

Art-antique show expands

Many of the 175 exhibitors have taken larger booths.

By Jan Sjostrom
Palm Beach Daily News

The Palm Beach Jewelry, Art & Antique show, the biggest art and antique event of its kind in this area since its inception 10 years ago, has gotten even bigger.

The fair, at the Palm Beach County Convention Center in West Palm Beach, is allocating more of its 100,000 square feet to exhibitors than ever before.

The fair is spilling over into the center's corridors, where some features — such as a restaurant and the Hope Designer Showcase — have been moved to make more room for exhibitors.

The number of exhibitors — 175 — is about the same, but many are taking larger booths, organizer Scott Diament said.

The fair has added more high-end dealers, such as Peter Finer, Whitford Fine Art, Mallett, Buccellati, Kunsthaus Buhler and **Epoque Fine Jewels**. The show made room for them by eliminating some lesser dealers. But the fair still offers multiple price points.

"I want to maintain the good, better, best aspect of this show," Diament said. "It's what makes it interesting for everyone."

The designer showcase, introduced with great success last year, has been expanded from five to seven room vignettes featuring merchandise from exhibitors. Organized by designer Scott Snyder, the nine-designer lineup includes the team of Polly Onet and Bronson van Wyck, whom Snyder calls "the event planner sensation of the moment in New York. They're in every magazine and doing everyone's party."

New this year is a Luxury Treasure Hunt for which 62 exhibitors have donated one item each. Preview guests will find the objects at the dealers' booths. Proceeds from sales benefit the Hope for Depression Research Foundation.

The American art sector has been strengthened with the addition of dealers such as Avery Galleries, Thomas Colville Fine Art, Debra



"La Mer," a silk square designed by Alexander Calder, from the archives of Zika Ascher Studios, is at Whitford Fine Art.



Vendor booths line the aisles of the Palm Beach Jewelry, Art & Antique Show at the Palm Beach County Convention Center. The booths were trucked to the center in pieces and rebuilt on site. Setting up the booths takes about 18 hours.



Force Fine Art and Questroyal Fine Art.

Avery Galleries, of Bryn Mawr, Pa., and New York, participated in the show a few times several years ago, then stopped because of quality control concerns, said Nicole Amoroso, director of the Bryn Mawr gallery. The firm was persuaded to return because of the addition of more strong American art dealers.

Among the objects Avery will show is Augustus Saint Gaudens' 1898 bronze relief Amor Caritas. A larger version was

Left: The 1898 bronze relief "Amor Caritas" at Avery Galleries.

Below: A vintage ring designed by founder Mario Buccellati, which features 28 rose-cut diamonds and a 4-carat-plus sapphire, at Buccellati.

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exhibited at the 1900 Exposition Universelle in Paris. The reduction at Avery was cast for American financier and philanthropist Spencer Trask and retained by the Corporation of Yaddo, the artists colony he founded in Saratoga Springs, until 2012.

Rehs Galleries of New York has taken 600 square feet — 240 square feet more than last year — to exhibit a range of 19th century and contemporary art. Among its selections will be a painting by Fred Morgan, a leading British Victorian genre



IF YOU GO

What: Palm Beach Jewelry, Art & Antique Show
When: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. today, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday
Where: Palm Beach County Convention Center, 650 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach
For information: Call 822-5440 or visit www.palmbeachshow.com

artist, that Howard Rehs called "one of the most important works by the artist to have appeared on the market in the last 30 years." Morgan exhibited it at the Royal Academy in London in 1889, and it has remained in the same family's collection for more than 90 years.

Buccellati, family-owned silversmiths and jewelers from Milan, joined the fair to publicize its boutique inside Neiman Marcus on Worth Avenue, said Alberto Milani, CEO of New York-based Buccellati USA. Founded in 1919, the company crafts jewelry noted for its unusual stone and color choices. Among its offerings will be a vintage ring designed by founder Mario Buccellati that features 28 rose-cut diamonds and a 4-carat-plus sapphire.

Belgium-based Epoque Fine Jewels specializes in high-quality antique and period jewelry, with a focus on Art Nouveau and Art Deco. There's high demand for signed designer pieces, such as the circa-1903 Rene Lalique dragonflies pendant the company will feature at the fair, said Epoque's Patricia De Wit.

London-based Whitford Fine Art's selection will include silk squares designed by famous artists from the archives of Zika Ascher Studios, one of the 20th century's best known fabric designers and printers.

You'll have to use your ears to appreciate one of the fair's quirkiest innovations. Disc jockey Adam Lipson will spin mood music from a vantage point overlooking the hall.