

Paris draws the world's collectors in for a week

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■ Long-standing event in the French capital has grown into a big international occasion



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reports

THE world's drawings collectors and curators will converge on Paris in early April for the annual drawings fest that has grown up around the *Salon du Dessin*.

TEFAF regulars who come straight from Maastricht to make this Paris drawings fair their next port of call.

French galleries make up the largest slice at 20 exhibitors, including the eight Parisian galleries who form the organising committee. Four galleries come from Germany, three each from London, Switzerland and the US, and two each from Belgium, Spain and Italy. It all adds up to a rich mix of works on paper spanning Old Master to 21st century drawings and watercolours, principally by European artists but incorporating some from further afield.

This is a fair with a very high return rate: some exhibitors have been showing here for years. However, new this year are the **Continua Gallery** from Tuscany who

Above: this much-published drawing by the Anglo-Swiss neo-classicist Henri Fuseli, shows Priam begging Achilles to return the body of Hector. The 10 x 14½in (25.5 x 37cm) work, in pen and brown ink with brown and grey wash, is inscribed lower right *Villa Borghese* and will be priced at €280,000 when **Le Claire Kunst** of Hamburg take it to the *Salon du Dessin*.

Right: **Berès Gallery** of Paris will take this watercolour *Dancer* by Auguste Herbin to the *Salon du Dessin*. The 19 x 13in (43 x 33cm) work, which is signed and dated *Herbin July 17*, bottom right, will be priced between €120,000 and €180,000.



It has transmuted into a *Semaine de Dessin* or drawings week that, alongside the renowned fair, now also takes in events in 19 of the city's museums, specialist drawings auctions and dealers' selling shows.

Now in its 22nd year, the *Salon du Dessin*'s draw extends far beyond the French capital and has international pulling power. The 39 exhibitors who stand at next month's staging hail from across Europe and the US and many are

bring contemporary drawings, **Jacques de la Béraudière** from Switzerland with 19th and 20th century drawings and, from France, the **AB Gallery** with drawings and early 19th and 20th century works, and **Galerie des Modernes** who will show 20th century works.

The fair takes place in its usual venue, the well-sited and spacious Palais de la Bourse on the right bank, and this year runs from April 10-15.

www.salondudessin.com



Above: this large preparatory study for a tapestry by Jacob Jordaens (1593-1678) will be one of the highlights **Jean-Luc Baroni** of London is taking to the *Salon du Dessin*. Executed in watercolour and an aqueous medium (probably tempera) over a chalk underdrawing on 16 sheets of paper laid down on canvas, it measures 3ft 2in x 6ft 4in (96cm x 1.93m) and depicts a scene from the *Odyssey* showing the meeting of Odysseus and Nausicaa. It appeared at auction at Drouot twice in the early years of the 20th century and then disappeared from view until 1985 when it surfaced at the New York sale of the Estate of Florence J Gould. The picture is relatively small in size for a tapestry cartoon and conservation work has revealed that the artist has added inserted sections. It is priced at €1,100,000.

Left: having concentrated mainly on 19th and 20th century works at his *TEFAF* stand, London dealer **Stephen Ongpin** will be focusing on earlier works at the *Salon du Dessin*. They will include this impressive, highly finished battle scene on paper by the Roman artist Antonio Tempesta (1555-1630), measuring 15½ x 22in (39.5 x 56cm) including the mount, and executed in pen, brown ink and brown wash heightened with gold. It is priced in the region of €55,000.