

## TREASURE HOUSE FAIR

London's flagship summer art fair returns with  
a trove of masterpieces, discoveries and curiosities

### Marvels Spanning Millennia

From a prehistoric woolly mammoth head and Galileo's first drawing of the  
Moon to a monumental new sculpture by artist-illusionist Alex Chinneck

### From Versailles to the Avant-Garde

From creations for Kensington Palace and Versailles, including Marie  
Antoinette's dog's bed, to the *nec plus ultra* of 20<sup>th</sup>-century design

### 90 years of British Surrealism

A special exhibition of rarely-seen masterpieces  
from Southampton City Art Gallery

Royal Hospital Chelsea, London | 24–30 June 2026

Press Preview on 24 June at 10am



Continuing a tradition of London summer art fairs established in 1934, Treasure House Fair returns this June with a trove of masterpieces, discoveries and curiosities worthy of the wonders that once captivated its first royal patron, Queen Mary, and generations of collectors since. **Sixty galleries** - from distinguished newcomers to established dealers who have shaped the fair over the decades - will convene on the historic grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea from 24 to 30 June 2024. Together, they will showcase an exceptional panorama of collecting today, from fine art and furniture to jewellery, horology and more. Highlights this year also include **a major exhibition celebrating 90 years of British Surrealism**, with rarely-seen works from Southampton City Art Gallery and a **Sculpture Walk**, featuring monumental artworks.

A “treasure house” of the rare and the beautiful, the historic and the whimsical, this edition will take visitors on a journey through marvels spanning millennia and continents, from a **25,000-year-old woolly mammoth head** and **Galileo’s first drawings of the surface of the moon** to the **iconic colour photograph of Earth captured aboard Apollo 8 in 1968**. Other highlights include: **furniture fit for a queen (and her pet!)**, including the luxurious dog house of Marie Antoinette’s beloved dog, a table made for Queen Mary II’s bedroom at Kensington Palace, and a pair of commodes owned by Madame de Pompadour, valued at £3 million; **storied jewels and objects from the era of Henry VIII and Shakespeare**; an exhibition of **contemporary British women artists** championed by an American death-row attorney turned gallerist; a standout selection of **20<sup>th</sup> century design** and many more works by the greatest creators of the past centuries, from Picasso and Dali to Henry Moore and David Hockney. *Please see ‘Highlights’ document for more details.*

**Harry van der Hoorn, Owner and Co-founder of Treasure House Fair:** *“This edition deepens our commitment to rigorous curation, bringing together thousands of hand-picked treasures that trace centuries of world history - each one vetted by independent specialists. The fair’s outlook remains resolutely international, with 20% of exhibitors travelling from America and Europe. We actively support this global participation by providing assistance with shipping, logistics and import documentation, ensuring a seamless experience for all.”*

**Thomas Woodham-Smith, Director and Co-founder of Treasure House Fair:** *“In June 1936, as Roland Penrose, David Gascoyne, André Breton and a near-apoplectic Salvador Dalí-encased in a deep-sea diving suit - unveiled the International Surrealist Exhibition, a group of visionary British dealers were simultaneously preparing the third edition of The Antique Dealers’ Fair, the world’s first vetted fair and precursor to Treasure House. Together, these two events bore witness to the effervescence and creative energy that have always set London’s art scene apart. Ninety years later, Treasure House Fair stands as proof that this spirit endures and we look forward to welcome collectors and art lovers alike to this new edition.”*

## A Glance at this year's exhibitors

### *A roster of the world's leading antique dealers*

The fair will see the return of some of the world's leading antique dealers, including **Ronald Phillips**, **Frank Partridge**, **Thomas Coulborn & Sons**, and **Fileman Antiques** who together will present pieces boasting extraordinary provenance and the aura of the greatest makers of their time. They will be joined by newcomers, **Mallet & Sons**, one of England's oldest dealers of fine furniture and works of art, rare-book dealer **Peter Harrington** and **Justin Evershed-Martin** who will present a curation of fine and decorative arts from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Participating for the second year will also be **Robert Young**, a luminary of British and European Folk Art, poised to surprise and delight with his latest selection of quirky wonders; **Florian Kolhammer**, the Viennese dealer specialised in the *Jugendstil*, Art Nouveau and Art Deco periods, and Joe Chaffer from **Vagabond Antiques** who will present a display testament to his discerning eye and impeccable taste.

With the price of silver at an all-time high, this year's offering of *argent* objects will be particularly strong. **Mary Cooke Antiques** - specialists in 18<sup>th</sup>-century silver for nearly sixty years - will join Mayfair's **Koopman Rare Art** and the century-old New York institution **S.J.Shrubsole**, renowned for handling some of the greatest silver masterpieces in the world and placing them with collectors from William Randolph Hearst to Groucho Marx.

### *Design*

20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century design will feature strongly this year, illustrating the fair's commitment to juxtaposing bold contemporary statements with remarkable historic treasures. Bringing her curatorial flair, celebrated interior and furniture designer **Rose Uniacke** will debut her most recent antique and vintage finds. She will be joined by three British galleries participating for the first time: the mother-and-son duo from **Foster & Gane** who will showcase an edit of their marvellous discoveries spanning the 16<sup>th</sup> century to contemporary design; **Zigzag Modern**, specialised in vintage mid-century modern furniture and lighting, and **Gallery B.R.**, an art and antiques emporium founded by Barcelona natives Pep Boixader and Cuca Riera in the Cotswolds.

### *Fine Art*

Fine Art will once again feature strongly, showcased by a roster of internationally renowned specialists in the fields of painting, sculpture and photography. **Richard Green**,

who will exhibit rare maquettes created by Henry Moore for important sculptural commissions, will be present alongside other prestigious Mayfair and St. James's galleries, including **The Mayor Gallery**, participating for the first time, which will showcase the breadth of its 100-year history, with works spanning Op and Pop Art through to international Concrete art. They will be joined by fourth-generation family-owned gallery **MacConnal-Mason; Sladmore**, specialists in animalier and monumental sculptures; **Willow Gallery**, specialists in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>-century European paintings, **Waddington-Custot**, renowned internationally for its expertise in modern and contemporary art; **Douwes Fine Art**, one of the oldest family-owned art businesses in the world, established in Amsterdam 1770, and **Albricht**, another leading Dutch gallery.

Complementing the line-up will be an impressive contingent of modern and contemporary British art specialists. Newcomers **Alan Wheatley, Jenna Burlingham** and **Winsor Birch** will appear alongside seasoned gallerists, including **James Hyman, Osborne Samuel** and **Christopher Kingzett**, whose presentation will take on a literary theme, featuring a David Hockney drawing of Stephen Spender and a portrait of Somerset Maugham by Graham Sutherland, among others.

Together with her daughter Nicole, American gallerist and champion of women in the art world **Rhonda Long-Sharp** has curated a special exhibition, *The Present is Female*, centred on British women artists, including Moira Cameron, Julia Ibbini, Yulia Brodskaya, Nicola Anthony, Fiona Grady, Cecily Brown, and Tacita Dean. Also returning this year is the German contemporary art gallery **Patrick Heide** and the Geneva-based father-and-son duo of **Grob Gallery**, specialists in vintage photography, modern and contemporary art. Their booth will pay tribute to the YBAs, with works by Damien Hirst, Rachel Whiteread, Marc Quinn, Mat Collishaw and Bill Woodrow.

### *Across eras and civilisations*

Japanese art will also be highlighted through **Laura Bordignon**, a specialist in Meiji-period works of art (1868–1912), and Tokyo contemporary art gallery, **A Lighthouse called Kanata**, which has curated an exhibition entitled *Simple Forms*. The presentation explores the Japanese pursuit of beauty through simplicity, featuring white marble sculptures by Kan Yasuda, glass works by Niyoko Ikuta, ceramics by Ken Mihara, and paintings by Chiko Takei, Kiyo Hasegawa and Kentaro Sato.

### *Jewellery and Watches*

Historic jewels will take centre stage this year. **Martyn Downer**, specialist dealer in historic objects and works of art, will devote his entire stand to a Hamnet-era mourning jewel, rediscovered four centuries after it was immortalised in one of Britain's most

enigmatic and celebrated 17<sup>th</sup>-century family portraits. Set within a dramatic scenography exploring death in the time of Shakespeare, the pendant will respond with another rediscovered piece of history making its debut on the booth of **Greens of Cheltenham**: a 16<sup>th</sup>-century ring worn by a knight close to Henry VIII and Queen Anne, from a family later erased from the history books after its entanglement in the Gunpowder Plot of 1605.

Treasure House has established itself as the UK's leading destination for antique jewellery. This year's line-up brings together long-established London specialists, including **S.J. Phillips** - a 150-year-old Mayfair institution beloved by tastemakers such as Anna Wintour - and **Wartski**, the jewellers to The Royal Family, whose high-profile commissions include the wedding bands of Their Majesties King Charles and Queen Camilla, as well as that of the Princess of Wales. They will be joined by two other leading names in the field of antique jewellery, **Greens of Cheltenham** and **Sandra Cronan**. Making their first appearance at a European fair, **Rosior** - one of Portugal's most distinguished jewellery houses - will showcase pieces from the rarefied 130 one-of-a-kind works they produce annually. **Somlo**, dealers in antique and vintage watches will also return.

### *The Sculpture Walk*

Set both inside the fair and throughout the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea, this year's Sculpture Walk will take visitors on a journey through **35 works** - from monumental sculpture and classical highlights to extraordinary natural specimens such as a **one-ton rock crystal geode**.

Curated by sculpture specialist Flo Horswell, art historian Wilfrid Wright and New York-based interior designer Benjamin Brougham, the exhibition will premiere a striking new two-metre-high sculpture by British artist **Alex Chinneck**. Titled *Bangers and Mash*, the work features an upright piano whose body appears dramatically compressed beneath a stack of 19th-century books (picture p.1). It will be presented alongside works by a distinguished group of contemporary artists, among them **Eduardo Paolozzi**, **Tarik Currimbhoy**, **Elizabeth Frink**, **Himmat Shah**, **John Davies**, **Nicola Anthony**, **Gudmar Olovson**, **Anne Curry**, **Patrick O'Reilly**, **Mauro Perruchetti**, **Mark Coreth**, **David Breuer-Weil**, **Ron Arad**, **Angela Fung** and **Ashley Bedford**.

### *More Festival than a Fair*

More festival than fair, Treasure House has established itself as a social and cultural fixture of London's summer season, drawing collectors and art lovers from across the country and beyond. This year's edition once again offers a vibrant programme of talks, art tours and gastronomic experiences throughout the week.

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **TREASURE HOUSE ART FAIR**

London's pre-eminent interdisciplinary art fair, Treasure House Fair was founded in 2023 by Thomas Woodham-Smith and Harry van der Hoorn – the co-founders of *Masterpiece* (2009-2022). Brought to life in less than six months following the closure of *Masterpiece*, the fair's first edition set in the beautiful grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea offered a fresh and bold remastering of London's traditional summer fair, with a promise to preserve the event's international renown for expertise and exceptional quality. Pursuing a tradition of summer art fairs in London going back to 1934, the fair is testament to the strength of the British art market and the fact that London remains a unique destination for international art collectors

A "treasure house" of the rare and the beautiful, the historic and the cutting-edge, the interdisciplinary art fair blends items of quintessentially British character with hand-picked treasures from around the world. From the jewellery house that crafted Their Majesties King Charles and Queen Camilla's wedding rings, to young art dealers breaking new ground in the international art sphere, the fair will showcase galleries working at the apex of their disciplines. All vetted by independent experts, the carefully curated works on display will take the visitors on a journey through millennia of mankind's creativity, from Antiquity to today.

### **THE SUMMER ART FAIR IN LONDON: A 92-YEAR-OLD TRADITION**

The Treasure House Fair hails from an esteemed tradition of summer art fairs in London, with the 2026 edition marking the 92<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the *Antique Dealers' Fair* – known from 1970 as the *Grosvenor House Art and Antiques Fair*, founded in 1934. Held at the elegant five-star Grosvenor House Hotel on Park Lane, the *Antique Dealers' Fair* was the premier event of its time, showcasing the very best of the national trade. From 1937, the fair enjoyed the patronage of The Royal Family, with Queen Mary as its first royal patron, followed by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and later Princess Alexandra.

After 75 successful years, *Grosvenor House Art and Antiques Fair* was discontinued in 2009, with its heir, *Masterpiece*, opening its doors for the first time in 2010. Set in the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea, *Masterpiece* quickly established itself as one of world's leading cross-collecting fairs and a salient feature of the UK art market. *Masterpiece* announced its closure in early 2023 ahead of the 14<sup>th</sup> edition of the fair.

### **THE ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA**

Designed by Sir Christopher Wren, the architect of St. Paul's Cathedral over 300 years ago, The Royal Hospital Chelsea is a Grade I listed heritage site nestled on the banks of the River Thames. The home of the Chelsea Pensioners – The British Army veterans in their distinctive red coats – since 1692, the Hospital is renowned as the host venue of distinguished events such as the Royal Horticultural Society's annual Chelsea Flower Show.

## **PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

Treasure House Fair

4<sup>th</sup> Edition - 24-30 June 2026

Royal Hospital Chelsea

South Grounds London, SW3 4SR

[Treasurehousefair.com](http://Treasurehousefair.com)

## **PRESS**

**Press Preview: 24 June, 10am (access strictly upon accreditation)**

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