

News Release

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Pioneering Fair Establishes High Standards

The Abu Dhabi International Fine Art and Antiques Fair
The Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, Abu Dhabi, UAE
21st – 24th November 2007

Leading figures from Emirates society, including members of the Royal Family, were amongst buyers attending The Abu Dhabi International Fine Art and Antiques Fair at The Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, Abu Dhabi, UAE from 21st – 24th November 2007.

With exhibitors from across the world participating, this truly international fair was widely praised for the very high quality of exhibits and the superb level of presentation. The fair featured professional stand-fitting with four and five metre tall panels, augmented by superior lighting, luxurious carpeting and an ambience of exclusivity that complemented the range of fine art and antiques on sale. The fair was described as the most impressive fair of any kind ever staged in the UAE and received extensive coverage by the UAE media, attracting television coverage on several stations and extensive daily coverage in the major UAE and pan-Arabian press.

The Abu Dhabi International Fine Art and Antiques Fair was particularly well supported by members of Abu Dhabi society.
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His Excellency Abdullah Bin Mohamed Al Masood, Chairman of the National Consultative Council, opening the first Abu Dhabi International Fine Art and Antiques Fair. Organiser Mrs Fran Foster is shown right, and Turret Middle East Director, Mr Richard Hease, is shown left, (in the grey suit).



His Excellency Abdullah Bin Mohamed Al Masood examines a 19th century piano valued at \$5million on the stand of Galerie Michel-Guy Chadelaud from Paris.

*His Excellency Abdullah Bin Mohamed Al Masood meets
M. Michel-Guy Chadelaud from Paris.*



Among a high number of important visitors were representatives from local embassies, the banking sector, the UAE government, hotel groups and interior design companies. In particular, the Ambassador for the Ukraine, members of the Royal Embassy of Netherlands, representatives from the Spanish Embassy and members of the Swedish Embassy.

Visitors from the banking sector included representatives from The Habib Bank, AG Zurich, The Abu Dhabi Investment House, The National Bank of Abu Dhabi, The Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank, The Standard Chartered Bank, The Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, The First Gulf Bank, The Commercial Bank of Dubai and The Union National Bank.

Other visitors included representatives from The Abu Dhabi Marine Operating Company, The Ministry of Economy, the Al Maya Group, White Palace Furniture and Decoration, The Abu Dhabi Ministry of Interiors, Middle East Aviation Association, Etihad Airways, Hydra Properties, BA Architects, The Abu Dhabi Airports Company, The Ministry of Culture, Youth and Community Development, Shell Abu Dhabi, DZone Interior Design, Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, The Sultan Group, The Architecture & Planning Group, The Rotana Group of Hotels, The Al Fahim Group, and The Department of Planning and Economy.

In addition to sales during the fair, a number of exhibitors departed with expectations of a good deal of follow-up business. Galerie Michel-Guy Chadelaud from Paris, specialising in 19th century French furniture, was preparing to make presentations to members of Emirate society, and similarly, Al Falasi Islamic Art were looking forward to making a personal presentation to members of the Abu Dhabi Royal family.

In other areas, high quality contemporary paintings received significant interest. Art Andulus from Dubai, with paintings and sculpture enjoyed a successful fair while Islamic art and artefacts were also notably well received. Local dealers SAH for Islamic Art sold a number of pieces to Middle East collectors.

Commenting on the fair, Fair Director **Fran Foster** said:

'This fair has been a truly pioneering event presented at a very high level with an overall quality of exhibits never before seen in the UAE. We have received enormous support from all areas of business and commerce in Abu Dhabi, which has been reflected in the very positive response from key individuals who visited the fair.

'Above all, I cannot stress highly enough that this fair has laid the foundations for the future as exhibitors and visitors come to fully appreciate the opportunities that lie ahead'.

For more information please contact

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About Turret Middle East

Turret Middle East is a leading organizer of conferences and exhibitions in the Middle East and North Africa region. Turret Middle East is a foundation partner of the Abu Dhabi National Exhibitions Company, and is located on site at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre. Turret has organized and managed some of the region's biggest events, including ADIPEC and Gastech, drawing in record numbers of exhibitors, visitors, delegates, and expert speakers. Our events have enjoyed the sponsorship, support, and patronage of the region's government departments, public and private sector companies, as well as the media. The expertise that drives Turret Middle East is made up of industry professionals from around the world, with proven experience across all the disciplines required for the creation of a successful event, supported by a select range of professional service providers. Most exhibitor services are done in-house, giving Turret the unique advantage of being able to support exhibitors with extensive services on location.

Fran Foster

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