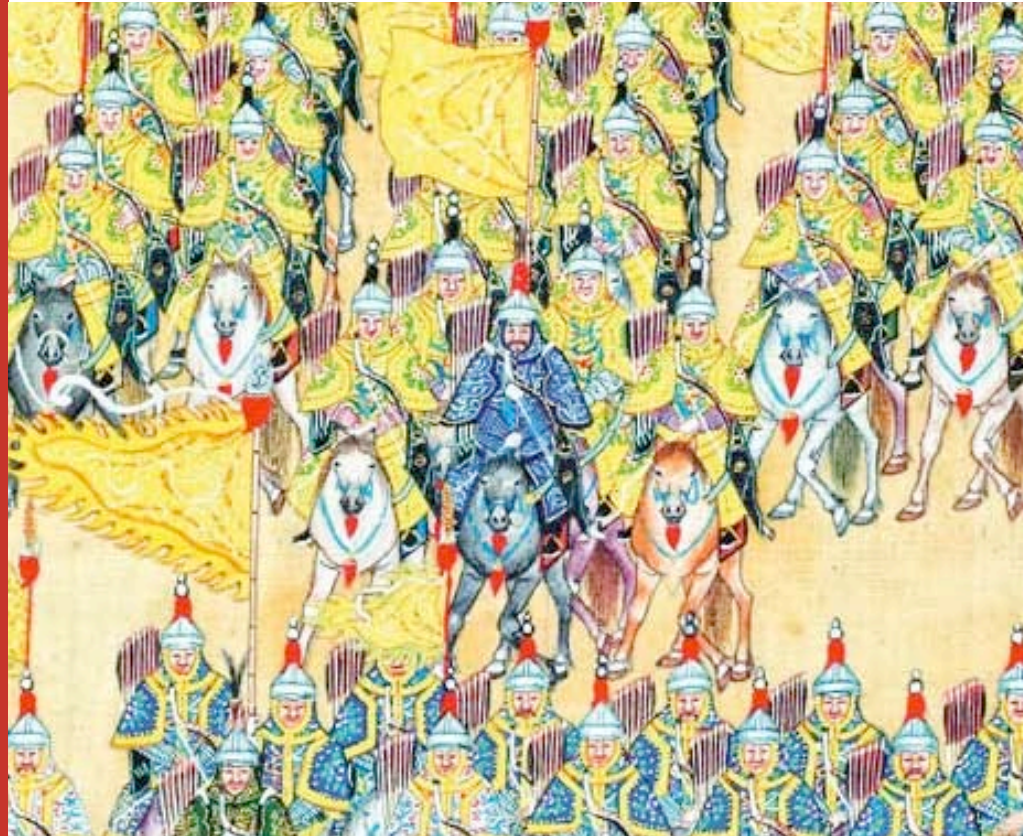


# ART ADVISORY E-BULLETIN

APRIL 2011 - Edition Eleven

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### **Spears Wealth Management Art & Collecting Index**

Viola Raikhel-Bolot, Director of 1858 Art Advisory, was included in the Spears' Top Recommended Art & Collecting Index amongst the most influential people in the current art market.

In the article Raikhel-Bolot emphasizes the importance of having an independent and impartial advisor assist collectors who wish to acquire works of art.

Highlighting some of the pitfalls that buyers should be looking to avoid, such as being aware of the condition of an art work, and the need for authentication, Raikhel-Bolot says, "We cater to the full life-cycle of art collecting objectives regardless if it is for brand new collectors or third generation inheritors."

[www.spearswms.com](http://www.spearswms.com)

### **China Overtakes Britain to Become the Second Largest Art Market**

It is widely acknowledged that the Chinese Art Market has been steadily rising over recent years. Now a new study by the British Art Market Federation states that China has outpaced the United Kingdom to become the second-largest art market in the world. With Chinese auction and gallery sales constituting nearly a quarter of the world's art commerce, at 23% or \$8.3 billion, the country now follows the United States (at 34%) while Britain falls behind at 22%.

Following the publication of the British Art Market Federation study, ArtTactic produces an independent report which positioned China as "the most confident" art market in the world.

Both Christie's and Sotheby's credit the Asian market for their strong resurgence, with Christie's claiming 2010 as the best year in its history.

Currently, the Chinese market is dominated by traditional and imperial-era art, supported by the Chinese government provides strong assistance for collectors who make patriotic purchases at home and abroad.

Chinese art consistently breaks new records at auction, most recently with the £51.6m sale of a Qianlong-era porcelain vase in November at the Bainbridge's Auction House, West London.

A Qianlong-dynasty scroll was sold on 26 March in Toulouse for a record 22.1 million euros (US\$31 million), the latest in a series of auction prices pledged by Asian collectors keen to buy a piece of China's heritage.

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## Rockefeller Model for Collecting Art

When Abby Aldrich Rockefeller was interviewed by Time magazine in January 1936, her contributions to modern art, particularly to the MoMA, became known to all. Her passion for modern art influenced and inspired her children to invest in art and make similar philanthropic donations to the MoMA and other art institutions.

In the 1960s Abby and John D. Rockefeller Jr.'s son, David Rockefeller, acquired Mark Rothko's *White Center* for \$10,000 and sold it almost 50 years later for more than \$72 million. In a time when art is increasingly seen as a financial investment, if there is any lesson to be learned from the Rockefellers, it is that they always bought what they loved.

## Japanese Art Community Support Earthquake Victims

At present, the art community in Japan is helping to organize events to raise funds for earthquake victims. Artists, actors, academics, filmmakers, and people from the creative industry have organized a group called ACT FOR JAPAN (A4J). The A4J mission is to help earthquake victims, both financially

and culturally. A4J will offer a Web platform for artists who want to donate their art works to be sold online to raise money for the charity. In addition to the A4J initiative, Kenji Kubota, an independent curator has launched a similar project; Japan Art Donation. The project will raise funds with artists, and the fund will be used for the revival of cultural institutions and art activities in the stricken areas. The government has announced that the Tokyo International Forum where Art Fair Tokyo was supposed to be held from April 1 will be converted into shelters for survivors.

Shinya Watanabe, an independent curator based in Tokyo and New York, who teaches art at Temple University Japan, has his own ambition to organize a charity art exhibition, both with Japanese and international artists, perhaps in Switzerland during Art Basel.

The exhibition would include artists who are deeply influenced and affected by this incident, who aim to create their own expressions for a Post-Nuclear Age. Artists will donate all the artworks, with sales donated to the tsunami victims. However, to make this happen, a sponsor is needed, and also supporters from overseas.

## Art Calendar Highlights

### Yohji Yamamoto

V&A Museum  
London  
12 March - 10 July  
[www.vam.ac.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk)

### The Vorticists: Rebel artists in London and New York 1914 - 1918

Peggy Guggenheim Collection  
Venice  
Until 15 May  
[www.guggenheim-venice.it](http://www.guggenheim-venice.it)

### El Greco: Masterpiece a Month

Dulwich Picture Gallery, London  
5 April - 8 May  
[www.dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk](http://www.dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk)

### Van Dongen, Fauve, anarchiste et mondain

Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris  
25 March - 17 July  
[www.mam.paris.fr](http://www.mam.paris.fr)

### ART HK, Hong Kong

International Art Fair  
26-29 May  
[www.hongkongartfair.com](http://www.hongkongartfair.com)

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Top Image: A section from the 18th Century Qianlong era silk scroll, circa. 1748; Middle Image: *China-Car*, Ma Jun at the Hong Kong International Art Fair 2010 Right Image: *White Center*, Mark Rothko, courtesy of [www.sothebys.com](http://www.sothebys.com);