

# ART ADVISORY E-BULLETIN

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## 1858 Ltd International Art Advisory

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[www.1858ltd.com](http://www.1858ltd.com)

### 1858's Year in Review

Welcome to 2016! We are delighted to have you on board. As 2015 was a vintage year for 1858 Ltd, we wanted to share some of our proudest moments with you:

We oversaw several important sales in 2015, both in the public and private markets - the most notable public sale being the sale of the Dunkel Watch and Art collection on April 7 in Hong Kong, where we achieved 40million HKD. The location and timing for the sale culminated in an exceptional result for all parties.

Moreover, in the early part of 2015, we managed the sale of an important French dynasty collection, again with exceptional results. On the private side, we have successfully sold several impressionist paintings as well as important contemporary pieces, concluded in a timely and confidential manner.

We would like to thank everyone we work with for contributing to our growth and we look forward to another exceptional year ahead.

### Faena Hotel Miami Beach

Alan Faena, the Argentinian entrepreneur, developer and hotelier who has said, "I don't come from business, I come from the world of dreams," recently launched his latest project, The Faena Hotel Miami Beach in a district that is to be named after him, as it will shortly also include a residential complex, shops, restaurants and public plazas.

Designed by Faena in collaboration with producer Baz Luhrmann and his wife, the costume designer Catherine Martin, the hotel takes inspiration from the heyday of 1950s Miami Beach. The aesthetic pays homage to Miami's Latino population and Faena's lineage, with rooms featuring red velvets, hardwood

floors and blue-tiled bathrooms. Meanwhile the spa offers shaman-developed body treatments.

Come April 2016 the Faena Forum, a new arts space designed by Rem Koolhaas/OMA, will add to the new district's attraction. The space will offer exhibitions and performances to the community under the artistic direction of Ximena Caminos, Faena's work and life partner.

The arts district is a partnership between Faena and the Ukrainian-American investor Len Blavatnik, who bought the Damien Hirst gilded woolly mammoth sculpture,

*Gone But Not Forgotten* for €11million at the amfAR Cinema Against AIDS Charity gala. The sculpture is now displayed outside the hotel.



### **Gilbert and George at MONA**

The British duo who have been working together and also partners in life since they met at Central St Martins in London in 1967 currently have their first ever retrospective in Australia at the Museum of Old and Modern Art in Hobart, Tasmania.

The exhibition includes about 100 works, many of them large-scale pieces, dating back to the 1970s. The artists who use litter, flowers, maps, newspaper headlines and other objects collected from the streets, feature heavily in their own works, often in their distinctive tweed suits.

Gilbert and George have said, "Whatever is around us, whatever is within us, we can use. If there is a matchstick on the pavement or a vomit from a take-away curry or an Indian take-away and then the pigeon is breakfasting on that – we think the whole of life is there."

The artists, whose work deals with the great universals: death, hope, life, fear, sex, money, race and religion, feel strongly that art is the cure. They have said, "We want our art to bring out the bigot from inside the liberal and conversely to bring out the liberal from inside the bigot." The exhibition runs through to March 28, 2016. <http://www.mona.net.au/>.



### **Rodin Museum in Paris Reopens Doors**

After three years of renovation, the Rodin Museum in Paris has reopened its doors in the Hôtel Biron mansion, with new displays of the French sculptor's works. As the historical relationship between the collection and the Hôtel Biron is deemed so important, it was crucial to renovate the space without unsettling that connection.

Several new rooms have been added to the permanent display, such as "Rodin at the Hôtel Biron", which evokes the sculptor's presence at the hotel – an important aspect of the artist's life as he discovered it in 1908 and turned it into a place where he could exhibit his work and receive models and collectors. A room called "Rodin and Antiquity", focusing on Rodin's passion for antiquity and the inspiration he derived from it, has also been added to the new exhibition. It showcases 123 antiquities from Rodin's collection, as well as the bronze *Walking Man* (1877-1878), one of Rodin's key sculptures.

According to museum director Catherine Chevillot, the new layout and lighting will allow visitors to get very close to the sculptures. The renovation project was partly financed by casting new bronzes from original moulds. The Rodin museum is rather unique among French museums, as it owns the rights of the artist to continue making original bronzes.





## **Singapore's New National Gallery Open For First Time**

Singapore, who last summer celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an independent nation, opened its new National Gallery in November following a decade of construction and a £250 million bill. Housed in two of the island's most iconic buildings, the former Supreme Court and City Hall, the gallery is Asia's largest visual arts institution and the world's first museum dedicated to Southeast Asian art.

Comparable in size to the Musée d'Orsay in Paris or London's Tate Modern, the National Gallery will draw on a collection of 8,000 works, showcasing Singaporean and Southeast Asian art. Temporary blockbuster exhibitions in collaboration with the Centre Pompidou and the Tate Britain will also take place. The project is part of Singapore's desire to become a centre for the arts and shake off its reputation as a sanitised, money-driven state.

Despite the fact that more than 100 architects from around the world pitched ideas for the buildings, it was Studio Milou Architecture from Paris who came up with the astute solution to the conundrum of how to turn the iconic buildings into a gallery. Their concept, which uses tree-like struts to connect the two gallery buildings, respects the original buildings, whilst creating a stunning modern structural vision.



## Art Basel Miami Beach

The usually sun-kissed fair, which takes over Miami Beach at the beginning of December every year, was a soaking affair in 2015. Although it may have ruined some visitors' shoes, the wet weather did not seem to impede sales. The 14<sup>th</sup> edition of Art Basel Miami Beach closed amid reports of strong sales.

In total, a record 77,000 visitors attended the fair, which in 2015 presented 267 leading international galleries from 32 countries. Guests included major private collectors, museum directors, curators, trustees and patrons of museum groups. New this year, were first time collectors from Cambodia, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Romania, Togo and Zimbabwe.

According to a spokeswoman from Art Basel, business was strong during the fair. Several gallerists even commented that the bad weather assisted sales as it meant individuals were spending more time among the art rather than heading outdoors to seek the sun. For example, [Van de Weghe Fine Art](#) sold Francis Bacon's 1954 *Man in Blue* for \$15 million and Pablo Picasso's 1971 *Buste au Chapeau* for \$10.5million.

Meanwhile at David Zwirner's booth, a Chris Ofili painting sold for \$750,000 and a painting featuring the young Columbian artist Oscar Murillo's signature doodles and a Vita Coco logo sold for \$300,000. In general, the midrange of sales, which according to Art Basel Miami Beach standards is in the six figures, did really well.

A rather more unusual event was a random stabbing at the fair on Friday Dec 4<sup>th</sup>. The incident, which involved two women, took place at the fair's Nova sector, which focuses on young artists. The victim reportedly confronted her attacker, and accused her of repeatedly bumping into her and following her. The attacker, who has been identified as Siyuan Zhao of New York, reacted by stabbing the victim in the neck and arms. Initially, onlookers believed it may have been part of an installation. Zhao however was arrested and the victim taken to hospital.



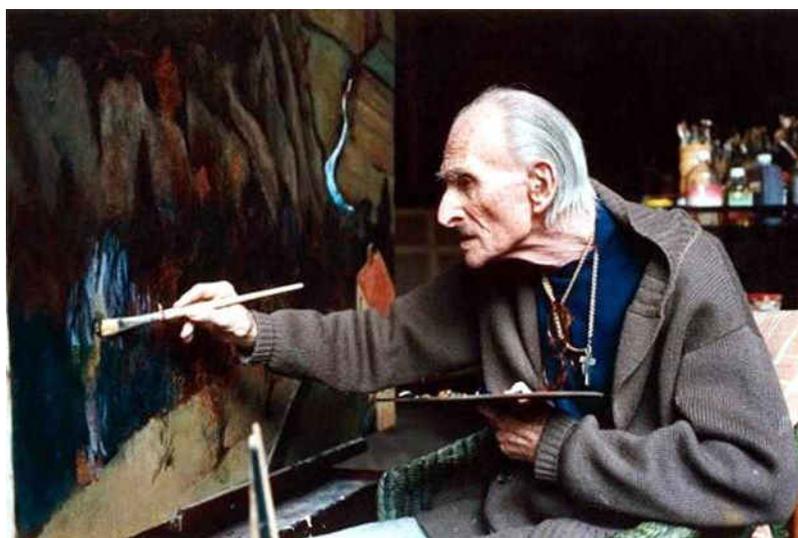
## Balthus Gets The Double

Rome is currently celebrating the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Balthasar Klossowski de Rola, known as Balthus, with a major monographic exhibition set in two locations, the Villa Medici and the Scuderie del Quirinale.

Balthus (1908-2001) is considered one of the most original masters of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. His relationship with Rome, the Eternal City, was a crucial element in the formation of his art. Impressed with the Tuscan Renaissance masters, such as Piero della Francesca from a young age, Balthus' passion for all things Italian was cemented in 1961 when he became the director of the French Academy in Rome at the Villa Medici. During his time in Rome, Balthus further developed his practice of drawing and painting and promoted a major programme of restoration of both the Villa Medici building and its historical gardens.

While the Scuderie del Quirinale is hosting a complete retrospective, composed around his best-known masterpieces, the exhibition at the Villa Medici, focuses on the artist's creative process, his techniques, his models and his recourse to photography, using works realised during his stay in Rome. Among his best-known works are *The Guitar Lesson* (1934), which received a controversial reception for its depiction of a moment of sadistic violence executed on an innocent child by her teacher, as well as *Therèse Dreaming* (1938), a painting of a young girl, eyes closed, sitting on a chair with a leg raised making her underwear visible.

The exhibition runs through to Jan 31, 2016.



## And in Other News...

- In Grasse, several artworks by the Rococo master Jean-Honoré Fragonard have been defaced by a vandal at the [Villa-Musée Jean-Honoré Fragonard](#). The perpetrator drew a moustache on one painting and made a hole in another. On other works he drew circular scribbles and long lines using felt tips pens. The city of Grasse has brought charges against the vandal, but his or her identity has not yet been disclosed.

## 1858 Ltd Art Advisory

Buying  
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Art related Tax and Estate  
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### How an 1858 advisor can help you:

- **Exclusive Access** to works of art in private collections that are not available on the market.
- **Impartial Advice** being independent of auction houses, galleries and dealers, we provide impartial advice when buying and selling on behalf of our client.

- The National Portrait Gallery in London and the [State Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow](#) are to mark their joint 160<sup>th</sup> anniversaries by loaning national treasures, such as paintings of Tolstoy and Shakespeare, to each other for exhibitions next year. It is set to be one of the visual art's biggest UK-Russian cultural exchanges.
- Liu Yiqian, the Chinese Tycoon who bought Amedeo Modigliani's reclining nude at a Christie's auction in New York in November, will be paying for the \$170.4million purchase with his American Express Centurion card on a one-year payment plan so his family can fly for free with the points collected. His purchase will have amassed 132 million frequent flyer miles with which he could make a first class round trip from London to New York 733 times.
- One of the most important Baroque paintings to come to market since WWII – Orazio Gentileschi's *Danaë* (1621) – will lead Sotheby's Master Paintings Evening Sale in January 2016. The oil painting, which was commissioned by the nobleman Giovanni Antonio Sauli in 1621, will be exhibited in New York, Los Angeles, Hong Kong and London in advance of the sale. It is estimated to sell for \$25,000,000-\$35,000,000.
- In November, three masked thieves entered the Castelvecchio Museum in Verona and stole 17 paintings worth €15 million. The trio, who are believed to have been professionals potentially hired to order by a private collector, stole works by Peter Paul Rubens, Andrea Mantegna, Giovanni Francesco Caroto, Hans de Jode, Jacopo and Domenico Tintoretto and other Old Masters. The museum, which is equipped with 48 security cameras, has handed all footage to the local police for investigation.

## Art Calendar Highlights

### Jerome Bosch, Visions of a Genius

12th Feb - 8th May. 2016

[Noordbrabants Museum](#), Bois le Duc, Netherlands  
<http://www.hetnoordbrabantsmuseum.nl/>

### Picasso, the Great War: Experimentations and Changes

21st Feb- 9th May. 2016

The Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia  
<http://www.barnesfoundation.org/exhibitions/upcoming/picasso/>

### Art Stage Singapore

21st - 24th Jan. 2016

<http://www.artstagesingapore.com>

### Annie Leibovitz, Women

16th Jan - 7th Feb. 2016

Wapping Hydraulic Power Station, London  
<https://www.ubs.com/microsites/annie-leibovitz/en/exhibition.html>

### ZSONA MACO Arte Contemporaneo 2016

3rd – 7th Feb. 2016

Mexico City  
<http://zsonamaco.com>

• **Time Savings** as we are able to manage all areas of the collecting process on our clients behalf, we are able to build or sell complete collections with as much or as little involvement from the client as they wish.

• **Direct Savings** due to our buying and negotiating capabilities we significantly reduce transactional charges which in turn we pass directly on to our client.

• **Reducing Risk** by undertaking thorough due diligence on all transactional decisions, we ensure that potentially costly mistakes are avoided and the client has complete confidence in the decision made.

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"Text by Anne-Céline Jaeger for 1858 Limited"

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