

## Beryl Cook cat in Cotswolds

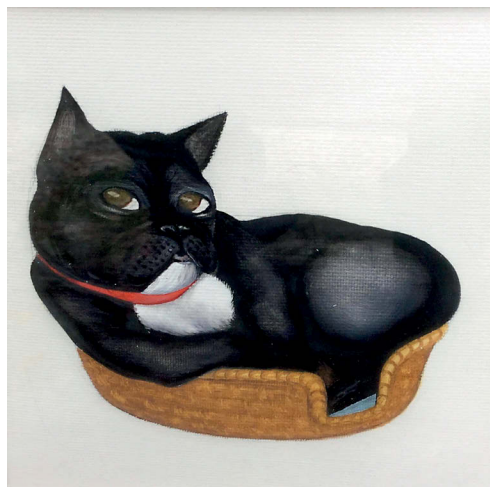
The first *Cotswolds Decorative, Antiques & Art Fair* of the year comes to Westonbirt School this month. Running from April 13-15, the 29-year-old event hosts 43 dealers (fully booked), particularly those from around the west of England. **Paul Burnett Antiques & Interiors** and designer furniture specialist **Scandinavian by Design** are among the locals.

Returning dealer **Freya Mitton** of Somerset offers two preparatory sketches by Beryl Cook, the British artist known for her scenes showing large groups of lusty and laughing ladies. Cook also wrote a book with Edward Luci-Smith titled *Bertie and the Big Red Ball*. The oil sketches on show include *Berti in a Basket*, shown **above**, which is priced at **£2200**.

**Cooper Events** organises the fair. First-time exhibitors at this edition include **Dominic Kemp Modern British Prints**, Art Deco furniture sculpture and design specialist **Deco Interiors**, **Deco Dave** with lighting glass, ceramics and silver, furniture dealerships **JMR Antiques** and **William Jennings Antiques**.

Sculpture specialist **Garret & Hurst** and **JC Antiques** with paintings are both returning after several years.

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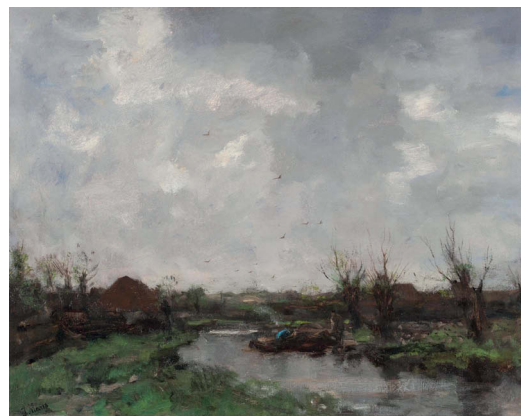
**Right:** *A River Landscape with Farm Houses* by Jacob Henricus Maris was sold at *TEFAF Maastricht* by Lawrence Steigard (price undisclosed).

## The late, late show at TEFAF

Good things come to those who wait. That is exactly what happened for **Lawrence Steigard Fine Arts**. At last year's *TEFAF Maastricht* a Dutch collector showed interest in a painting on his stand by Jacob Henricus Maris.

The oil on canvas, *A River Landscape with Farm Houses*, 23 x 2ft 5in (58.5 x 73.5cm), was deemed too large and the collector did not pursue a purchase. Roll forward 12 months and Steigard was back at Maastricht. He hadn't sold the painting and decided to bring it just in case.

Just before closing on the first day, the collector returned to the stand and asked if Steigard still had it. "The collector said she had been thinking about it all year. So I said she was in luck as it was hanging in our



closet at the fair – it had been vetted but was not on display. She spent half an hour looking at it again and decided 10 minutes before closing to buy it."

This isn't unusual for dealers. According to the latest Art Basel and UBS Global *The Art Market 2018* report published last month (*ATG* Nos 2334 and 2335), more than two years was a common answer when dealers were asked how long it took to sell an artwork from their inventory.

The period of between six and 12 months had the most responses at 29%, and the second highest was longer than two years with 20%.

Laura Chesters

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