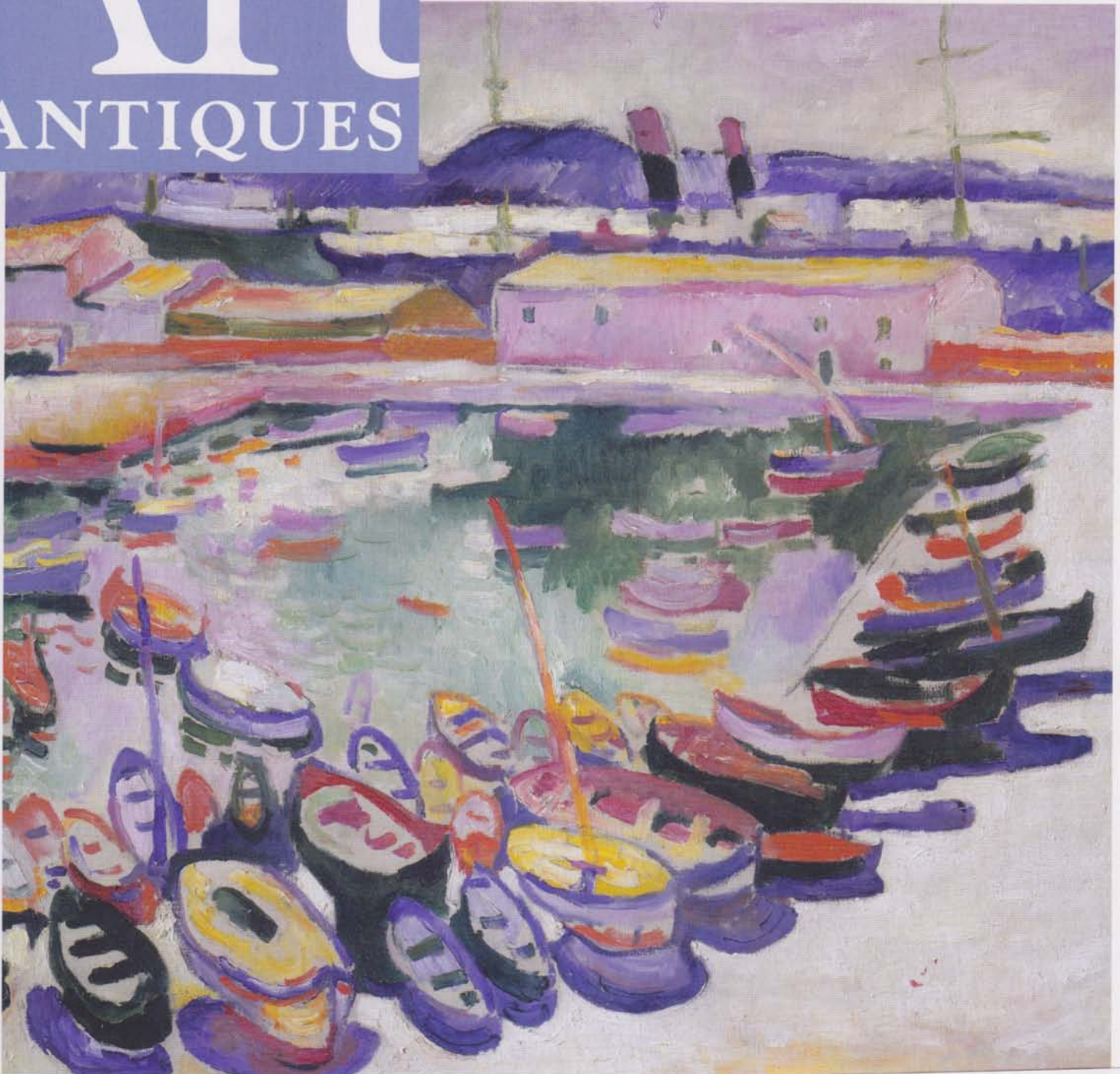


Art ANTIQUES

FOR COLLECTORS OF THE FINE AND DECORATIVE ARTS



WAYNE THIEBAUD | TRIBAL ART | CONTEMPORARY

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The Nativity Scene

THE SAN Francisco Tribal & Textile Arts Show will be held February 7–9 at the Fort Mason Center, Festival Pavilion, with an opening night preview and benefit for the de Young Museum taking place on Thursday, February 6. The fair, produced by Bill Caskey and Elizabeth Lees, is the world's longest-running tribal art event, now in



its 28th year. This year's show will feature over 15,000 pieces from some 100 globe-spanning dealers. "The most remote corners of the world are given center stage at our show," said Lees in a release. "Bringing together not only an assortment of quality artifacts, but



also a collection of exhibitors that are the leading experts in their fields is very unique."

One participant in the fair is Vicki Shiba, a Mill Valley, Calif.-based dealer specializing in Asian and tribal art. One item at her booth will be a "Replacement Skull" made of wood, shells, fiber, cassowary feathers and pigments. The object was made by the Iatmul people of the East Sepik Province of Papua New Guinea in the early 20th century. The tribe created replacement skulls like this one as substitutes for the human skulls it used in rituals and to mark ancestral traditions when colonial powers began to quash cannibalism in New Guinea. It was collected by Mr. Eudald Serra of Spain in 1955–56.

The authenticity and rich cultural background seen in Shiba's pieces has come to be expected by all of the fair's dealers. Michael Hamson, a Los Angeles-based Oceanic art dealer who was recently featured as an expert on the History Channel, will be bring-

ing pieces that highlight the Morobe province of Papua New Guinea, a less-known and less-collected region. Howard Nowes' New York gallery Art for Eternity will be offering a pair of Pre-Columbian Chancay wood carved standing figures from Peru circa 800–1200. The pair of male ancestral figures stand about one and a half feet tall, with red and black painted faces and headbands woven with intricate bird patterns.



Mark A. Johnson Tribal Art, in Marina Del Rey, Calif., will be featuring a 19th-century wooden ancestral statue from the Dayak people of Borneo Island in Indonesia.

In addition to the dealers, there will be a special exhibition near the show's entrance titled, "Masks Then and Now: Inspiration and Interpretation." The show is curated by Thomas Murray, an Asian and tribal art expert who was recently appointed to the Cultural Property Advisory Committee by President Obama. The show will pair tribal masks from the Himalayas and



Indonesia with the contemporary works from the "Shamanic Mask Series" by Mort Golub that they inspired.

LATER IN the month, across the bay, another ethnographic art event will be take place—the 30th annual **Marin Show: Art of the Americas**. From February 21–23 at the Marin Civic Center in San Rafael, the show, produced by KR Martindale Show Management, will bring together historical and contemporary artworks from South, Central, and North America. The objects on offer, from Pre-Columbian to Spanish Colonial and Native American, include textiles, baskets, jewelry, pottery, beadwork, sculpture, paintings, books, and photographs, at prices ranging from



ART FOR ETERNITY: MARK A. JOHNSON TRIBAL ART; CASKEY & LEES; KR MARTINDALE SHOW MANAGEMENT/MARIN SHOW; VICKI SHIBA ASIAN & TRIBAL ART

KR MARTINDALE SHOW MANAGEMENT/MARIN SHOW; MICHAAN'S AUCTIONS



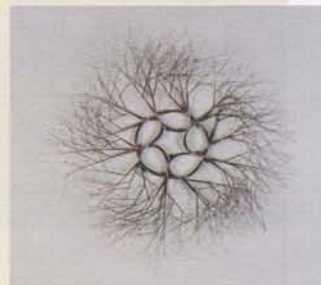
the low three figures to six figures. In addition to the exhibitors' booths, the Marin Show will offer educational events and lectures such as an installation by the Marin Museum of the American Indian and a talk on "The Evolution of the American Indian Art Market" by collector and private dealer Richard Polsky, author of *I Sold Andy Warhol (Too Soon)*. Show producer Kim

Martindale said in a release, "It's been very interesting to see how over the years the demographics for this show have shifted. We're noticing a whole new wave of young collectors at the Marin Show who are serious about indigenous arts and have an appreciation for the quality and variety on display at this show."



Bid on a Wire

A wire sculpture by Ruth Asawa was the top lot at Michaan's Fine Art, Furniture, Decorative Arts and Jewelry sale on December 6. The Alameda, Calif.-based auction house achieved \$102,660 for the wall-mounted, wreath-shaped work (est. \$80,000–90,000). Asawa, who died this past August at the age of 87, grew up in a Japanese-American internment camp during World War II, learned to draw from Disney animators, and went on to study with Josef Albers and Buckminster Fuller. Michaan's 20th-century design specialist, Greg Favors, said, "It has been a wonderful experience for me to be a part of securing such a quality piece for auction, from its original appraisal to the final sale at Michaan's. Ruth Asawa has not only become a San Francisco legend, but a 20th-century design icon in her own right. It has been an honor to be involved in presenting this piece to the world marketplace."



Betty Anglin Smith
Pines at Dusk 48x36 o/c



Shannon Smith Hughes
Awakening 24x24 o/l



Jennifer Smith Rogers
Cumulus Over Charleston 36x48 o/l

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