



A fine selection of Asian ceramics commanded a good deal of visitor attention. Ridgewood, N.J., dealer the Ivory Tower, Inc's large collection was characterized by unusual items and rare designs.



Allison Kohler of JMK Shows & Events was applauded by vendors for her management of the show. She is pictured here at a booth by K.W.A.D., Palm Springs, Calif., that is known for its Twentieth Century modern that is effectively mixed with classic antiques.



This pleasing 7-inch-tall silver with gold overlay filigree covered jar was decorated with colorful enamel birds perched in leafy green trees. It was accented with turquoise and coral and finished with a coral finial on the lid. The eye-catching piece, that was made circa 1920, was presented by XLH Designs, Westwood, N.J.



Lao Designs, Ltd, New York City, and Vientiane, Laos, brought a rich collection of textiles and wardrobe articles that were derived from among the dealer's family heirlooms.



An extensive collection of American and European locks and keys from the late Eighteenth-mid-Nineteenth Century was displayed by John R. Prunier, Warren, Mass. Keys ranged in size from  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches to 8 inches long and the plethora of locks included desirable half-heart locks from France, Germany and England.



The key item on offer by Knollwood Antiques, Thorndike, Mass., was a large oil painting by Dominic Besner that was representative of his iconic fresco, "La mécanique des Villes," at the Montreal headquarters of the Cirque du Soleil.

Howard Roberts is shown with an 1860 walnut Bavarian manor cabinet that was elaborately carved with masks and gargoyles. His booth, White Orchid Antiques, Media, Penn., was a major attraction. Roberts purposed to make every display for every show new and different.

## Dealers Applaud Morristown Show As Buyers And Sales Are Steady

MORRISTOWN, N.J. — The Morristown Armory Antiques Show October 31–November 1 was anticipated to be one of the highlight antiques shows of the year. That expectation was amply met when its 50-some dealers showed up with outstanding merchandise that was artfully displayed, many in situ, and individual objects that were well presented. The overall ambiance of the show was one of sophistication, with elite items that would appeal to professionals in the field of interior design and architecture as well as to discriminating collectors.

A steady stream of customers attended the two-day event and they came to buy. Big ticket articles and oversized items sold as well as moderately priced and small collectibles. "We were very happy with the crowd, as well as with the quality and diversity of the antiques dealers, which translated to a tremendous amount of buying," said Allison Kohler of JMK Shows & Events, which has hosted the event for the past ten years.

Kohler was given high praise by the dealers for her management of the show. "I like Allison's approach to show management,"

said Richard LaVigné, Knollwood Antiques, Thorndike, Mass. "She is flexible and understands the vendor's needs and has the wherewithal to deal effectively with unexpected issues that occur."

Knollwood was one of the major attractions of the show. The booth was a decorative mix of high-quality Twentieth Century modern and classic antiques that homogenized well and served as an inspiration for those individuals who enjoy modern but are at a loss as to how to mix the genre with their existing period décor. One woman who attended stated that she would like to buy the whole booth and take it home to live with it as a room in her house. The key item here was a large oil painting by Dominic Besner (Canadian, b 1965) which was reflective of his fresco, "La mécanique des Villes," at the Montreal headquarters of Cirque du Soleil. Besner is a contemporary artist known for colorful and textured paintings of masked figures, symbolic animals and evocative architectural shapes, all of which are interpreted through the artist's sense of sweeping movement.

A booth that commanded a

good deal of attention was Rita Ford Music Boxes, New Providence, N.J. Owner Gerry Wright is a professional trumpeter. Although he humbly states that he is not quite as good as the angel Gabriel, he is proficient enough to have had a freelance career, appearing at Carnegie Hall and the Metropolitan Opera. In 1984, he combined his love of music with his natural mechanical aptitude and began restoring music boxes for the New York antiques dealer Rita Ford. His booth had many excellent examples of unusual music boxes, including an 1875 Bremond six-bell rosewood music box that was featured in NBC's primetime network series *The Blacklist*, a tiny and intricate German-made singing bird enamel box and a 1905 French automation from the house of Vichy that portrayed a man in a top hat teasing his pig with a truffle.

An outstanding selection of original prints was presented by Michael Brailove of Antique Prints and Paper, Highland Park, N.J. His collection dates from the Fifteenth to the early Twentieth Century and included a vast selection of topics. A wood-



One of the show's "charmers" was presented by J&M Antiques, Amherst, N.Y. This unusual, all-original miniature student lamp, which fit on the palm of a hand, was dated October 28, 1879 and was irresistible to a high-end collector who bought it early on the first day of the show.



A "not quite a set" of miniature William Shakespeare books, approximately 2 by 3 inches, made of leather with marble paste-down and end covers, was offered by Vintage Matters, Mount Bethel, Penn. The books were made by Knickerbocker Press and would have had 24 books to complete the set. Owner, Al Conti, jokingly made the case that he made up for the last missing book by adding the nifty bookshelf. Although he could not confirm it as fact, Conti stated that the word on the street was that the tiny books were made for steamship travel so they could easily fit in luggage.

block, published in Latin in Germany, 1493, by *The Nuremberg Chronicles*, depicted a city in the Province of Westphalia with the Rhine River running through it. It was a page from a book that documented the six ages of the world, beginning with creation to the period that began following the birth of Christ. A group of pochoir Art Nouveau illustrations, made in Paris in 1896, portrayed a group of illustrations that were made in sets of three and pertained to a single plant. One plate showed the plant in all stages of growth and the other two depicted the many ways in which the images are used in decorative arts, such as wallpaper patterns, pottery, stained glass and designs for carvings.

William Nickerson Antiques, Orleans, Mass., had such a successful show that it virtually sold out. The booth consisted primarily of period English and American furniture from the colonial era to the early Twentieth Century, as well as period paintings and accessories. By the beginning of the second day of show, the booth was noticeably thin in merchandise. Large pieces of furniture were carried off the floor and what was left had red sold tickets on almost every piece. "What can I say? Our truck is only so big," exclaimed Ann Nick-



Michael Brailove of Antique Prints and Paper, Highland Park, N.J., presented a group of Pochoir Art Nouveau illustrations, made in Paris in 1896, that were made in sets of three and pertained to a single plant. One plate showed the plant in all stages of growth and the other two depicted the many ways in which the images are used in decorative arts, such as wallpaper patterns, pottery, stained glass and designs for carvings.

erson, who was scrambling to fill the sizable gaps in the booth.

J&M Antiques, Amherst, N.Y., dazzled the show with a superb collection of high-quality student lamps, a J&M specialty that attracts discriminating collectors from all over the country. One lifetime collector, who traveled from Bucks County, Penn., bought two pieces, one of which was an unusual miniature student lamp that fit on the palm of a hand and was dated October

28, 1879, not electrified, and still in original oil burning condition. Another choice piece that attracted attention before it sold for a handsome price, was an exceedingly rare brass study lamp with two period pigeon blood shades mounted on a base composed of four figural griffins.

The next JMK show will be the annual New Year's show at Birchwood Manor January 2-3. For more information, [www.jmk-shows.com](http://www.jmk-shows.com) or 973-927-2794.



William Nickerson Antiques, Orleans, Mass., had such a successful show that they virtually sold out. Red sold tickets dotted the booth by mid-afternoon on the first day of the sale and by the end of the second day they were almost cleaned out.



Chairperson Antiques, Pikesville, Md., brought an eclectic assortment that was highlighted by a selection of Judaica items that included a work by the Israeli artist Josef Farhi (b 1931). The lithograph 54/150 was titled "Sabbath Light" and depicted a Sabbath candle and a Hebrew prayer for the Sabbath. An interesting Fourteenth to Fifteenth Century woodblock engraving of Moses and Aaron standing before the Ark of the Covenant was a German Gothic representation that had incorrectly inscribed Hebrew among other biblical errors which were reflective of the interpretive limitations at that early time.



Fine art and antiques with a modern attitude played heavily into the appeal of the show for many buyers. This grouping by William Jeffrey Gallery, Florham Park, N.J., made an impressive showing.



Mimi Gunn, Lafayette Mills, Lafayette, N.J., can always be counted on for an interesting representation of country and folk art collectibles. Mimi reported that she was well pleased with the results of the show.



Bill Union of Art and Antique Gallery, Worcester, Mass., remarked that this work by Theresa Ferber Bernstein (Polish American, 1890-2002) was among his favorites. He also commented that the show was the best he has had in a very long time, which is a strong statement, since Bill, who specializes in fine paintings by listed artists from the Seventeenth through to the early Twentieth Centuries, is typically one of the most successful sellers at the shows.



Fair Trade Antiques, Shelburne Falls, Mass., had an exotic display of antiques from India and South Asia artfully showcased with a sharp eye for unusual settings that work. This segment of the booth is centered by a set of teakwood residential doors from India, circa 1900, that had the original paint and iron strap hinges.



Roger D. Winter, Solebury, Penn., brought an excellent representation of Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century English furniture to the show. The company is one of the few who specializes in dealing with high-end interior decorators.