



## The Petersfield Antiques Fair

The Festival Hall, Petersfield, Hampshire GU31 4EA

2nd - 4th September 2016

Press Information: Duncan Phillips Tel: 01460 30897 / 07980 832639

Organiser: Penman Fairs Tel: 01825 744074.

### Greek Gods Join Famous Figures at The Petersfield Antiques Fair

Greek Gods join famous historical figures going on show at The Petersfield Antiques Fair at The Festival Hall, Petersfield, Hampshire, from 2nd - 4th September 2016.

Antique dealer Drove House Antiques will be exhibiting a fabulous collection of Victorian Parian pieces at this regular autumn event that attracts collectors and dealers from across the south of England.

Parian is white "statuary porcelain" that resembles marble found on the Greek island of Paros. It arrived as an art form in the 1840's and benefited from a machine that could copy full size sculptures in miniature for a fraction of the cost of bronze. Staffordshire manufactories, notably Copeland and Garrett and Minton, produced dozens of Parian copies of the popular work of leading contemporary sculptors. Parian ware was shown at the Great Exhibition of 1851 and proved a revelation in a sea of over-decorated porcelain from across Europe.



*Parian model of Sabrina*

Parian figures and busts were ideally suited to high Victorian tastes. They were generally larger than earlier porcelain figures, measuring between 12 and 18 inches in height. Few were exact copies, as leading sculptors of the day were commissioned to produce idealised versions more suited to the tastes of Victorian society. Noted society figures were always popular, together with busts of Gods and figures from antiquity.

Drove House Antiques will be showing a number of pieces including an attractive Copeland figure of the nymph Sabrina, seated on a rock in a stream with fish swimming among water plants and a shell at her feet. Sculpted by W. Calder Marshall, dating from 1850 and 30cm tall, this figure was displayed on the Copeland stand at the Great Exhibition of 1851. Sabrina is a character in John Milton's poem *Comus* and inside the base is a quote from the poem. It is priced at £375.00.



*Parian model of Ajax*

Also impressive will be a bust of Ajax dating from 1850-80, 31.5cm tall, probably from the Worcester factory and priced at £395.00. Ajax was a mythological Greek hero, noted for his strength and courage, the son of King Telamon and Periboea, and is an important figure in Homer's *Iliad*.

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Among the historic figures will be the figure of William Shakespeare, a reduced copy of the marble statue sculpted by Scheemakers, after a design by William Kent, which was erected in 1740 as Shakespeare's Memorial in Poets' Corner in Westminster Abbey. At 34.5cm tall, it is priced at £395.00



*Parian model of Shakespeare*

The Petersfield Antiques Fair is organised by Caroline Penman. 'Every year we welcome a couple of new exhibitors who bring stock that complements our usual vast range of pieces on sale. Dove House are a welcome addition, and they will be showing Oriental pieces too.'

Petersfield Antiques Fair has been running since the early 1970's and attracts more than 2000 collectors and people wanting to refurbish and redecorate their homes in period style.

Returning will be dealers including Jeanette Hayhurst with early English glass and 20th century pieces; Wilson's of Worthing and Melody's Antiques, with a range of Georgian and Victorian town and country furniture; Jupiter Antiques with a range of early English porcelain from most major factories; Plaza, with 20th century jewellery; and Opus with English treen and wooden objects.

Others include Eastdale Antiques specialising in fine silver; Graham Bentley Fine Watercolours and Baron Fine Art, both showing English oils and watercolours; Hickmet Fine Art with Art Deco and Art Nouveau sculpture and glass; Garret & Hurst with European sculpture; Lake's specialising in interesting and unusual antique boxes and Candice Horley with fashion engravings, costume jewellery and porcelain figures.

The fair is distinguished by the vetting process. Buyers can make their purchases confident in the knowledge that exhibits are vetted for quality and authenticity by a panel of experts prior to going on sale.

#### NOTES TO EDITORS:

Admission: £3.50.

Times:

Friday 10.30am-5.30pm

Saturday 10.30am-5.30pm

Sunday 10.30am-5.00pm

Car Parking: in adjacent pay and display car park and nearby supermarket car parks. Restaurant: For refreshments and light meals throughout the day.

Organised by:

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