

Rare English Wall Clock Display Highlights NEC Antiques Fair

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

A special exhibition of rare antiquarian wall clocks will be a major attraction at the Antiques for Everyone Fair at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, from 29 October – 1 November.

Titled 'The English Wall Clock', this outstanding display will feature approximately thirty examples from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Tavern clocks, striking dial clocks and silvered dial clocks from the earliest period, when such clocks were highly sought after, to the humble Victorian school wall clock, together offer a rare glimpse into the styles, history and development of one of our most treasured public and private possessions.

This fascinating display will appeal not only to serious horologists but anyone with an interest in the history of Britain's commercial and domestic life when the simple act of telling the time was of such great importance. In the period of history before the wristwatch was a common accessory, wall clocks, hanging in public places such as inns, post offices, railway stations, schools and municipal buildings were for many people a most significant aspect of daily life, and so often the only available means of knowing the local time.

The display includes important examples from private collections that have not been on public view for some 35 years. A number are also featured in Ronald Rose's seminal work, 'English Dial Clocks' 1978.

'The English Wall Clock' is presented by John Yealland, from The Clock Workshop, Reading. John Yealland is a clock specialist with some 35 years experience. He is a Freeman of The Worshipful Company of Clockmakers and has exhibited and been associated with the Antiques for Everyone Fair for many years. He is currently Chairman of the Clock Vetting Committee. John can be contacted on Tel: 0118 9470741 / 07788 410493. Edward Burd, the wall clock

specialist and dealer, is also contributing a number of clocks to the display. Edward Burd can be contacted on Tel: 0207 485 9635.

Antiques for Everyone features more than 350 specialist art and antiques dealers and exhibits valued in excess of £20,000,000. With a huge range of exhibits and prices from less than £10 to £100,000, the fair is one of the major trading occasions of the year and a meeting place for anyone with an interest in the art and antiques world.

'It's going to be the biggest fair of the year for us,' explains organiser Tiffany Pritchard, 'with the ever increasing quality of exhibits we attract the most serious of connoisseurs and collectors. I'm also delighted to be welcoming many new exhibitors to our winter event.'

'Antiques offer such as an exciting and individual alternative to generic furniture and furnishings. Over the last few years we've noticed a steady increase in the number of younger visitors rebelling against the homogenous styling offered by the high street retailers. My challenge is to reach this growing audience and help bring antiques to the next generation.'

Antiques for Everyone started in 1986 and has grown steadily in importance and quality ever since, with visitors arriving from all over the world. The fair is divided into two sections, each with distinctive dateline regulations, and ensuring that there is something for every visitor. Section One features a number of leading dealers with inspiring displays of town and country furniture, from the 17th to early 20th century, with all the accompanying decorative accessories, including upholstered furniture, mirrors and lighting. They are joined by dealers specialising in fine porcelain, glass, jewellery, silver, textiles, arms and armour. In addition, around thirty galleries show traditional and contemporary paintings and sculpture.

Section Two offers around two hundred and fifty dealers with a vast choice of collectable items. Specialities include large selections of Arts & Crafts, Art Nouveau and Art Deco ceramics, silver, lighting and furniture; Roman and Chinese antiquities, Steiff teddy bears, antiquarian maps and engravings, working barometers, tea caddies, early tin-plate toys, scientific instruments, garden statuary, kitchen antiques, decorative brass and copper, needlework samplers and chic costume jewellery.

The fair is particularly well known for its wide range of pottery, porcelain and glass with no fewer than fifty specialist dealers. Period furniture is strongly represented, with more specialists than at any other datelined fair outside London. Paintings are also much in evidence, from Old Masters through to early English watercolours, picturesque Victorian landscapes and coastal scenes to the 20th century and contemporary works by artists such as L.S.Lowry and Geoffrey Key.

With jewellery datelined to 1970, many exhibitors specialise in 20th century costume pieces, from the copper and enamel pieces of Matisse Renoir to the Mexican silver designs from the 1950s and 60s. With prices from less than £25, such pieces provide a very affordable introduction for collectors.

Most importantly, the Vetting Committee, comprising approximately 150 specialist experts, spends an entire day reviewing exhibits for quality, authenticity and accurate labelling. This ensures that buyers can make their purchases with added confidence. More than 100 exhibitors are members of LAPADA (The Association of Art & Antiques Dealers) and the BADA (British Antique Dealers Association).

Antiques for Everyone is organised by Clarion Events Birmingham Ltd and takes place every spring, summer and winter.

PUBLIC VISITOR INFORMATION Tel: UK (0)121-767 2947.

Halls 17-19, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, UK, B40 1NT.

Admission: £12.00, including free car parking.

In Advance: £10.00 for Adults and Senior Citizens from the Box Office Tel: 0844 581 0827.

Public Open Times: Thurs 11am-7pm / Fri-Sat 11am-6pm / Sun 11am-5pm

Organisers: Clarion Events Birmingham Ltd, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham B40 1NT.

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