

Organiser Georgia Chrischilles said, "Although the global recession may have led to reduced demand for luxury goods, it also enforces shifts in luxury-purchasing habits to secure wealth in assets with long term tangible value, working strongly in favour of the art market. The resulting outcome might together be increased knowledge and financial gain."

Some of the interesting objects that will be exhibited at BOAF 7 include a Kan'on (Avalokiteshvara) from Meiji period Japan which is composed of a wooden root and a stone, height 32 cm, from Mingei Arts Gallery in Paris, France; and a 13th–14th century Tibetan bronze sculpture of Vajrakila with his consort Dipachakra, height 24 cm, from Capriaquar in Pescara, Italy. Christophe Hioco from Paris specialises in early Vietnamese material. In Brussels he will show a Giao-Chi era bronze pitcher with flaring feet and a spout in the form of a bird's head. The vessel may have been used to warm wine or water during ceremonies. For further information please visit the fair's web page (www.boafair.be) with a full listing of the participants, including their particular knowledge, expertise and collections.

On March 3rd, 2011, my son Robin attended the spring dinner banquet and celebration hosted by the Hong Kong Art Craft Merchants Association, which formed in 1968 today counts over three hundred members. Year after year, art and antique lovers come to Hong Kong in search for artistic and historical artefacts. To assist these treasure hunters, the association has published a new edition of the guidebook *Something Old Something New—Shopping for Chinese Antiques and Works of Art in Hong Kong*. Two earlier versions of this guidebook, published in 2002 and 2005, were well received. In his published message James Tien, Chairman of the Hong Kong Tourism Board, writes, "Apart from providing a comprehensive list of shops engaged in the trade, this guidebook also features various Chinese artefacts to offer useful tips to art lovers".

Henry C.S. Chong, Chairman of the Hong Kong Art Craft Merchants Association, has been ably supported by Martin Fung and K.Y. Ng, Chief Editor and Deputy Chief Editor, respectively, of the guidebook. Henry said, "I am grateful for the support of our members and the public, and not least the hard work of the editorial board, which has rendered this latest edition possible. I believe that this handy book will be a useful tool to visitors and local collectors alike, enabling them to fully enjoy the fun of buying and investing in antiques and works of art."

This year, 2011, marks the centenary of China's 1911 Revolution, an historic event that had far-reaching consequences for the Chinese people, including the end of imperial rule and the birth of Asia's first republic. To commemorate this remarkable event, a major exhibition is being held at the Hong Kong Museum of History from March 2nd until May 16th.

Jointly presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and the Hubei Provincial Museum, and organised by the Hong Kong Museum of History, the exhibition features four hundred invaluable artefacts, historical pictures, videos and maps to illustrate the significance of this event in China's modern history and the immense contributions that Hong Kong made to the revolution.

The late 19th century was a period of great unrest in China when, in the face of continuing national crisis, the Qing court made three attempts at reform. Paradoxically, these measures exposed the Qing court's incompetence. People living in Hong Kong and China's trading ports were distressed by the plight of the nation and sought ways to strengthen it. As a result, by the turn of the 20th century



Kan'on (Avalokiteshvara)
from Mingei Arts Gallery



Vajrakila with his consort
Dipachakra from Capriaquar



Vietnamese Giao-Chi era bronze vessel with a spout in the form of a bird's head from Christophe Hioco will be shown at the Brussels Oriental Art Fair, June 8th–12th, 2011



Members of the Hong Kong Art Craft Merchants Association hold the new edition of the guidebook *Something Old Something New—Shopping for Chinese Antiques and Works of Art in Hong Kong*. (Standing left to right) Charles Wong, K.Y. Ng, Lau Wai Nin (Seated left to right) Cecil Sien, Henry C.S. Chong, Martin Fung

China was a country in the midst of an unprecedented national crisis, partly triggered by clashes between Chinese and Western values and failure of subsequent reforms. The 1911 Revolution was to change all that, also bringing to an end the monarchy that had held power in China for more than two thousand years.

At the cultural crossroads between East and the West,