

SERIOUS pursuits

Auctions, antique fairs and diverting activities, chosen by Grace McCloud



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1 Manuel Alcino, one of a pair of silver pineapples, c1980-90, JM Baptista at the Art and Antiques Fair, 27 June-3 July. 2 Edgar Degas, *Femme se Peignant*, c1887-90, Pallant House Gallery, until Sept. 3 Camille Claudel, *Torso of a Crouching Woman*, 1887, Lullo Pampoulides at London Art Week, 1-8 July

There's a certain irony in the idea that Degas's drawings of preening, invariably naked women, seen as though through a keyhole, can be found in galleries around the world, on show for all to ogle. Sensual visions of privacy, they distil daily life – the Impressionists' mainstay – into smoky charcoal, chalk and pastel, affording us a privileged glimpse. And never is this as true as when they first go on display. Such is the case of *Femme se Peignant*, which now hangs at Chichester's Pallant House Gallery, in public sight for the first time since it was made, attracting 21st-century voyeurs, flâneurs and connoisseurs alike. But hurry; for preservation's sake, the drawing is, for the moment, only to be shown until early September (though the exact date is yet to be confirmed). Details: 01243 774557; pallant.org.uk.

BRITAIN

12 JUNE OLD TRUMAN BREWERY, BRICK LANE, LONDON E1 **VAUXHALL ART CAR BOOT FAIR**. The heir to Joshua Compston's anarchic Fête Worse Than Death this year presents work by Tracey Emin, Gavin Turk and Peter Blake. Details: artcarbootfair.com.

18-19 JUNE FAWLEY HILL, ICEHOUSE LANE, HENLEY-ON-THAMES, OXON **SALVO FAIR**. Purveyors of architectural, decorative and garden salvage set up shop around 'Ironhenge' – 31 columns reclaimed from St Pancras station. Details: 01225 422300; salvo-fair.com.

21 JUNE SWORDERS, CAMBRIDGE RD, STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET, ESSEX **DECORATIVE ART AND DESIGN**. Spotted: a Fornasetti 'Leopard' chest of drawers, yours for £15,000-£20,000. Details: 01279 817778; sworder.co.uk.

23-26 JUNE THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' GALLERY, RAMILLIES ST, LONDON W1 **PUNK WEEKENDER**. Anarchy in the UK: this festival features a show of Shirley Baker's unseen shots of subculture in 1980s Soho. Details: 020 7087 9300; thephotographersgallery.org.uk.

24 JUNE CEFA, SWINTON PARK, RIPON, N. YORKS **SUMMER AUCTION**. The auction house's first sale of the year focuses on furniture from the golden age of trade in the 17th century, and the art that was inspired by it. Details: 01765 688940; cefa.auction.

24-30 JUNE ALBERT MEMORIAL WEST LAWN, KENSINGTON GARDENS, LONDON SW7 **ART ANTIQUES LONDON**. An Italian tin-glazed platter showing the triumph of Bacchus, dished up by Bazaarart, is a highlight. Cheers to that! Details: 020 7389 6555; artantiqueslondon.com.

27 JUNE-3 JULY OLYMPIA, HAMMERSMITH RD, LONDON W14

THE ART AND ANTIQUES FAIR. Portugal's JM Baptista is the pineapple of our eye with his silver wares. Details: olympia-art-antiques.com. ▷



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1 Jean-Etienne Liotard, *A Dutch Girl at Breakfast*, c1755-56, Sotheby's, 6 July. 2 Chinese green-aventurine, enamel and silver-gilt cylindrical box, 20th-century, Christie's New York, 22 June. 3 Utagawa Toyokuni, *Sawamura Sôjûrô III in the Role of Oboshi Yuranosuke*, first published 1796, Drouot, 21 June

30 JUNE CHRISTIE'S, KING ST, LONDON SW1 DEFINING BRITISH ART. The auction house celebrates 250 years with a star-studded roll call, featuring Freud, Bacon and Stanley Spencer, Leighton, Lowry and Reynolds. Details: 020 7839 9060; christies.com.

1-8 JULY LONDON LONDON ART WEEK. Shows and sales take place across Mayfair and St James's. Details: londonartweek.co.uk.

2 JULY LONDON ART NIGHT. Underground culture: artist Koo Jeong-A uses sounds and smells to transform a disused Jubilee-line platform into a subversive sensory installation. Details: artnight.london.

5 JULY SWORDERS, CAMBRIDGE RD, STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET, ESSEX SILVER AND JEWELLERY. A 19th-century silver-gilt pot, jug and sugar bowl is just our cup of tea. Details: 01279 817778; sworder.co.uk.

6 JULY BONHAMS, NEW BOND ST, LONDON W1 OLD MASTERS. Dobson's choice: the 17th-century painter's self-portrait is up for grabs – take it or leave it. Details: 020 7447 7447; bonhams.com.

6 JULY SOTHEBY'S, NEW BOND ST, LONDON W1 OLD MASTER AND BRITISH PAINTINGS. *Breakfast* at Sotheby's: Liotard's picture of a girl taking her morning meal goes on sale for the first time in nearly 250 years. Details: 020 7293 5000; sothebys.com.

19-20 JULY CHORLEY'S, PRINKNASH ABBEY PARK, CRANHAM, GLOS TENTH ANNIVERSARY SALE. How now, a brown-and-white cow (or *Short-horn'd Ox*) painted by John Pitman will get tongues wagging and paddles waving at Chorley's birthday sale. Details: 01452 344499; simonchorley.com.

21-24 JULY NEC, NORTH AVE, BIRMINGHAM ANTIQUES FOR EVERYONE. More than 200 dealers ply their trade at the largest fair outside the capital. Details: 0844 581 0827; antiquesforeveryone.co.uk.

OUTSIDE BRITAIN

FRANCE 21 JUNE DROUOT, RUE DROUOT, PARIS THE PORTIER COLLECTION. Together with Christie's, Beaussant Lefèvre sells a family's treasury of Japanese art at Drouot. Details: 00 33 1 48 00 20 20; drouot.com.

USA 16 JUNE CHRISTIE'S, ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, NEW YORK, NY ALICE'S ADVENTURE'S IN WONDERLAND. Why is a raven like a writing desk? We have no idea, but we *do* know you'd have to be as mad as a hatter not to bid for a first-edition copy of *Alice* in this stand-alone sale. Details: 001 212 636 200; christies.com.

22 JUNE CHRISTIE'S, ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, NEW YORK, NY THE PRIVATE COLLECTION OF JOAN RIVERS. A Tiffany silver dog bowl and 69 porcelain place-card holders – expect no less from the late, great comedian. Details: 001 212 636 200; christies.com ■

