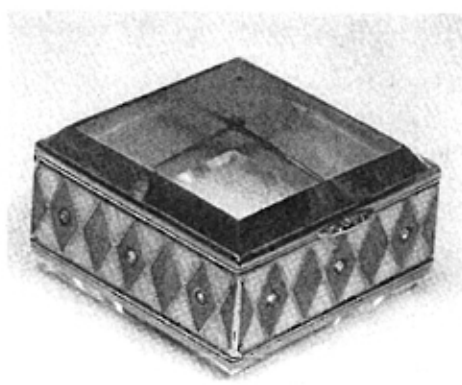


Fair Dealers Look Toward Russia

NEW YORK—Moscow is the latest stop on the global art fair circuit. More than 80 international dealers have signed on to the Moscow World Fine Art Fair (Sept. 20–26) at the historic neoclassical Manège on Red Square. Last year this vetted fair only drew 27 dealers but pulled in a five-day total attendance of more than 25,000. “Even the entire Moscow diplomatic community showed up to take in the fair,” says Sixtine Crutchfield-Tripet, general manager of organizer Art Culture Studio. (Fabergé *bonbonnière*, right, at exhibitor Marks Fine Antique Silver, London.)

Now with Russian billionaires hitting the auction houses, dealers like Hervé Aaron (Didier Aaron Inc.) say, “Russia is the next frontier for collectors.” This Paris-, London- and New York-based dealer has formed an



alliance with power dealer Richard Feigen (Richard L. Feigen & Co.) to better serve their Soviet clientele. One thing is certain: Other show organizers will watch this Russian event closely. For more information, visit www.ArtCultureStudio.com. —Brook S. Mason

Renaissance Restoration

SEATTLE—Transporting art usually is discreet business, but when a Renaissance altarpiece was returned to St. James Cathedral in April, there was a parade to celebrate. “Virgin and Child with Six Saints” (below), 1456, by Neri di Bicci (1419–91), spent more than two years at the Seattle Art Museum where it

was restored and exhibited. “It means a great deal to Seattle to have this high-quality painting in the church, serving a function in the chapel,” says Nicholas Dorman, the museum’s chief paintings conservator.

Neri oversaw a workshop in Florence, Italy, whose production—including the altarpiece—is well documented in his journal. There is no record of the altarpiece’s location until its discovery in the 1950s in the church’s basement. The identity of the donor remains unknown. Neri’s paintings attract respectable prices on the rare occasion that they come up at auction; a triptych sold for \$181,974 in London in 2002.

—Amy Gale



Unsuspected Artists

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Who knew that Zelda Fitzgerald (1900–48), the Roaring '20s icon and beautiful, flamboyant wife of writer F. Scott Fitzgerald, was a gifted artist? Toward the end of her life, she devoted much of her time to creating colorful, imaginative watercolors. More than 50 examples are on display in “Zelda by Herself: The Art of Zelda Fitzgerald,” a traveling exhibition organized by International Arts and Artists, currently at the Ann Arbor District Library in Ann Arbor, Michigan, through July.



Similarly surprising are the photographs of Southern author Eudora Welty (1909–2001). Before she became a full-time writer, she took photographs that captured the spirit of ordinary Southerners—black and white—during the Great Depression. Welty’s photographs (“Child on the Porch,” above, 1935–36) are featured alongside her contemporaries in “Passionate Observer: Eudora Welty Among Artists of the Thirties,” also assembled by International Arts & Artists at the Columbus Museum in Columbus, Georgia, through August 14. For information, call (202) 338-0680 or visit www.ArtsandArtists.org. —Stephen May

For more Updates, visit www.ArtandAntiques.net.