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January will soon be here, and with it BRAFA once again marks the arrival of the New Year's art market...

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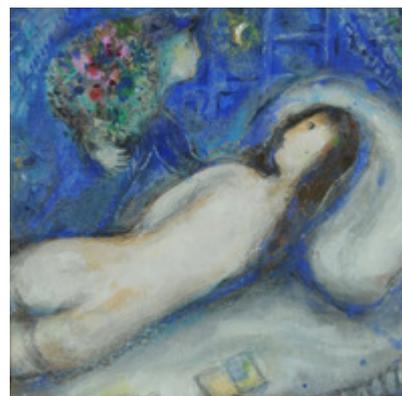


Sleeping child. Marble. Inscription LUGD on base for Lugdunum, Lyon in Latin. Lyon, France, late 17th-early 18th century. H 38 x W 85 cm.

(DePauw - Muller)

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A tradition that goes back more than 50 years – each January, Brussels hosts the [Brussels Antiques & Fine Arts Fair \(BRAFA\)](#) and for a highly anticipated ten day period becomes the European capital of the arts. From 21st to 30th January, 130 of Belgium's finest galleries are joined by a selection of top international dealers to take their place in the magnificent setting of the Tour & Taxis exhibition yard, vying in elegance and beauty to present their most outstanding pieces for visitors. The Museum Mayer van den Bergh, from Antwerp, the guest of honour at this 56th fair, will be exhibiting a selection of masterpieces from its collection.



An event that has won recognition and admiration.

Each year BRAFA becomes a stronger player in the international circle of major events. Its bold 2004 move to the massive, superb halls of the old Tour & Taxis marshalling yard, its warm welcome for exhibitors from other countries and its constant striving to raise the quality standards of the fair are all factors which have helped it to earn its position on the international scene and make its voice heard and respected among events held in Paris, Maastricht, New York and London.

The 130 confirmed exhibitors at this year's fair will help to reinforce still further its reputation for excellence, eclecticism, and conviviality.

Prestigious new names

The Asiatic arts will be reinforced by the arrival of **Christian Deydier** and **Jacques Barrère** (Paris). Furniture and objets d'art are joined by **Steinitz**, **François Hayem**, **Alain Marcelpoil**, **Michel-Guy Chadelaud** (Paris), and **Dr Tilman Roatzsch**. In the field of the primal arts, one of BRAFA's traditional strengths, the arrival of **Adrian Schlag** (Brussels), **Nasser & Co** (New York, USA) and **Schoffel-Valluet** (Paris) will increase this important field to eight exhibitors.

This year paintings, drawings, and sculptures will be boosted by the participation of **Francis Carrette** (Brussels), **Grippaldi** (Monaco), **Vincent Lecuyer** and **Tamenaga** (Paris). 20th Century art and design is consolidated by the arrival of **David Lévy & Associés** (Paris – paintings and drawings), **Mathivet** (Paris – French Art Déco), **Whitford Fine Art** (London, UK – modern and cubist painters), and **Marcilhac** (Paris – decorative arts). Numismatics fans will be pleased to welcome back **Tradart** (Brussels), and silverware lovers will be happy to see **Dario Ghio** (Monaco) again. Finally, after a resounding first appearance in 2010, comic books are taking another stride forward with **Galerie 9ème Art** (Paris) and **Champaka** (Brussels).

Much anticipated regulars include the great Belgian names who form the backbone of the event, current president **Bernard De Leye**, **Axel Vervoordt**, **Ronny Van de Velde**, **Berko Fine Paintings**, **Epoque Fine Jewels**, **Vrouyr**, and **De Wit Fine Tapestries**. The fair will once more play host to highly prestigious international galleries **Bérès**, **Jean-Jacques Dutko**, **Mermoz**, **Bernard Dulon**, **Tanakaya** (Paris), **Phoenix Ancient Art** (Geneva / New York) as well as **Ludorff** (Dusseldorf), and **Mayoral** (Barcelona).

Half-way between these two categories, the Belgo-French **De Jonckheere** gallery will be heading the category of Old Masters, alongside **Florence de Voldère**, **Jacques Leegenhoek**, **Galerie Mendes** (Paris), **Dr Riedl** (Munich), and new participants **Theotokopoulos**, **Antiquedades Linares** (Madrid), and **Galerie Barrez** (Paris).

BRAFA always seeks to provide diversity and every field from antiquities, antique jewellery, curiosities, ceramics, china and porcelain, engravings, old and modern paintings, carpets and

An offering to the nude, circa 1956, by Marc Chagall (Vitebsk 1887-1985 Saint-Paul de Vence). Indian ink wash, gouache, indian ink, charcoal, and coloured pencils and pencil on paper, wood panel backing, 42.7 x 43.5 cm. Signed lower left. Certificate by the Comité Marc Chagall (*Galerie Tamenaga*)



René Lalique (Ay, Marne 1860-1945 Paris) Art Nouveau 'Wood anemones' pendant, circa 1900. 18 ct gold, 'plique à jour' enamel, blue enamelled glass and diamonds. Signed: Lalique. Extraordinary pendant, unknown until today in the oeuvre of René Lalique. Provenance: directly purchased in 1903 by the Dutch Consul in Russia from Lalique at an exhibition of his work in St. Petersburg. A pendant of similar design is part of the Lalique collection at the Calouste Gulbenkian Museum in Lisbon. (*Epoque Fine Jewels*)

tapestries, books ancient and modern, numismatics, to contemporary art will be represented in its highest form.

The guest of honour – the Museum Mayer van den Bergh

BRAFA is keen to promote the heritage of Belgian museums, and this year has invited the Museum Mayer van den Bergh of Antwerp, which has a rich art collection acquired by Fritz Mayer van den Bergh at the end of the 19th century, to form its own exhibition within the fair. A selection of some twenty outstanding works, including paintings, ancient sculptures, gold and silverware will be on display.

Sober, inspired decoration

The design for the fair, sophisticated and elegant as ever, will once again be in the hands of the talented Volume Architecture, with graphic decoration evoking the baroque style of the 17th Century and drawing on themes from Land Art. The highlight will be the fully redesigned entrance with a new grandeur befitting the event.

Reception more elegant than ever

Finally, to enhance the fair experience for the growing numbers coming from abroad, BRAFA will provide an improved reception facility in partnership with the Le Plaza hotel. Featuring a new BRAFA Guide, listing restaurants, hotels, exhibitions, shows, and useful addresses, this will help visitors to Brussels make the most of an extended visit.

www.brafa.be

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