

ART ADVISORY E-BULLETIN

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Yan Pei-Ming at the Villa Medici



French-Chinese artist Yan Pei-Ming poses during a press preview of his show 'Yan Pei-Ming Roma' at the Villa Medici in Rome.

Yan Pei-Ming, the Franco-Chinese painter famous for his epic-sized black and white portraits of Mao Zedong and other celebrities, has created twenty large format works specially conceived for the Villa Medici, which are currently on show at the French Academy in Rome until June 19, 2016.

The artist – a fellow of the French Academy in Rome who lived in the Italian capital from 1993-1994 – presents his vision of the city and its fascinating history. Featuring the landscapes of Roman ruins, such as *Fontaine de Trevi* (2015), portraits of popes and iconic films with key moments of Italian political life, the paintings are a testament to artist's desires to expand his palette from bi-colour. The exhibition highlights the relationship between the French Academy in Rome, which is currently celebrating its 350th anniversary, and its host city.



Fontaine de Trevi, (2015). Photo Credit : André Morin

Could this be Queen Nefertiti's final resting place?

In 1922, Howard Carter and Douglas Berry, alongside their team of researchers and archaeologists, made the miraculous discovery that was King Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings, Luxor, in Egypt. Researchers now claim that it is a likely possibility that there are still hidden chambers within the tomb that have not yet been uncovered.

Radar scans, using infrared technology, have revealed two possible rooms. Researchers speculate that these chambers may contain the remains of Queen Nefertiti, King Tutankhamun's stepmother. During her reign, Nefertiti played a major role in a religious revolution, whereby she and her husband the Egyptian Pharaoh Akhenaten, worshipped only one god, Aten.

The eminent Egyptologist Dr. Nicholas Reeves published a paper in 2015, stating that thin cracks in the decorative paintings within Tutankhamun's tomb may suggest the presence of further chambers. Egypt's Antiquities Minister, Khaled el-Enany, has stated however that more tests are needed in order to justify further exploration into the tomb.



Wall decorations in King Tutankhamun's burial chamber. Photo Credit : Toolito.

Botticelli Reimagined at the V&A

The V&A in London is currently hosting an exhibition exploring the ways in which artists and designers have reinterpreted the works of the great Italian Early Renaissance painter, Sandro Botticelli. The artist, who belonged to the Florentine School and was under the patronage of Lorenzo de' Medici, was celebrated in his lifetime but largely forgotten for more than 300 years until his work was rediscovered in the 19th century.

Today his works are firmly embedded in public consciousness and paintings such as the *Birth of Venus* (1486) have been reinterpreted by a staggering number of artists from David LaChapelle to Yin Xin. Botticelli Reimagined is the largest Botticelli exhibition in Britain since 1930 and includes painting, fashion, drawing, sculpture, tapestry, film, photography and print. The exhibition, which will run until 3 July 2016, includes over 50 original works by Botticelli as well as works by artists such as Cindy Sherman, Andy Warhol and René Magritte amongst others.

See above: A glimpse into Botticelli Reimagined exhibition at V&A. Photo Credit : londonvisitors.com.”

<http://www.vam.ac.uk/>

Art Basel Hong Kong

The fourth edition of Art Basel Hong Kong proved a record year on all levels according to organizers. The show, which featured a new floor plan, attracted over 70,000 visitors, including directors, patrons, curators and trustees from over 100 leading international museums and institutions. In this year's edition of the fair, 239 galleries from 35 countries showcased work, with over half of the galleries owning exhibition spaces in Asia and the Asia-Pacific.

Artists from across Asia featured prominently at the fair, such as Korean born artist Do Ho Suh, who had a number of works sold by Lehmann Maupin. Fronting Gagorian, was Nam June Paik's installation of *Robot Drawings* and his video *TV Cello* (1971), while Chinese-American artist David Diao was shown by Taipei's Eslite Gallery. David Zwirner said of

the fair, “This was certainly our most successful Hong Kong fair ever, with a super positive response from collectors all over the region, including Shanghai, Beijing, Hong Kong, Singapore, Seoul and Taipei.” The sentiment was shared by a host of other participating galleries.



A visitor in front of Richard Maloy's *Yellow Structure* at Art Basel Hong Kong. Photo Credit: Starkwhite

Art Wuzhen rivals Beijing and Shanghai

The ancient Chinese water village Wuzhen, established over 1,300 years ago, launched the Art Wuzhen festival at the end of March Luring visitors from the end of Art Basel, the inaugural exhibition named *Utopias/Heterotopias*, features 43 works by 40 of the world's and China's leading artists, including Ai Weiwei, Marina Abramovic and Damien Hirst among others.

Chen Xianghong, the chairman of Cultural Wuzhen Co. Ltd. said, “Usually this sort of large-scale, international exhibition happens only in metropolises, not a county-level village like Wuzhen.” The exhibition includes site-specific installations such as Ann Hamilton's *Again, Still, Yet* (2016), which fills an old theatre and is inspired by the town's silk-making history. The exhibition's main show location is inside the town's North Silk Factory, a converted 1970s industrial space. The exhibition runs through until June 26, 2016.



Florentijn Hofman's *Floating Fish* at Art Wuzhen. Photo Credit : designtrends.com

<http://en.artwuzhen.org/>

And In Other News...

- Twelve suspects linked to an armed robbery at Verona's main art museum in November, have been arrested in Italy and Moldova. Video surveillance as well as wiretapped phone calls assisted in apprehending the suspects, who are thought to have stolen 17 paintings, including works by Tintoretto, Rubens and Bellini.
- In Germany, a planned amendment to the country's cultural protection legislation is creating upheaval amongst the art industry, as the law seeks to further tighten export regulations. Artists, collectors, curators and gallerists are fiercely opposed to the plans, as they feel the laws will introduce even more hindrances into an already dawdling German art market.
- The National Gallery of Victoria's *Andy Warhol/Ai Weiwei* exhibition in Melbourne broke the gallery's summer attendance record when it welcomed its 300,000th visitor to the show at the beginning of April. London's *The Art Newspaper* has ranked it 21st in global visitor rankings.
- This year the Salon Du Dessin fair in Paris, which specialises in Old Masters, Modern and Contemporary drawings, included outposts in Sèvres, Sceaux and Chantilly, where museums opened up their drawing collections to the public for one week.
- A show titled *Drawing Dialogues: Selections from the Sol LeWitt Collection* is currently being exhibited at the Drawing Centre in New York until June 5. It includes more than one hundred works by artists including Mel Bochner, Hanne Darboven and Alighiero Boetti. The Minimalist and conceptual artist Sol LeWitt, who began collecting art even before he became an artist himself, amassed more than 4,000 works by over 750 artists before his death in 2007.

1858 Ltd Art Advisory

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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.
- **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.

Art Calendar Highlights

Exhibitions

Rembrandt's First Masterpiece

3rd June - 18th September, 2016

The Morgan Library and Museum, New-York, USA

<http://www.themorgan.org/exhibitions/rembrandts-first-masterpiece>

Elisabeth Louise Vigée Le Brun

10th June – 11th September, 2016

National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada

<http://www.gallery.ca/en/see/exhibitions/upcoming/details/elisabeth-louise-vigee-le-brun-1755-1842-9518>

Charles Le Brun: The Painter of the Sun King

18th May - 29th August, 2016

Louvre-Lens, Lens, France

<http://www.louvre.fr/expositions/charles-le-brun>

Francis Bacon: Invisible Rooms

18th May – 18th September, 2016

Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, England

<http://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-liverpool/exhibition/francis-bacon-invisible-rooms>

Art Fairs

Design Miami Basel

14th-19th June, 2016

Basel, Switzerland

<http://basel2016.designmiami.com>

Photo Basel

15th-19th June, 2016

Basel, Switzerland

<http://www.photo-basel.com>

Art Basel

16th-19th June, 2016

Basel, Switzerland

<https://www.artbasel.com>

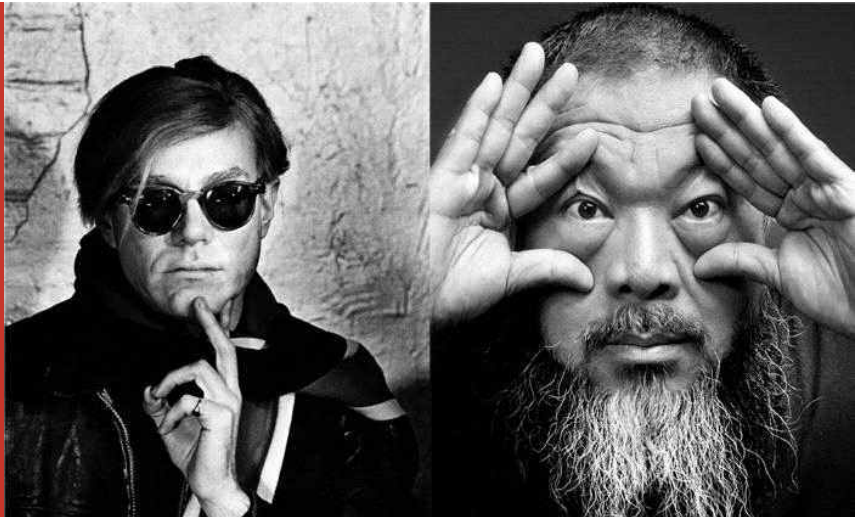
Masterpiece London

30th June – 6th July, 2016

Chelsea, London

<http://www.masterpiecefair.com>

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