

master pictures

ATG's Who's Who of the

IT IS in the nature of commerce that stock will come and go, but where fine art is concerned the dealers and their expertise are what keep the clients returning year after year.

One of the main objectives of Master Paintings Week is to introduce a wider public to this aspect of the London art market. Here is our A-Z of some of the key players.



FOUNDED in 1817, Agnew's have been a significant global art market presence for as long as anyone can remember. A traditional dealership, they have developed additional specialist areas and now deal in Old Master paintings and drawings from 1200 to 1850, British paintings and watercolours from the 17th to the 20th centuries and prints, particularly by French Impressionist and Post-Impressionist artists. They also represent contemporary artists.



Julian Agnew

BASED in both Stockholm and London, **Verner Åmell** have been dealing in fine art since 1922. They specialise in Old Master paintings as well as high quality Scandinavian art, watercolours and sculptures with the main focus on 19th and 20th century art. They exhibit regularly at the major art fairs in Maastricht, New York, London and Paris.



Verner Åmell

FORMERLY Head of the Old Masters department at Christie's, **Charles Beddington** set up his own business, and in 2001 he opened his gallery in Savile Row.



Charles Beddington

An independent scholar, he has published and lectured widely on Canaletto and other 18th century Italian view painters, and has curated exhibitions and written numerous articles on the subject of Venetian view painting.

Richard Knight is international co-head in the new category of Old Masters and 19th century art at Christie's.



Richard Knight

A former dealer – with his colleague Nicholas Hall he was one half of Hall & Knight – he brought his knowledge of the market and business tactics to Christie's in 2004.

ESTABLISHED in 1760, **P. & D. Colnaghi** is one of London's oldest and most respected galleries. Continuing to specialise in Master works from the 15th to 19th centuries, since 2002 the firm has been under the direction of Old Master dealers Konrad Bernheimer and Katrin Bellinger, both of whom have long-established galleries in Munich.



Konrad Bernheimer

SIMON Dickinson, a former Christie's Old Masters and British pictures director, founded his dealership, **Simon C. Dickinson**, in 1992 with dealer David Ker. It was not long before they were joined by Ian Kennedy, also a former Christie's Old Master director, who established the New York division of the business.



Simon Dickinson

James Roundell, formerly head of Christie's Impressionist and Modern department, and Bona Montagu, a dealer in contemporary art, brought their respective expertise to the firm in the 1990s.

BEN Elwes has worked in the fine art market for over 20 years, starting at Christie's in London in 1987. He later worked in dealerships in both New York and London, eventually becoming a partner at Independent Editions specialising in post-War British Art. In 1993 he set up Elwes & Hanham Ltd in Old Bond Street dealing in Old Master paintings. In 2004, he established Ben Elwes Fine Art, dealing in works from the 15th to 20th centuries, with his wife and co-director, Rachel Layton Elwes.



Ben Elwes

RICHARD Green has been dealing in paintings for nearly 50 years, following his father into the business of fine art dealing. Acknowledged as a leading global presence, both at auction and major fairs, he now has three galleries in Mayfair, specialising variously in Old

Masters, British, Impressionist, 19th century Victorian and Continental pictures.

It remains a family business, with his three sons, Jonathan, David and Matthew, now partners, working alongside his brother John and sister Penny Marks.



Jonathan Green

FERGUS Hall is a collector turned dealer with a masters in art history who quit his career as a financier in the City of London to follow his passion after making a number of significant discoveries at auction while building his private collection.



Fergus Hall

His dealership specialises in Old Masters – primarily 17th century Dutch and Flemish paintings, and British paintings pre-1850. Italian, French and Spanish Old Masters are also of increasing interest to the firm.

ALONG with Jonathan Green and Konrad Bernheimer, **Johnny Van Haeften** is one of the driving forces behind Master Paintings Week.



Johnny Van Haeften

Of Dutch ancestry, but very much British by birth and upbringing, he joined Christie's press office in 1969, also working partly in the stamp department.

After eight years, he left to set up Johnny Van Haeften Ltd with his wife Sarah. Their first gallery was in New Bond Street, but five years later, in 1982, the business moved to the present gallery in Duke Street, St James's, specialising in Dutch and Flemish Old Master Paintings of the 16th and 17th centuries. The Van Haeften Gallery is the only gallery in London dealing exclusively in this field.

DEREK Johns came to prominence early, having been made a director of Sotheby's at the age of 26 in 1968 and then head of Old Master Paintings six years later.

He first went into partnership as a dealer in 1981 as Harari & Johns Ltd,

establishing his own gallery, Derek Johns Ltd, in 1996 at the Duke Street premises where he remains today.

Another long-established presence at leading fairs such as TEFAF Maastricht, since 2007, Derek Johns has also shared premises with Milan-based dealer and Old Master Drawings specialist Edoardo Testori. They have also recently set up a joint London base.



Derek Johns

PATRICK Matthiesen

founded The Matthiesen Gallery in 1978. As the son of Francis Matthiesen, the dealer who arranged the sale of pictures on behalf of The Hermitage, his pedigree was already well established.

Specialising in Italian, French and Spanish art from the dawn of the Renaissance to the early 19th century, in 2001 the gallery published a major catalogue of Italian art covering the period 1500-1720, which included the discovery of a painting attributed to the young Raphael.

Since 2001 Matthiesen's purpose-built St James' gallery has eschewed exhibitions in favour of special monographic catalogues dedicated to, among others, Chardin, Bertin, Regnier and Cairo and Vanvitelli.



Patrick Matthiesen

JOHN Mitchell Fine Paintings is another family dealership that goes back generations. Founded in 1930, it remains an independent business run as a partnership that offers fine paintings, drawings and watercolours for sale.

Second generation Peter Mitchell is a leading authority on European flower and still life painting while his sons, James and William, both with extensive experience outside the family firm, are also now partners. James worked for Paris auctioneers Tajan in 1987 before reading history at Oxford and later spent three years in the Old Master department at Christie's, before joining John Mitchell Fine Paintings in 1993. William worked in the Paris art trade for five years, dealing on his own account.

week's exhibitors

PARIS, New York and now London – Emmanuel Moatti opens **Moatti Fine Arts** in Ryder St, specialising in Old Master paintings, sculptures and drawings, just in time to take part in *Master Paintings Week*.



Emmanuel Moatti

Having studied art history at the Courtauld and the Ecole du Louvre, in 1988 Moatti created a department for Old Master paintings and drawings within his father Alain Moatti's sculpture gallery.

In 1990 Emmanuel opened his own gallery on the Right Bank in Paris, followed by a New York space in 1998. He is one of the three founders of the annual Salon du Dessin in Paris.

MORETTI also have galleries in three international art centres: London, New York and Florence.



Fabrizio Moretti

This is a young dealership, whose three principals, president Fabrizio Moretti and directors Gabriele Caioni and Flavio Gianassi, are all in their early thirties. However, they already have years of experience in the international art business, with Fabrizio setting up his first dealership, Galerie Moretti, in Florence aged just 22.

Galerie Moretti specialise in works dating from the early Renaissance to the late 17th century.

PHILIP Mould OBE is one of the best-known figures in the London art world, both as possibly the leading expert on the



Philip Mould

history of the British portrait and as a TV art pundit. His interest in art started as a teenager, when the proceeds of his collection of shoe buckles – in a single-owner sale at Christie's – provided him with the wherewithal to start investing in fine art.

His new book, *Sleuth The Amazing Quest for Lost Art Treasures*, has already thrust him back into the limelight this summer, adding to his reputation as the rediscoverer of many celebrated lost works of art. It follows his 1995 book *Sleepers: In Search of Lost Old Masters*.

FORMERLY of Colnaghi, Edmondo di Robilant established his Dover Street Gallery in 1989, and has been dealing in Old Master and 19th century paintings, specialising in the Italian and French schools for over 20 years.

Meanwhile Marco Voena, based at his

Milan premises for over ten years, deals in fine art ranging from Old Masters to contemporary.

Having gone into partnership ten years ago, in January 2005 they joined forces to open a London gallery, **Robilant + Voena**, at 38 Dover Street.



Marco Voena



Edmondo di Robilant

ALEXANDER Bell is co-chairman worldwide of **Sotheby's** Old Master paintings department.



Alexander Bell

Head of department since 1994 at the age of 32 he has presided over many major sales including Old Masters from the collection of the British Rail Pension Fund in 1995, 1996 and 1997, the Thyssen collection in 1995 and the sale of Rubens's *Massacre of the Innocents* in July 2002 for a record price of £45m.

He was also involved in the private sale of Raphael's *Madonna of the Pinks*, acquired by the National Gallery in London in 2004 for £34.8m.

RUSSIAN, British and European art from the 18th and 19th centuries, as well as Old Masters, prints and maps have been the focus of **Sphinx Fine Art** since it was founded in 2007.



Roy Bolton

Roy Bolton and Edward Strachan have built a new exhibition space at their Kensington Church Street gallery in the past year and aim to show how Russian and Western art – separated by the Communist years – share a collective history and intertwined future through their various influences.

Strachan developed his interest in Russian art after reading *Slavonic Studies* at university and living in the former Soviet Union for nearly 20 years. Bolton brought 12 years in the auction world to their partnership, seven of them as head of Christie's Old Master department.

The gallery is named after the 14th century BC sphinxes that sit outside the Academy of Arts in St. Petersburg.

HAVING started his career at Sotheby's, **William Thuillier** was director of the Alexander Gallery for several years before setting up as an independent art dealer

23 years ago.

His gallery in the heart of Old Bond Street concerns itself chiefly with Old Master works, but also advises clients on Impressionist and 20th century art.



William Thuillier

He has successfully unearthed and sold works by Sir Joshua Reynolds, Joseph Wright of Derby, Jacopo Amigoni, John Wootton, Alessandro Magnasco and many other painters. The National Maritime Museum Greenwich, the National Portrait Gallery, and Tate Britain all hold works that have passed through Thuillier's hands.

MICHAEL Tollemache Fine Art can be found in Duke Street, at the heart of Mayfair and St James's art dealing community.



Michael Tollemache

Michael Tollemache himself is one of the most experienced members of the dealing community, having worked in the London art market for over 40 years, first at Sotheby's and then in his own art-dealing company, established in 1967.

A former chairman of The Society of London Art Dealers (SLAD), Gainsborough, Poussin, Reynolds, Joseph Wright of Derby and Stubbs are just some of the major artists whose works have ended up in public collections with the help of Michael Tollemache Fine Art.

ALFRED and Ronald Cohen can trace their roots at Bury Street's **Trafalgar Galleries** back to 1956 and have been holding exhibitions for more than 50 years.

Specialising in European Old Master Paintings including Dutch, Italian, German, Flemish, French and Spanish works from the 14th to 19th centuries, Ronald Cohen's rediscovery of a painting attributed to Goya is just one piece of their published research.

Their paintings have been acquired by major national museums including the national galleries of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales as well as such major international museums as the Rijksmuseum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Cleveland Museum of Art. The gallery continues to track down important works of art and deals principally with museums, foundations and private collectors.

RAFAEL Valls was opened 35 years ago in the heart of St James' by Rafael Valls who specialises in Old Master Paintings with a particular emphasis on Dutch, Flemish and Spanish paintings of the 17th

and 18th centuries. Rafael, who runs the business with his wife Caroline, now has two galleries, one in Duke Street, the other yards away in Ryder Street.



Rafael Valls

As well as offering Master works and staging exhibitions – last summer was *Birds and Beasts in Art* – they hold half a dozen Contemporary art exhibitions a year and are regular exhibitors at *TEFAF Maastricht* and London's *BADA Fair*.

MARK Weiss founded **The Weiss Gallery** in Albemarle Street, Mayfair 1985, before later moving to Jermyn Street,



Mark Weiss

where he now deals in some of the finest examples of Early English and Old Master portraiture. With more than 35 years' experience in the art trade, Weiss has just achieved what he believes is the crowning glory of his career, the restoration of an early Van Dyck masterpiece to the Spanish state.

Saint Sebastian bound for Martyrdom, disappeared 200 years ago from the Spanish Royal collection, before being rediscovered in a French collection in 2000. It has now been re-hung in its former position, as part of the hanging scheme originally designed and supervised by Velázquez for the Spanish king, Philip IV.


WHITFIELD Fine Art have recently moved to a new gallery at 23 Dering Street, where they will continue to show major Old Master paintings whilst also exhibiting 20th century Modern British Art.



Clovis Whitfield

Established in 1979, Whitfield have sold to many of the great museums of the world including the National Gallery, London, Museo del Prado, Madrid, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, J. Paul Getty Museum, Malibu, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York and Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna, among many others.

As well as 15th to 18th century Old Masters and Italian pictures, the gallery specialises in Modern British works by the likes of Augustus John and Sir Terry Frost.

 For full Master Paintings Week preview log on to www.antiquestradegazette.com