



antiques



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# Canadian Antiques & Vintage

## WHAT'S ON YOUR 2026 WISH LIST?



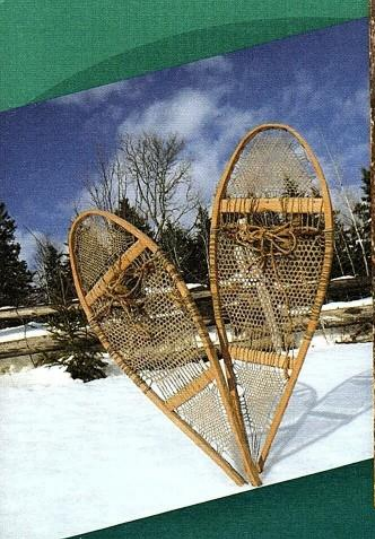
**6** SHOWS & AUCTIONS



A TABLETOP SNUFF BOX

NAVAL HISTORY IN HALIFAX

THE CAPTURE OF 'A ROARING LION'



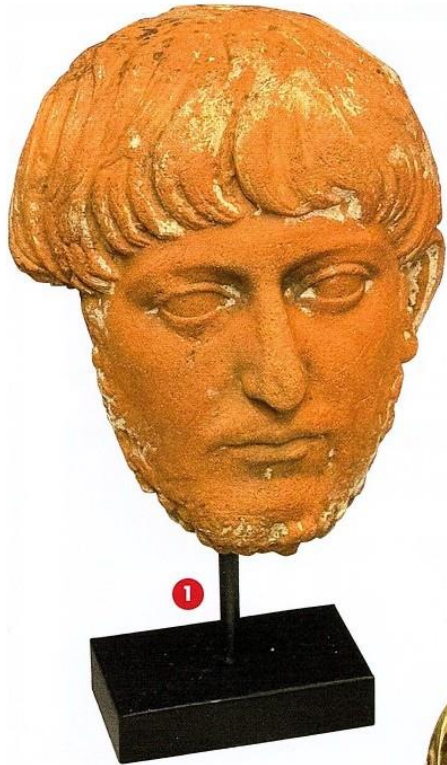
**WEBBED FASCINATION IN THE MARITIMES**

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# A New Energy in Ottawa: The National Capital Antiques, Art & Design Fair

This Fair reminded me why antiques shows matter – not just as places to buy and sell, but as living spaces where history meets the present and where people come together in real time. **BY LANA TAYLOR**

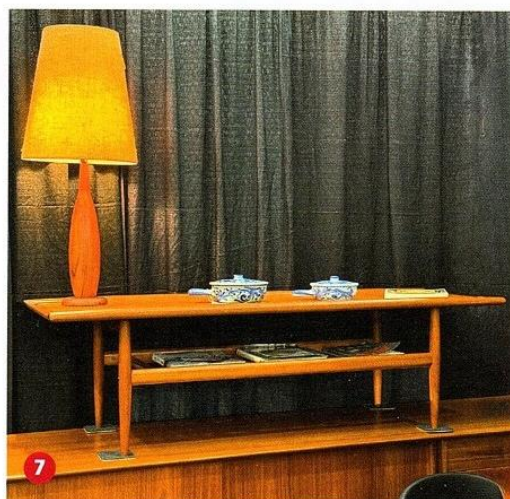
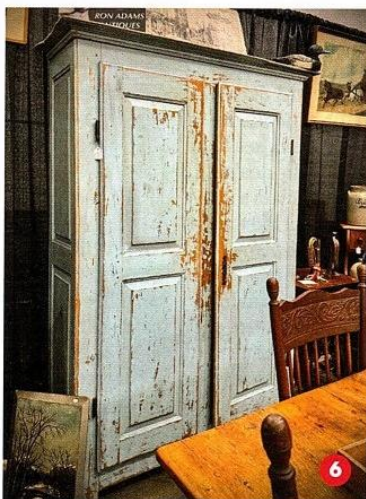
**O**n November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, the Hellenic Event Centre on Prince of Wales Drive in Ottawa was filled with the familiar hum of an antiques show. *The National Capital Antiques, Art & Design Fair* (NCAADF) was relaunched in Ottawa after several quiet years.

I walked in the door on Saturday morning hoping for something refreshing. And honestly? It delivered.

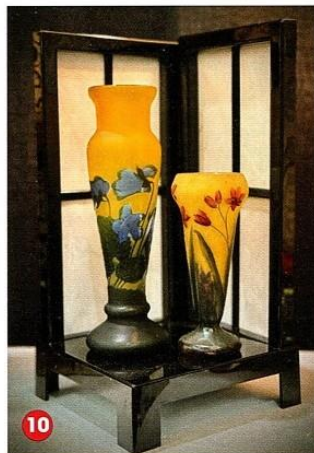
What struck me right away was the energy. The hall felt lively. There was that familiar buzz of conversations – collectors asking smart questions, dealers explaining the history behind a piece, and people pausing thoughtfully in front of something that caught their eye whether it be a lovely old piece of furniture, an ancient artifact, a modern sculpture or a joyful painting. For this antiques dealer, collector and lover of beautiful things, it felt so good to be in that atmosphere.

The show's organizer, Ernest Johnson, brought the Fair back because he recognized that there's a gap in the show landscape right now. The show was built around the intention of offering a high quality two-day indoor event emphasizing a broad range of period styles spanning the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, along with an offering of contemporary art and design. The target audience was comprised of both traditional collectors and younger, design-minded buyers. What I loved most was that it wasn't just an eclectic mix for the sake of it – there was a real sense of intentional curation, blending traditional taste with a more modern aesthetic.

Even though the Fair isn't a formally vetted show, there's a clear effort to keep the material authentic. Reproductions aren't allowed, and



**1** Life size Roman terracotta head, 2nd century, of Emperor Hadrian. Remnants of original pigment still remaining. \$4,845 from Gallery Elder (Ottawa, Ontario). Tyler at Gallery Elder specializes in 17th-19th century antique furniture, homewares and objects. The aim of the gallery and boutique is one of contemporizing antiques. **2** French female bronze, sculpted by Denis Delavigne, circa 1880. In the booth of Times Past Antiques (Prescott, Ontario) at \$6,000. Dealer Michael Kamoff-Nicolosky specializes in items from the time of Imperial Russia as well as items of virtue from Europe and the United Kingdom. **3** Faience de Purmerende Hollande Art Nouveau vase, circa 1900. \$875 from John Ruhland Antiques and Collectibles (Ottawa, Ontario). Ruhland has been collecting antiques and, in particular, clocks for over 50 years. **4** Carved religious female figure holding a bird. Continental, 18th or 19th century. \$3,250 in the booth of William Henry Art & Antiques. Mackie started his business in 2023 with the aim of bringing antiques of merit to a new generation of collectors and decorators. **5** Tool chest in bird's eye maple and walnut. Eastern Ontario and 19th century, Rick Huxtable Antiques (Ottawa/Almonte, Ontario) offered it at \$650. Starting in the antique picking business in 1990, Rick Huxtable has returned to retailing at the Ottawa Antique Market and the Almonte Antiques and Collectibles Shop. **6** Raised panel painted armoire, Quebec circa 1820. \$2,400 from Ron Adams Antiques (Brockville, Ontario). In the business for nearly 50 years, Ron offers a carefully chosen selection of antique furniture, folk art and related items. **7** Teak coffee table, mid-century. Green Wall Vintage (Ottawa, Ontario) had it tagged at \$895. Randy Peters presents a meticulously curated collection of high-end mid-century furniture and lighting.



the dealers I spoke to were knowledgeable and transparent about their pieces. For collectors who like to shop in person – whether they're seasoned or new to the game – that kind of trust really matters.

Saturday was impressively busy. In fact, attendance for just that one day surpassed the entire two-day attendance of the inaugural 2019 Fair. And it wasn't just foot traffic – people were buying and the dealers I checked in with were appreciative of the activity.

Sunday arrived with Ottawa's first snowstorm of the season, but even that didn't keep people away. The crowds were much lighter, naturally, but still steady, and dealers were doing business right through the afternoon. As organizer Ernest Johnson told me, "I was really gratified to see such a strong turnout and solid sales, even with the weather working against us." That kind of optimism after a relaunch says a lot for the exhibitors and the audience they attracted.

According to Johnston, the show had a considerable advertising budget which resulted in many local attendees, of course, as well as others from away, from Montreal, Toronto, and smaller communities in between – another encouraging sign that people are willing to travel

for a well-thought-out show.

What really stayed with me as I reflected on the show was that there's something grounding about being in a room full of objects that have lived so many lives (if only they could talk), offered by people who are intensely proud of their calling, and welcomed by a community that still finds joy in the hunt. This Fair reminded me why antiques shows matter – not just as places to buy and sell, but as living spaces where history meets the present and where people come together in real time.

Johnson was sure to thank his associate Dane Harris, the team of volunteers, the exhibitors who took the leap with him this year, especially given that the event is still reclaiming its place on the calendar, and the show's key sponsor, John Gagnon and the Cielo Print Inc. team for their kind and generous assistance in making this year's show a success.

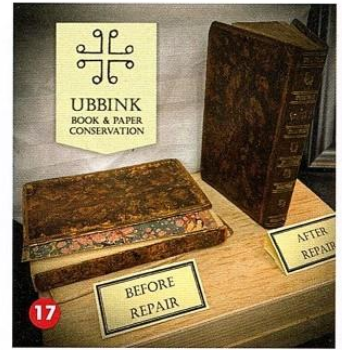
The good news?

The show will be back.

The 2026 NCAADF is scheduled for November 7 and 8, and if this year's response is any indication, next year's roster of exhibitors will be even stronger.

For updates or details, you can visit [nationalcapitalantiquesartdesignfair.com](http://nationalcapitalantiquesartdesignfair.com). But truly, if you missed it this year, consider putting it on your calendar now. Ottawa felt alive with antiques again – and it was a pleasure to witness.

**8** 100% silk carpet, Iran, 5' x 6'9". \$17,000 from Beckwith Galleries (Ottawa, Ontario), who specialize in fine hand-knotted Persian, Oriental and modern carpets. **9** Found objects assemblages and abstract paintings (oils and acrylics on board), Herman Ruhland (Ottawa, Ontario). Herman is listed in the National Gallery of Canada. **10** Pair of early 20th century cameo glass vases, signed L. Emile Gallé and \$875 – R. Dawm Nancy, signed, \$295. From Missed And Match Antiques and Collectibles (Ottawa, Ontario) who specialize in porcelains and ceramics as well as vintage glass and crystal. **11** Canadian Ceramic Circle is a group of Ottawa-area ceramic collectors who have been meeting to share information on all types of ceramics from antique to modern since the 1970s for talks, information and to show off finds. **12** Vignette featuring 'Belle Epoque' wrought iron and gilt console table, with its original serpentine shaped marble top. France, circa 1900, and \$6,800 from Ernest Johnson Antiques (Ottawa, Ontario). **13** Denisa Prochazka (Ottawa, Ontario), showed "Strength to Love", a recent 20" x 12" x 12" bronze bust of Martin Luther King Jr. Prochazka is a classically trained, award winning Canadian figurative sculptor.



**14** On its way to a new home a George II burl and figured walnut kneehole desk, English, circa 1730-1740. It was \$2,750 from William Henry Art & Antiques. **15** Grand Tour marble cistern, Italy, 19th century. \$2,295 from Urban Artifacts (Ottawa, Ontario). Jim Denemoustier has been offering an eclectic mix of antique and vintage furniture, pottery, jewellery and Scandinavian art glass for over 20 years. **16** *Drum Dancers* sculpture by Joc Kidlajik, Repulse Bay. 18" tall and \$3,400 from Native Stone Art (Ottawa, Ontario). It has always been Linda and Clyde McMullen's goal to provide quality representation of Indigenous Art and to support the Indigenous communities they interact with. **17** Kyla Ubbink - Ubbink Book & Paper Conservation (Ottawa, Ontario) - offers museum quality restoration, conservation and preservation services for books and works on paper. **18** Crowd in the booth of Ron Adams Antiques (Brockville, Ontario). **19** Circa 600 BCE, from Central Italy, this is a vessel to hold ashes of the deceased depicted resting on lid. \$3,845 from Gallery Elder (Ottawa, Ontario). **20** Mixed-metal censer, Japan Meiji Period (1868-1912). Ernest Johnson Antiques had it at \$2,400. **21** Framed oil on canvas. 27" x 24", signed PP Ryder. 1821-1896, American. \$975 from Glen Manor Galleries (Shakespeare, Ontario). For over 45 years, Glen Manor Galleries has carried a superb selection of quality furniture, porcelains, glassware, bronzes, fine art and other antique items. **22** Chinese export padouk block-front bureau, made for the English or Dutch market. 40" H x 39" W x 23" D, Canton circa 1750. \$38,000 from Ernest Johnson Antiques (Ottawa, Ontario). Johnson, the show's organizer, has been a member of the Canadian Antique Dealers Association (CADA) since 1996 and also a member of the International Confederation of the Art & Antique Dealers Association (CINOA). **23** Max Erni lithograph, Switzerland, 1966. Tagged at \$225, it sold at the show by Founddesign (Ottawa, Ontario). Malcolm Cairns is an avid collector, researcher and seller of 20th century design. **24** A selection of Mexican sterling silver from Urban Artifacts (Ottawa, Ontario).