

Confidence Rises with Improving Sales at the NEC

ANTIQUES FOR EVERYONE
NEC, BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND B40 1NT
29 October - 1 November 2009



Quotes:

Sold at Antiques for Everyone

An oak writing box on chest (fifty years before Capt Davenport designed his Davenport) with original handles, feet and of good colour, English, circa 1705-10. Sold for £5,750. From Mark Seabrook Antiques from Cambridgeshire.

A fine English late 17thc / early 18th century oak low dresser still retaining the original handles, of excellent colour and patina. Sold for £12,750. From Mark Seabrook Antiques from Cambridgeshire.

A fine bronze sculpture by Alfred Dubucand "Le Trait du Parthe, French, circa 1860. Sold for £6,000. From Saunders Fine Art, Solihull.

‘It’s been a fantastic fair, the NEC comes to the rescue yet again’ – **Mark Seabrook, Mark Seabrook Antiques**, Cambridgeshire, specialising in early oak and country furniture.

‘Autumnal coloured furniture is back in vogue at last’ – **Mike Melody, Melody’s Antiques**, Chester, specialising in period furniture.

‘Our best ever NEC fair after 20 years. We sold more than 30 pictures’ – **Patrick Payne, Phoenix Fine Art**, Cheshire, specialising in English watercolours.

‘It’s been an incredibly good fair with many seriously rich people attending. I’m extremely pleased with business’ – **Bev Whiston, B.J. Whiston**, Shropshire, specialising in fine boxes and early firearms.

‘I am pleased to see the fair is really ‘on the up’, especially with better quality stock and exhibitors across the board’ – **John Howard**, Woodstock, specialising in early English pottery.

‘We will have to re-stock quickly; we sold three of our five best exhibits. We are very pleased’ –

Margaret Cowley, Garret & Hurst, Kent specialising in fine 19th century Continental sculpture.

‘The organisers have done a fantastic job at getting interested people through the door. I’m very pleased’ – **Terry Robert**, Norfolk, jewellery specialist.

‘Our best NEC fair in 12 years’ – **George Kingham, A.D.Antiques**, Cotswolds, specialising in Art and Studio pottery.

‘It’s been a very good fair, we’ve sold art and sculpture to new and regular clients’ – **Mike Emeny, Books Illustrated**, Salisbury, specialising in illustrative art and sculpture.

‘I’ve sold across the board, it’s been a good fair’ – **Philip Varma, Le Style 25**, London, specialising in Art Deco furniture.

‘My most successful NEC fair on record’ – **Fred Nickson, Chiltern Antiques**, Oxfordshire, specialising in scientific and medical instruments.

‘It’s been very good, we’ve sold several major paintings and sculpture’ – **Stella Callaghan, Callaghan Fine Paintings**, Shrewsbury, specialising in 19th and 20th century art and sculpture.

‘We are very pleased, selling to new and regular customers’ – **Mark Rowles, Rowles Fine Art**, Welshpool, specialising in 19th and 20th century art and sculpture.

‘We’ve sold across the board, it’s been very good’ – **Paul Kembery, Kembery Clocks**, Bristol.

‘I’m very pleased after making more than 30 sales’ – **Alan Jones, A.J.Art**, Herefordshire, specialising in contemporary art.

‘There has been a very positive mood from start to finish. Sales have been greater than anyone expected and I believe we can now look forward to much better prospects for 2010’ – **Tiffany Pritchard, Fair Organiser, Antiques for Everyone**.

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The biggest Antiques for Everyone fair of 2009, which ran from 29 October – 1 November at the NEC, Birmingham opened to the longest queue seen for several years, taking more than an hour to pass through the entrance doors when the fair opened at 11am. Within the first two hours, many exhibitors found sales to be stronger than expected with trade and private collectors from across the country joined by buyers from the USA, Italy and other European countries.

Period furniture proved to be back in vogue with buyers showing a marked preference oak and country pieces. Mark Seabrook from Cambridgeshire sold a number of good quality pieces,

including a rare oak writing box-on-chest, circa 1705, similar to a Davenport but pre-dating known designs by fifty years, for £5,750; and an oak dresser base, circa 1700, for £12,750, in addition to a drop-leg table and a set of chairs. Melody's Antiques from Chester also enjoyed good business, selling four oak farmhouse dressers and many more pieces. Other dealers enjoying steady sales of furniture included Kembery Clocks from Bristol, Le Style 25 from London (specialising in Art Deco lounge suites), Kenulf Fine Arts from Stow-on-the-Wold and Walter Moores Antiques from Leicestershire.

Fine Art was a **strong** seller across the fair with the majority of specialists pleased with sales. Rowles Fine Art from Welshpool sold two major works on the opening day, oil paintings by Helen Bradley and Sir Kyffin Williams respectively. Callaghan Fine Paintings from Shrewsbury sold pictures by Marcel Dyf and sculpture by Benson Landes and Carl Payne. Phoenix Fine Art from Cheshire sold more than 30 watercolours including a sketch of Warwick Castle in charcoal by J.M.W. Constable. Traditional oil paintings sold strongly from Saunders Fine Art from Solihull, The Englishman Fine Art from Surrey, Ryland Fine Art from East Yorkshire and A.J. Art from Herefordshire. Blackbrook Gallery from Leicestershire, specialising in paintings of livestock, sold an English Naïve School picture, 'Prize Pigs', for a significant five-figure sum. Jennings Fine Art from Middlesex, newcomers to Section Two, specialising in fine prints, enjoyed a successful debut, meeting more interested customers than expected.

In other areas, 19th and 20th century bronze sculpture proved as popular as usual. Garret & Hurst from West Sussex, sold three of their most significant pieces, selling one French bronze, 'The Embrace', by one of the foremost Russian sculptors of the 19th century, Georgi Ivanovitch Gratcheff (1866-1893), to a French visitor for around £10,000, plus others; Hazlehurst Antiques from Kent enjoyed strong sales of late 19th and early 20th century bronzes.

The fair is well known for its wide range of pottery, porcelain and glass. Many of the specialists expressed their satisfaction with sales, although a number noted that the market was reliant on regular collectors and sales usually were no greater than in previous years. Studio pottery, on sale from BADA members A.D. Antiques from the Cotswolds, standing in Section Two, were very strong with sales of two Martinware birds. Early English pottery also sold well from Roger de Ville, from Staffordshire. A majority of the jewellery specialists were pleased with sales, although sales of silver, which have been particularly difficult in London, were slower, though a number of specialists with early pieces sold very well.

The next Antiques for Everyone fair will take place from 8th – 11th April 2010.

Further information from:

Duncan Phillips Tel: 01460 432090 / 07980 832639.

Tiffany Pritchard, Clarion Events Tel: 0121-767 2454.