

European works of art prominent at venerable Park Avenue Armory event

Seventy antique dealers and galleries from the US and overseas will gather at the Park Avenue Armory for the 65th edition of the 'Winter Show'.



Anne Crane, 14 Jan 2019



Use of Sarum book of hours, c.1405-15 made in Bruges, priced at \$150,000 by Les Enluminures at the Winter Show

Now renamed (it was formerly the Winter Antiques Show) and with a new executive director (Helen Allen) a distinctive feature of this venerable fair has always been that all proceeds benefit The East Side Settlement, a community-based organisation for the Bronx and northern Manhattan.

It has a 10-day run from January 18-27 preceded by its famous ticket-only opening night party.

While the fair continues to offer the Americana on which the event built its reputation, as the market evolves the focus is increasingly on European art and antiques. US dealers make up the lion's share of the exhibitor list but UK dealers are the second-strongest representation with around 14 showing this year.

“This is an exciting time of renewed energy and interest in decorative arts and design,” says Allen. “We are eager to continue broadening our support base and plan to engage with new and existing audiences through programmes and events throughout the year.”

Les Enluminures

Paris, New York and Chicago-based *Les Enluminures* is a long-standing exhibitor at the *Winter Show*, having stood at the event for about 25 years.

“It was the second major show we ever did, starting with a tiny booth in the rear of the event,” says the firm's Sandra Hindman. “This year's show promises to be extraordinarily good and it's extremely well run. We are excited about it. New York is a wonderful market.”

For this latest edition the firm will be presenting its new themed catalogue devoted to books of hours under the title *Medieval Must-haves*, as well as a selection of sculpture and medieval and Renaissance jewellery which is *Les Enluminures*'s other speciality.

There are 18 illuminated books of hours from France and the Netherlands, which were the major centres of production in the Middle Ages, at prices starting from \$30,000. Pictured here is one of them, a Use of Sarum book of hours in Latin of c.1405-15 made in Bruges for export to the English market. Its provenance can be traced back from its origin through nearly two centuries in prominent English families.

It is decorated with 12 miniatures by the Master of the Beaufort Saints and associates and is priced at \$150,000.

thewintershow.org