



WHAT'S HOT!

French secretary, circa 1765.



Georg Jensen silver fish dishes, 1930s.



Marble Oiseau armchair by the Lalannes.



1940s lacquer cabinet by Ramsay.

Treasure Trove

This month's International Fine Art & Antique Dealers Show brings the best of everything to Manhattan

Antiques-and-art fairs can be as informative as museums, but even more compelling, since they hold out the possibility—if only theoretical—of being able to bring something extraordinary home. And the best ones not only stoke our desires, they tend to inspire new ones.

The International Fine Art & Antique Dealers Show, at Manhattan's Park Avenue Armory, is definitely one of the world's best. The 22nd annual iteration, produced by Anna and Brian Haughton, is on view October 22–28 (its opening-night celebration on October 21 benefits the Society of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center). The fair features 62 dealers from around the globe showcasing their finest treasures, objects that range in provenance from ancient Egypt to contemporary Paris. And the dealers often create elaborate and striking settings, which only heightens the intrigue.

Even a strict minimalist, for example, might develop a new appreciation for silver after spotting a pair of sleek 1930s Georg Jensen fish dishes at the booth of the Silver Fund. The sumptuous yet restrained geometry of a Louis XVI marquetry chest that Ritter Antik is bringing could win over the most dedicated fan of French furniture of the 1940s. It's not hard to imagine the ceramics at Kagedo



Italian marble bust, circa 1790.

George I mirror, 1727.



Byzantine limestone roundel, 6th century.



Etruscan bronze horse, circa 500 B.C.

Japanese Art enticing a collector of midcentury Scandinavian pieces. And those who love stark white rooms could succumb to the subtle opulence and curves of a pair of George I gilt mirrors at Ronald Phillips.

Decorator Jamie Drake is a longtime fan of the event. "I always find the fair exciting," he says. "It has the broadest range of any of the New York shows. Last year I came across the most madly curvaceous, wildly sexy rosewood armchair with brass inlay. It is French, circa 1840, but has a rather Victorian personality, a period I generally steer clear of. But I was seduced by its romantic mien, as was my client. She bought it on the spot!" **MICHAEL BOODRO**