

# Fine Art Asia 2016 Draws Big Crowds, Generates Strong Sales

BY NICHOLAS FORREST | OCTOBER 05, 2016



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Fine Art Asia 2016

**Fine Art Asia** (<http://www.fineartasia.com/>) has closed the doors on another extremely successful event, cementing its reputation as one of Asia's foremost events dedicated to art and antiques. It builds on the momentum of the 2015 fair, which showcased over 6,500 works of art worth HK\$2.8 billion and attracted 25,800 international visitors from throughout Asia and Europe, as well as the US.

Timed to coincide with the major art auctions in Hong Kong, **Fine Art Asia** (<http://www.fineartasia.com/>) returned in 2016 to the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre for its 12th edition from Sunday, October 2 to Wednesday, October 5. It featured a lineup of 85 exhibitors from around the world, showcasing a wide range of museum-quality artworks and antiques spanning 5000 years of cultural production.

With an impressive breadth and scope of exceptional works for sale within beautifully designed booths that create an atmosphere of elegance and sophistication, Fine Art Asia is big enough to attract some of the world's most important collectors — and small enough to retain its boutique, exclusive character and avoid the overwhelming effect of other major fairs.

Floris van der Ven, managing director of Netherlands-based Vandervan Oriental Art, said that the 2016 edition of the fair was its best in six years. He reports selling more than 20 Chinese works of art, ranging from glass and porcelain to bronze and Canton enamel, from the Ming and Qing dynasties.

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Commenting on his success, he added: "We are particularly happy because we have sold to both Hong Kong and Mainland Chinese collectors, and to existing and new clients, including younger buyers. We are now reaping what we have sown in the last five years — we feel we have really established a serious client base in Asia."

Fabio Rossi, co-director of Rossi & Rossi, the London-based art and antique dealers who also have a gallery in Hong Kong, said that Fine Art Asia remains the best fair of its type in Asia. "We sold about 15 works, several to new clients, so we are happy with the attendance of the fair and the result," said Rossi. "We are still working on some other deals so I am sure more will happen after the fair is over."

London art dealers Gladwell & Patterson said that they were excited to be returning for their sixth Fine Art Asia, reporting a stand "bustling with interest and enthusiasm for their fine collection of classic paintings." They experienced particularly strong interest in [Claude Monet](/artists/claude-monet-5167) (/artists/claude-monet-5167)'s charming painting of Etretat, with the work having been featured widely in the media.

"Preview night brought some interesting sales, mostly for our favored French landscape artists which the 264 year old London gallery has championed for many years," said gallery manager Graham Magee. "Georges Robin and Alexandre Jacob, both award-winning artists in the Paris salon, are tipped by the gallery to be the post-Impressionist artists of the future."

Lewis Smith, Director of leading London silver dealers Koopman Rare Art, echoed the positive sentiments of many of the other dealers, telling BLOUIN ARTINFO that he was particularly impressed with the way that the fair continues to attract new dealers. Smith reported strong interest in their impressive showcase of French, English, and Chinese silver.

This year, Fine Art Asia featured a particularly strong line-up of rare Buddhist and Himalayan art, presented by galleries from around the

world. Walter Arader Himalayan Art had one of the standout showcases of sculptural works from the region, reporting strong interest in the exceptionally documented pieces at his booth.

Other sales were reported by La Galerie Paris, which had strong sales of Chou Ching Hui's photo "Animal Farm #6"; Galerie Dumonteil, which reported selling a spectacular Jean-Marie Fiori horse console table and drawings by André Maire; and Silver & Silver, which found great success with its presentation of sculptural sterling silver animals by Mario Buccellati.

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