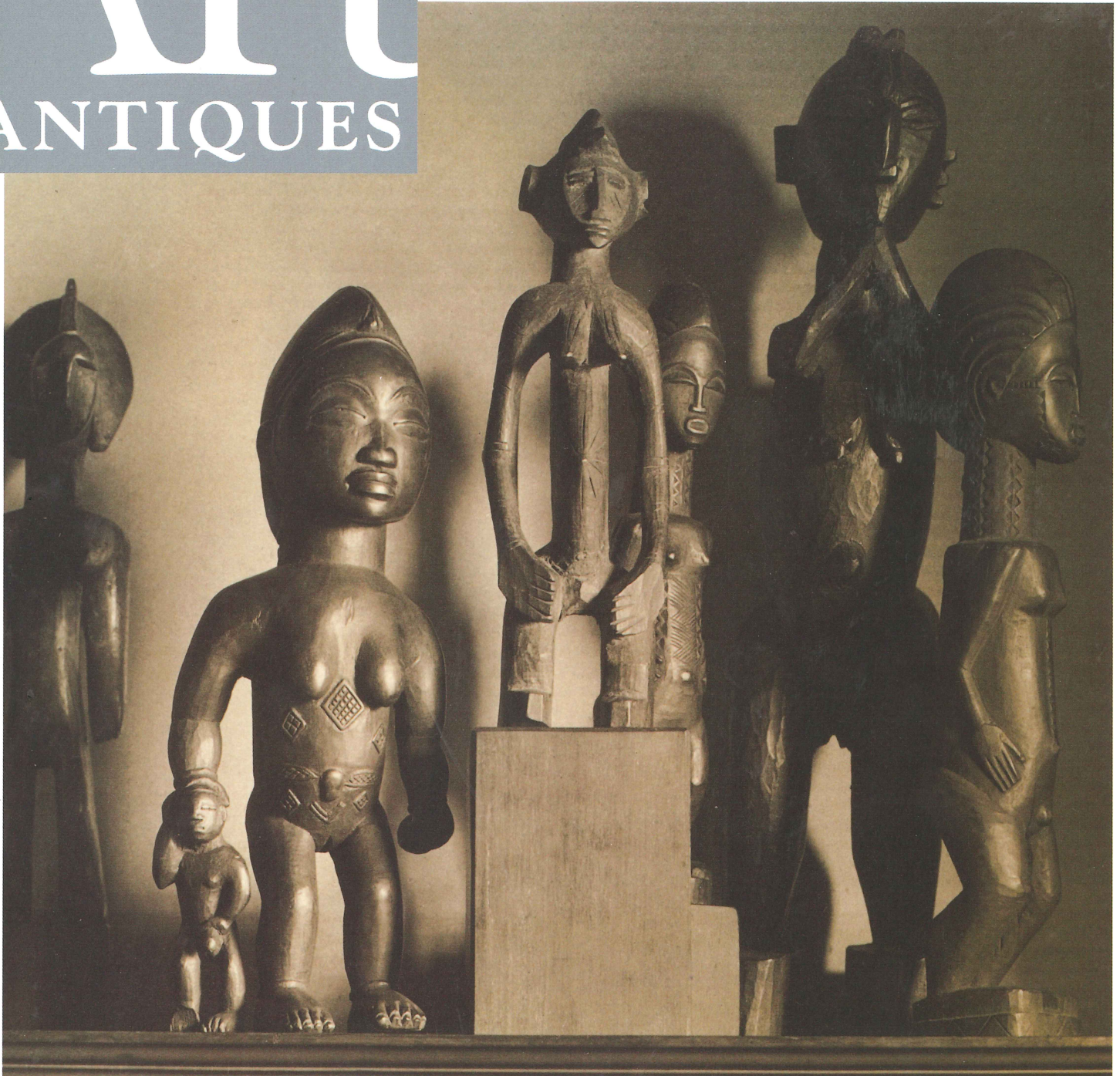


Art

ANTIQUES

FOR COLLECTORS OF THE FINE AND DECORATIVE ARTS



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TRIBAL ART

IN PERSPECTIVE

Art-world news and market updates, exhibitions and events.

Beach Combing

THINGS ARE changing in Palm Beach these days. It was 16 years ago when fair impresarios David and Lee Ann Lester brought the international art and antiques world to South Florida when they founded the Palm Beach International Art & Antique Fair. For years it was one of the country's leading art and antiques shows. Dealers from Britain, France and Germany quickly grew accustomed to the deep pockets and sophisticated taste of Palm Beach County's snowbirds. However, in recent years the fair, now called **American International Fine Art Fair (AIFAF)** has been on the decline with organizational issues that made some of its top exhibitors decide to sit out Florida in February.

This year, the likes of London paintings giant Richard Green and English furniture



specialist Mallett are returning to AIFAF (February 5–10), but many other top dealers have defected to the winter season's second event, the **Palm Beach Jewelry, Art & Antique Show** (February 15–19), which until recently was considered more modest. As the post-Madoff economy rebounds, international art and antiques sellers are hungry for a presence in one of America's richest resort communities and they've found it in this fair which traditionally runs over Presidents' Day weekend.

"Palm Beach is the sixth borough of New York," says Scott Diamant, chief operating officer of the Palm Beach Show Group, which organizes the Palm Beach Jewelry, Art & Antiques Show. "Especially on this



weekend, when every major collector is in town."

In its 10th year, the Palm Beach Show Group fair has its strongest lineup ever, having sold every exhibitable square inch of the Palm Beach County Convention Center to 175 international galleries, many new to the fair and of top quality. One of the strengths of this event is its range of jewelry dealers and this year's notable additions include TEFAF exhibitors Epoque Fine Jewels of Belgium and Veronique Bamps of Monaco, both



COURTESY OF PALM BEACH SHOW GROUP

top-of-the-tree dealers of antique jewelry; as well as Bugatti-maker Marina B and Fred Leighton, both of New York, and international jeweler Buccellati. The fair also has a generous showing of American paintings galleries and London heavyweights such as: Peter Finer, the arms



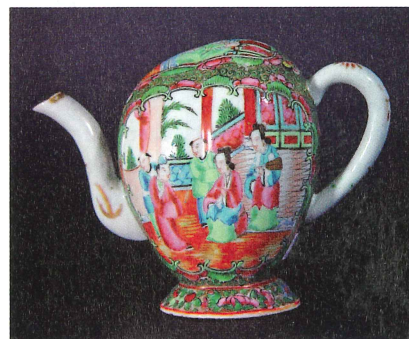
and armor specialist; MacConnal-Mason Gallery, 19th- and 20th-century paintings experts; and Whitford Fine Art, a modernist art dealer. This year's charity gala will benefit the Hope for Depression foundation.

More change is afoot on Florida's Gulf Coast, where for the past two years fair organizers have set their sites

on wealthy Midwestern collectors who winter in Naples. David Lester launched an art and antiques fair here in 2011, which ran two years



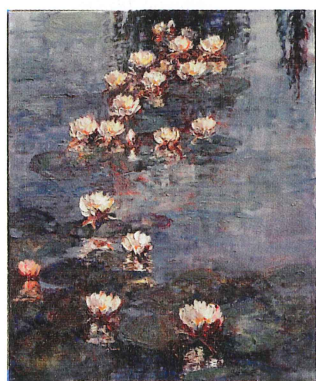
in the center of downtown Naples. It returns February 7-11 with 70 exhibitors, up from 60 last year. International paintings and antiques sellers who are already shipping stock abroad for Palm Beach, are willing to cross the state and give this market a go. One



but does not have a 2013 edition. The Palm Beach Show Group debuted the **Naples Art, Antique & Jewelry Show** last year in a luxury marquee

English paintings specialist admits it's not just the new-client potential that is enticing: "Naples has better beaches."

—SALLIE BRADY



Gary Ernest Smith

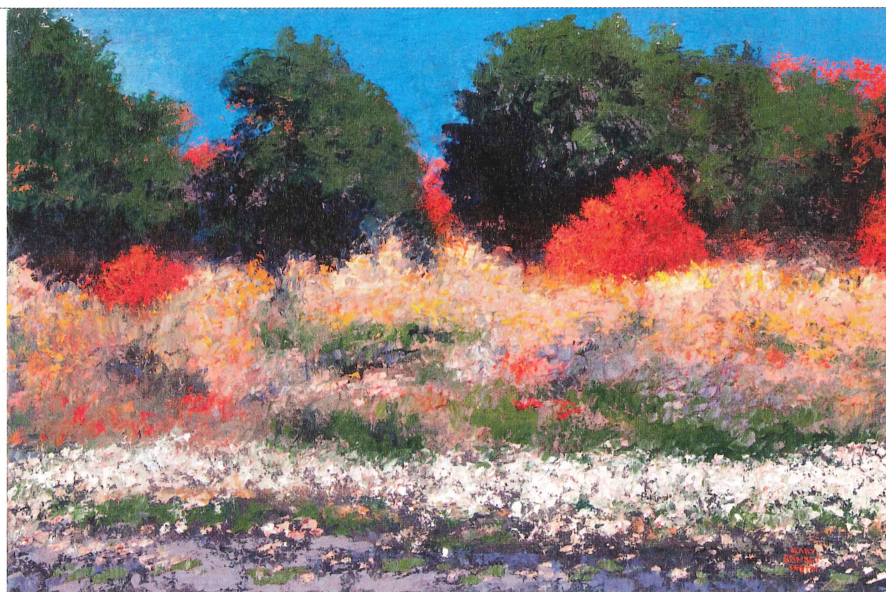
— DOWN TO EARTH —

28th Annual One-Man Show

February 1 – 16

Reception for the artist:

Thursday, February 14 from 7 to 9 pm



Edge of the Orchard | Oil on Linen | 20 x 30

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