

Press Information, January 2009



Antiques for Modern Living at The Decorative Fair, Spring 2009

- An English Club Room takes over the Foyer

Launched in 1985, the **Decorative Antiques & Textiles Fair** has led the way as *the* antiques fair for interior design. It was the first in the UK to offer a 'look' for decorating. The Spring event, runs Tuesday 21 April through Sunday 26 April 2009. Each year the Fairs are held in January, April and October at The Marquee, Battersea Park.

"After many years of minimalism and simplicity, I think people want to add more personality into their homes..." Sir Paul Smith

This recent statement by the eponymous British designer may be one of the reasons why the Decorative Antiques Fair, unlike some others, has seen continued growth in the past year, with an unflagging demand from increasing numbers of both decorators and private buyers for the stock they bring to the Fairs.

At the 2009 Spring Fair, the special theme in the Foyer will be **The Club Room**, featuring all items one might associate with a classic gentleman's bolt-hole: a complete Victorian billiard room, comfortable leather seating, a library area, sporting and gaming memorabilia, drinks-related items and associated decorative touches. All items will be offered for sale from exhibitors at the Fair, and will provide a perfect antidote to minimalism, offering some superb trappings of a comfortable lifestyle that has been appreciated for centuries!

Whilst the make-up of the Fairs has changed since they launched 24 years ago, the experience at the Decorative Antiques & Textiles Fairs has not. Buyers still find it the most inspiring and relaxed antiques event in the UK. Dealers offer interior decorators and private buyers the best design options around for a very individual look.

The **mainstay** of the Fairs is:

Decorative and painted furniture

Traditional English wood furniture

Art Deco and post-war modern design

Lighting: from 18th century rococo chandeliers to modernist 1960's wall lights

Mirrors: from carved & gilded or mirror-framed, to painted over-mantels

Textiles: for wall decoration or practical application, rugs and kilims

Upholstered and leather furniture

Garden and outdoor furniture and ornament

Design schemes are also about the personal touch, and the Fair does not omit the needs of **collectors** of objects from the C17th to C21st, with dealers in:

Sculpture and statuary

Ceramics, porcelain & glass

Oriental antiques and artefacts

Paintings and prints

Kitchenalia and gardening antiques

Collectors' items from snuff boxes to antiquities, from tribal art to toys

But the unique aspect of the Decorative Antiques & Textiles Fairs, and for which it is renowned, is **the quirky and the unusual**: dealers have a great eye for spotting objects that work as decorative highlights in a home. You might find:

Industrial or factory furniture
Architectural antiques
Shop fronts and fittings
Fossils and other natural objets trouvés

Current **trends** include:

- black accents: look out for lamps, small furniture such as ebonised or japanned chairs, desks and occasional tables, and glassware.
- upholstered furniture is more popular than ever; it was flying off the stands at the Autumn 2008 fair. Antique offers better quality value-for-money than new.
- Hotel Chic incorporating boudoir glitz and gold, with C20th furniture especially in unusual finishes such as parchment, vellum and lacquer, antique Venetian mirrors, and lots of antique gilding - furniture, frames or lamps.
- industrial lighting vs feminine crystal: top sellers include quirky wall lights, original Anglepoise lamps, modernist glass chandeliers, extravagant antique crystal chandeliers and all kinds of floor-lamps.
- floral and colourful textiles, used as a 'statement' in a room: just one piece of upholstered furniture will get the look, or cushions and bed/sofa throws using antique textile lengths such as C18th toile de Jouy and chintzes.
- useful, English & Decorative wood furniture that complement wallpaper schemes: chests of drawers, side tables, consoles. It's a great time to buy. Some prices are half what they were in the 1990s.

In April 2009, around 120 dealers from around the UK and Europe will exhibit.

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Press information & images from Pippa Roberts Publicity & Communications.

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Notes to Editors:

Event: The Spring Decorative Antiques & Textiles Fair
Date: Tuesday 21 April to Sunday 26 April 2009
Venue: The Marquee, Battersea Park, London SW11 4NJ
Tickets: £8.00 including catalogue (which allows free return to Fair)
Transport: Sloane Square Tube – a free Renault shuttle service runs from Sloane Square to the Marquee every 10-15 minutes during opening hours.
Open: Tuesday 12pm – 8pm
Wednesday, Thursday 11am – 8pm
Friday 11am – 7pm
Saturday & Sunday 11am – 6pm
Organisers: Harvey (Management Services) Ltd
Enquiries: +44 (0)20 7624 5173
Website: www.decorativefair.com

FUTURE DATE: Autumn Fair 29 Sept-4 Oct 2009

NB – Opening times may be subject to change; please call to check before travelling.