

Meta Masterpieces

Meta Unveils a New Exquisite Commissioned Piece

Meta, the design arm of the prestigious British antiques house Mallett, will unveil *Carina*, a new design classic at Masterpiece London this June 2010.

Meta Masterpieces will be on view June 24-29, 2010, from 11 AM to 8PM, on stand B5 at Masterpiece London, Former Chelsea Barracks, Chelsea Bridge Road, London SW1. The fair will regroup the most coveted and collected objects in the world, crossing all genres and periods.

Meta's Inaugural Collection

Meta's inaugural collection was successfully launched during the 2008 edition of the Salone del' Mobile in Milan. The collection carried on being widely acclaimed in 2009 and especially Tord Boontje's *Fig Leaf* enamelled wardrobe. That year, *Fig Leaf* was nominated for Best Furniture Design at the Brit Insurance Design Awards, before being the centre piece of Gareth Williams' *Telling Tales: Fantasy and Fear in Contemporary Design* exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, July 14- October 18, 2009. Also included in the V&A's design exhibition, was Meta's best selling lantern *Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend 1* by French designer, Matali Crasset. Following these museum endorsements, The Financial Times crowned Fig Leaf design of the year 2008, in Nicole Swengley's *Decade of Diversification* article published January 15th, 2010.

Carina, Meta's New Masterpiece

In 2010, Meta returns with *Carina* designed by London based design duo Klauser and Carpenter. "Originally designed as an outdoor piece, our intention for *Carina* was to work as a natural meeting place and a generous dining table, while imbuing it with the formal qualities of a sculpture that could be enjoyed all year 'round.", says Andre Klauser.

Andre Klauser and Ed Carpenter hence join Meta with their elegant marble dining table, sitting up to twelve guests. *Carina* blends the fluid aesthetic of maritime architecture with the sculptural purity of classic Carrara marble. The fusion of these two opposed natural elements, water and stone, graces *Carina* with a poised and serene sense of poetry, as if the glide of a ship had been petrified in time.

Given the monumental scale and form of *Carina*, stone was a clear choice. However, the table had to retain its weightless glide, and also had to be suitable for both outdoor and indoor environments. To that effect, Ed Carpenter and Andre Klauser worked hand in hand with Meta and third generation Austrian stonemasons from the Kienesberger family. The alliance between the designers' eye, Meta's knowledge of furniture and Kienesberger's experience of marble, gave *Carina* the strongest yet the lightest marble structure possible.

In design, *Carina* is Andre Klauser and Ed Carpenter's most accomplished collaboration. Following their quest for modernist and minimalist lines, Klauser & Carpenter achieved an understated yet overpowering design, blending simple lines and compound curves.

The Meta Masterpieces Exhibition

Meta Masterpieces will be set in a pure and modern environment, letting *Carina* take the centre stage. *Carina* will be shown with two of Meta's most accomplished pieces from its inaugural collection, *Armoire* by Tord Boontje and *Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend I* by Matali Crasset.

Armoire embodied a masterful re-interpretation of the classical wooden cabinet and the art of secret compartments, while *Diamonds I* transformed the traditional hanging lantern archetype into a symphony of 102 different angles of Pakong, an ancient golden-hued silver metal recreated by Meta.

Highlighting the star quality of the presented designs, will be a series of portraits of iconic figures of the performing arts and the fashion world of the mid-50's and early 60's, by renown photographer Willy Rizzo.

Meta Masterpieces will be a selling exhibition. All pieces commissioned by Meta are exclusively made to order by the most talented artisans, using the finest materials. All photographs by Willy Rizzo will also be available for sale.

Meta and Mallett

Meta was launched in 2008 by the venerable antiques house of Bond Street, Mallett, founded in 1865. Mallett is one of the world's pre-eminent antiques houses, specializing in 18th Century furniture and objects. Private collectors as well as many of the world's greatest museums, from the Victoria and Albert in London to the Metropolitan Museum in New York, look to Mallett for exemplary pieces that represent an object's design, execution and pedigree. Meta carries on this tradition of dealing in exquisite objects by commissioning leading contemporary creatives worldwide to develop pieces which fuse the best of 18th Century techniques and materials with 21st Century design.

Klauser and Carpenter

Ed Carpenter originally trained as a sculptor at Kingston University, before studying Product Design at the Royal College of Art. Following numerous successful commissions, he established his design office in 2001.

Andre Klauser first studied design in Germany, before moving to London to join Jasper Morrison's design studio. Andre then pursued further studies at the Royal College of Art, where he now teaches since 2007.

Klauser & Carpenter collaborate in the field of furniture, product and interiors, and also allow each other to work on personal projects.

Willy Rizzo

Willy Rizzo is one of the leading figures of photojournalism. Willy started his career capturing critical moments of the Nuremberg trials and of the French Indochina War. His other political assignments included the first coloured portraits of Winston Churchill and of Pope Pius XII.

Willy Rizzo's career was propelled by his illustrious collaboration with Paris Match during the 1950s and 1960s. Married at the time to actress Elsa Martinelli, Rizzo had unparalleled access to the stars and his constellation of sitters included such greats as Brigitte Bardot, Sofia Loren, Marilyn Monroe, Audrey Hepburn, Jane Fonda, Gene Kelly, Fred Astaire, Salvador Dali and Pablo Picasso.

Masterpiece Fair

Masterpiece London will take place from 24 to 29 June 2010 at the former Chelsea Barracks in central London and is set to be one of the most exciting international events to occur in the capital for years. Representing an inter-disciplinary fusion of traditional and modern, old and new, Masterpiece London will bring together not only the finest of the fine and decorative arts, but also the best of wines, classic cars, jewellery and contemporary design.

Masterpiece London is delighted to be working with Urban Caprice to create an exceptional culinary and social experience for its discerning and distinguished clientele. Visitors will be able to experience fine food from the eminent names of Le Caprice, Scott's, The Ivy, Harry's Bar and Bam-Bou, all under one roof for the very first time.

Offering the ultimate in elegance, quality, luxury and sophistication, Masterpiece London will be a truly exceptional experience. The world's top collectors, institutions and connoisseurs will not miss this unique opportunity to purchase some of the finest pieces on the market from the world's foremost galleries.

Meta Masterpieces, Stand B5

Exhibition Dates	24 - 29 June 2010
Press Preview	23 June 2010, 10AM – 11AM
Press Information	pr@masterpiecefair.com
Location	Former Chelsea Barracks Chelsea Bridge Road, London SW1
Website	Masterpiecefair.com

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