

Our national heritage has been enriched by two exceptional works of art

The King Baudouin Foundation's Heritage Fund is presenting its most recent acquisitions at the 2013 BRAFA. It is the opportunity to admire at first hand two masterpieces: *La Charité* by sculptor Jan Van Delen and Rubens's theoretical notebook.

After its special 25th anniversary, the King Baudouin Foundation is returning to its established formula at the 2013 BRAFA, focusing on its most recent acquisitions and enabling visitors to the Brussels *Antiques and Fine Art Fair* to get to know more about how it operates in the field of cultural heritage.



This year, the Foundation is celebrating the successful repatriation to Belgium of a masterpiece of European sculpture: *La Charité*, a 17th century work by the Belgian artist Jan Van Delen. The Counts of Tour & Taxis commissioned the work to adorn their sepulchral vault in the Sablon Church of Brussels. It was confiscated by French revolutionaries in 1794, before disappearing for two centuries. When this statue was rediscovered in Paris and recently put up for auction in London, the King Baudouin Foundation put in a bid for *La Charité* so as to ensure its return to Belgium and enable the general public to admire it once more in its original home, the chapel of the Sablon.

A handwritten contemporary copy of Rubens's theoretical notebook (17th century) is now also an integral part of the Foundation's collection and has come back to Belgium. This unique testimony, which sheds new light on how Rubens envisaged the history of art, has turned out to be even more precious given that the master's original notebook disappeared in the 18th century.



In addition to its work in the field of acquisitions, the Foundation also aims to preserve, protect and promote Belgian heritage, as well as making it accessible to the public. It also warmly welcomes enthusiastic patrons of our heritage as its partners. They donate major works to the Foundation or ask it for help and advice in order to bring their heritage projects to fruition.

Increasingly, it also seems that the Foundation is particularly useful as an efficient facilitator and partner in bringing heritage initiatives to fulfilment, thanks to its 25 years' experience, its wide network of contacts and its unique status as a private institute of general utility.

Practical information 2013 BRAFA

Tour & Taxis, Avenue du Port 86C, 1000 Brussels

From 19 to 27/01/2013

Open from 11h to 19h

Late night openings: Tuesday 22 and Thursday 24 January, until 22h

Entrance: € 20

www.brafa.be

Further information about the Heritage Fund

King Baudouin Foundation: www.kbs-frb.be

“Heritage” field of action: www.patrimoine-mobilier.be

Contact person: Anne De Breuck, debreuck.a@kbs-frb.be, Tel. +32 2 549 61 54

Press contacts

Jean-Paul Collette : collette.j@kbs-frb.be, Tel. +32-2-549 02 78, GSM +32-474-99 70 75

Josse Abrahams: abrahams.j@kbs-frb.be, Tel +32-2-549 02 56, GSM +32-495-54 61 42

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Charité by Jan van Delen: Christie's Images

Rubens theoretical notebook: Sotheby's