

ART + AUCTIONS

# What to See at Paris's Most Anticipated Art and Antiques Fair

*AD* tracks the most covetable pieces at the now-annual Biennale des Antiquaires

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Today is the opening of the 28th Biennale des Antiquaires [[biennale-paris.com](http://biennale-paris.com)], Paris's legendary art and antiques fair, where all that glitters is often 18th-century ormolu. And best of all for lovers of everything from Japanese lacquer to Scandinavian modernism to fine French furniture, what previously happened every two years will now be an annual event, though for simplicity's sake it will still be known as the Biennale.

This year's Biennale—which runs through September 18 and features 125 international dealers—is staged in the gobsmackingly glorious [Grand Palais des Champs-Élysées](#), a Beaux Arts extravaganza with a domed roof made entirely of glass. (FYI: Bring a fan if you can because the cavernous space bakes in sun and the air-conditioning is rather weak.) Thursday night's gala dinner attracted topflight guests, from former French first lady Bernadette Chirac to Houston hostess Becca Cason Thrash to New York philanthropist Marie-Josée Kravis, all swanning in gowns by [Dior](#), [Chloé](#), and [Georges Mak](#) or repairing to the VIP salon, a sexy retreat

that was decorated by designer [Paul Mathieu](#) and features his latest furniture. [Guy Savoy](#), the Michelin-starred Paris chef, conceived the dinner menu.

So what is in the booths? Masses of covetables for every possible taste, but I zeroed in on 11 items that I'd love to call my own.



**Galeria de Arte Ana Chiclana** “A Goya?” I asked as I walked into Ana Chiclana’s spare booth. No, I was told, the larger-than-life-size and thoroughly engaging 1796 portrait of

María de la Concepción, eighth Marquesa d'Ariza, was painted by Agustín Esteve y Marqués, one of Goya's contemporaries. Crowned by a nimbus of brunette curls and draped with pearls, she is being sold for about \$300,000. [anachiclana.com](http://anachiclana.com)