

# Around the Galleries

## Imelda Barnard

*Three important fairs join forces in Brussels this month, while Paris offers a busy week of art-related events. In London, Art16 promises the best in modern and contemporary art*



1. Funerary mask, Chancay culture, Central Coast Peru, 900–1450, wood with shell remnants, ht 34cm. Joaquin Pecci at Cultures: The World Arts Fair

Brussels once again plays host to three major art fairs, welcoming 67 dealers to the historic Place du Grand Sablon (8–12 June). For the first time this year, the trio of events – BRUNEAF, BAAF and AAB – are being grouped under a new initiative called **Cultures: The World Arts Fair**, which sees the three fairs join forces. This spirit of collaboration will extend to create a wider cultural programme, while a fully illustrated catalogue, featuring all three fairs, further cements the event's new identity. Two special exhibitions, one of which examines the art of clay sculpture, will also be staged at L'Ancienne Nonciature.

Tribal art is the specialism most well represented at the event, with 44 of the total dealers offering a range of pieces from across Africa,

Oceania and Indonesia. Among the many highlights here is a Zande harp handle with a typically beautiful carved head, dated to the mid 19th century and on show at Ambre Congo. Fifty ritual masks can be found at the stand of Congo Gallery, while Joaquin Pecci offers a funerary mask dated 900–1450 from the Chancay culture, a Pre-Columbian civilisation located in modern-day Peru (Fig. 1).

The 11 dealers specialising in ancient art offer a wealth of classical, Egyptian and Near Eastern antiquities. Galerie Puhze presents a black Attic miniature hydria made in 510 BC, and Merrin Gallery impresses with a Greek bronze horse protome from the 6th century BC. Harmakhis, meanwhile, shows an Egyptian statue of a seated dignitary dated to the 12th Dynasty. Of the 12 Asian art exhibitors,

presenting an array of works from India, China, Japan and Southeast Asia, don't miss Galerie Lamy, Kitsune and Jacques How Choong. Among the highlights is a Haniwa terracotta warrior from the Kofun period, Japan, on show at Martin Doustar.

Returning to Paris's Left Bank in early June is Carré Rive Gauche, which this year collaborates with three other events (D'Days: Grand Paris Design Festival; La Nocturne Rive Droite; and Art Saint-Germain-des-Prés), under the new umbrella **7 Days in Paris** (30 May–5 June). Running along the banks of the Seine, this initiative brings together a remarkable 400 participants and offers a week of art-related activities – including exhibitions, conferences, and guided tours. The theme of this year's Carré Rive Gauche (31 May–5 June)

