

Recherché

VOLUME 1, INAUGURAL EDITION 2019

WE TAKE AN IN-DEPTH LOOK AT THE NEW
ROLLS ROYCE CULLINAN

THE ESSENCE OF WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO
SUSTAINABILITY

BVLGARI'S TIMELESS COLLECTION
AN INVESTMENT FOR FUTURE GENERATION

OCTO FINISSIMO
A MASTERPIECE OF HOROLOGY

BY INVITATION ONLY
YOUR OWN PRIVATE GALLERY

SUPER YACHTS OF STEEL
DIVA'S FOM DREAM

GLOBAL LUXURY HOMES

**MONACO, SPAIN, THAILAND,
PARIS LONDON**

By Invitation Only Private Gallery

Paintings by Philippe Pasqua. Chair by
Guillaume Piechaud. Tables by Yves Klein.
Sculpture by Julien Marinetti

Elysium Fine Art has recently opened its Dubai branch to its global network, Elysium has already opened in Paris and Hong Kong and New York. The branch incorporates a showcase of some of their more fun, exciting and truly unique personal pieces that surround their private and working environment. In essence a totally private gallery, where guests arrive by invitation only and are greeted with a glass of champagne and the best of French hospitality.

The villa is adorned by carefully curated pieces; exposed in a private and confidential way; paintings, sculptures and designs of the greatest modern and contemporary French artists.

Here the formula "luxury and voluptuousness" takes on all its meanings and gives the visitor a sense of pleasure and well-being.

Giving his first ever interview with Agora, David Bel - art dealer, connoisseur and co-owner of



What made you decide to open Elysian Fine Art in the Emirates?

I have an entrepreneurial spirit and like the challenge of taking risks.

There is an increasing market and amount of collectors in the Emirates, so I decided to come and see what I can offer to the art enthusiasts here. Whether it's helping collectors to discover contemporary artists or providing advisory services to both young and established collectors. Also

I grew up in the art world with a family collecting fine art. I can even remember waving a Christie's paddle at the age of ten.

Elysium Fine Art, which presents both primary and secondary market artistic works. David exclusively shares with us some of his experiences in dealing with one of the safest and profitable investments in the world, art.

AN INTRODUCTION TO DAVID'S WORLD OF ART

David, can you tell more about you and your background?

I have always been an art enthusiast and had a passion for

art. I grew up in the art world, surrounded by art pieces and with a family collecting fine art. I can even remember waving a Christie's paddle at the young age of ten. Since then I have never stopped exploring the private collections of world-renowned art dealers, collectors, as well as artists studios.

I have been working professionally as an art dealer for more than 12 years now. Mainly in post-war, modern and contemporary artists. From Picasso to Monet, Calder to Basquiat, Hockney, the Lalanne or Warhol.

President's Desk by Guillaume Piechaud. Sculptures by Alexandre Nicolas and Julien Marinetti. Chair "Tabouret" by Guillaume Piechaud.



I enjoy collaborating with home designers to add fine art as the finishing touches to a perfect home, which have typically been designed by the finest consultancy agencies in the Emirates.

You mentioned you also have a successful art advisory business for art enthusiasts and collectors, can you tell us more in regards to this side of your business?

The art market embraces many ways of doing business. Galleries often have to concentrate on a particular medium, such as prints or photography, or a specific period ranging from old master to contemporary art, or a distinct genre such as abstract or hyper-realism.

I never wanted to take this kind of decision, when choosing to represent works from the primary

or secondary market. As a private art dealer, I set the highest standard of works by established modern and contemporary masters.

We source for our clients only the best works on the market. Thanks to our loyal and hard-working partners, we are able to find the most prestigious work available on the art market for private and confidential sales from all around the world. We also deal in much more than just art and home design. Our clients and friends also buy first class properties, yachts, and the rarest of watches, but that is another story!

What do you think of art fairs and which fairs do you highly rate?

For serious collectors the international art fair circuit is an imperative. We've had the chance to be well recognised and invited by all the major art fairs around



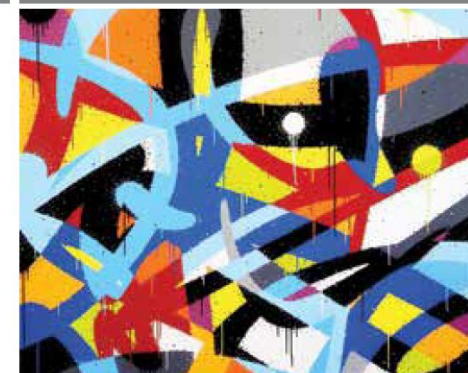
BA PANDA
Bronze
By Julien Marinetti



HOMMAGE À MAGRITTE
Copper, Brass
By Claude Lalanne



JOIE DE VIVRE
Gold Plate, 23cts
By Pablo Picasso



NEW PARADIGM
Acrylic on Canvas
By MIST

Pair of chair by Guillaume Piechaud. Sculptures by Alexandre Nicolas and Maxime Lhermet.



the world, such as Frieze Masters, Art Basel, TEFAF and FIAC.

I go to at least fifteen art fairs a year in cities such as Paris, London, Basel, New York, Miami, Dubai and Hong Kong. Fairs are important not only to discover what is on today's walls in terms of both known and new art but also to meet and network with business connections. Thanks to these fairs, we have been able to discover and

work closely with Audemars Piguet and with Netjets; one of the oldest and largest private jet companies in the world with circa 700 jets located around the world.

Art Basel, Hong Kong, Miami and Basel are must see fairs for any art lover and collector, and also for dealers to create new business relationships. I personally can't wait until December to attend the new Miami exhibition.



CONVERSATION
Polished Stainless Steel
By Guillaume Piechaud



SKULL
Mixed media on paper
By Philippe Pasqua



DOGGY JOHN
Bronze hand painted
By Julien Marinetti



LES NOUVEAUX MOUTONS
Brebis, Bronze and Epoxystone
By Francois-Xavier Lalanne

Are there any websites you rely on for a view of the art world?

Elysium Fine Art is present on Art Price, Artsy and Instagram but there are a lot of websites, too many to name but a key one would be Artnet.

What is the biggest art deal you ever closed?

This kind of information can't be

disclosed I'm afraid, but it was over \$100Million.

We only work and act on a very discreet and confidential basis. This is also one of the main reasons why we do not have an open gallery. We do not need nor want publicity. We are currently dealing with art starting from \$10,000 for a small sculpture up to \$200,000,000 for an exceptional

painting that we have for sale from one of our collectors.

What kind of work and artists are you currently displaying in Dubai?

We are currently exhibiting a mixture of modern and contemporary works by artists we personally like and select.

We have furniture designed by Guillaume Piechaud including a wonderful CEO's desk. You may recognise the iconic style from Dubai Mall's Dior shop where a Pierchaud piece is featured. I also have sculptures by Alexandre Nicolas and of course by Julien Marinetti. I mean, who does not know the famous colourful dog and panda sculptures by Julien! They're attention grabbing and iconic. We have some pieces of street art by C215 and Yves Klein tables, a Philippe Pasqua painting and much more.

How did you choose the contemporary artists you are promoting in Dubai?

My thinking has always been very consistent; If I like their work as a collector and would want it in my home then I will buy it! It is very important to me to try and meet all the artists I show or at least

talk to them to understand how they work and what their career aspirations are.

On the other side, if I am selling their work, it's crucial to be able to describe them and their work as eloquently as possible which involves knowing them intimately. We only work with the most well known contemporary artists; providing for our clients, friends and collectors, the best works available at the best market price.

We would like to thank our dear friend David for this exclusive interview, sharing with us his experiences and expertise on the art market. If you are one of the privileged few to be invited to his gallery, you will truly be enlightened by his guidance and it's easy to see why he is one of the highest regarded art specialists in the world. With his cheeky smile, he is always ready to help you find your favourite artist or add a new discovery to your collection. He truly opens ones eyes to the new and upcoming artists in the world that will excite your senses. A discrete personality, David reflects that his business acumen has been the key factor that has established himself as a reputed art dealer by his elite clients whom remain anonymous and protected by his trust.