000



Above: Tao Kerefoff will be exhibiting at Galerie Bruno Couck at 13 rue Watteau during the Winter Sablon and among the pieces he is taking will be this Ibibio mask from Nigeria, which has a provenance to the Simone de Montbrison, George Frederick Keller and Paolo Morigi collections. It will be priced in the region of €9000.



Above: this 13in (33cm) high Senufo Mask from the Ivory Coast, which has a provenance to Hélène Leloup, Paris, will be shown by at the Winter Sablon by Galerie Joachim Pecci at 38 rue des Minimes priced at €25,000.



Above: Treasuregate – an antiquities specialist at 25 rue des Minimes – will feature this Egyptian alabaster and basalt headrest of late Old Kingdom date, which has a pre-1980s provenance to a Belgian collection, during the Winter Sablon. They will be asking in the region of €16,500.