

Media Announcement
May 2014

LAPADA
ART & ANTIQUES FAIR
BERKELEY SQUARE
24-28 SEPTEMBER 2014

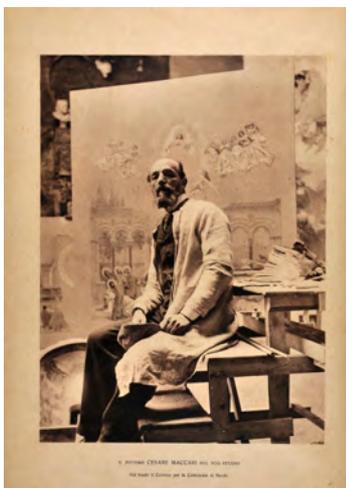
**The Cesare Maccari Collection of Chinese Watercolours:
Lessons in 19th century Natural History at
LAPADA Art & Antiques Fair, 24th – 28th September 2014**



The **Cesare Maccari Collection of Chinese Watercolours** will be on sale for the first time from **Crispian Riley-Smith Fine Arts Ltd** at the LAPADA Art & Antiques Fair, 24th – 28th September 2014. First collected by leading Italian Orientalist artist, Cesare Maccari (1840-1919), the 44 works remain in superb condition and will be available individually or en-bloc as a collection.

The 19th century watercolours, exquisitely drawn on handmade Chinese paper by local artists, feature Chinese subjects, including: flowers and fruits, characters, butterflies and insects, as well as fish and birds. It is likely that they were commissioned by an officer in the British East India Company and intended for the European export market fascinated by the study of natural history and biology.

The collection reflects the enthusiasm in 19th century Europe for recording new species from foreign territories. This practice stimulated the development in evolutionary biology, which culminated in the publication of Charles Darwin's 'On Origin of Species' in 1859.



Cesare Maccari was fascinated by Eastern cultures. As well as being a painter of oriental subjects, he was a collector of oriental rugs, objects, paintings, prints and drawings from the East. Shortly after his death, a six day auction of his works and collection of art objects was held, in April 1921, at his studio in Piazza Sallustio in Rome. It is believed that during this auction the Bargagli family of Florence purchased the collection. In the late 1990s, the Studio Bibliografico Vecchi Libri in Florence purchased the collection of the 44 works, before it was sold to an Italian collector. This collection will now be on offer at the LAPADA Art & Antiques Fair 2014.

Image captions:

Above: 19th century Chinese watercolours from The Cesare Maccari Collection, Chinese School, watercolour and gouache

Left: Cesare Maccari in his studio in Rome, circa 1900

Notes to Editors:

About Cesare Maccari (Siena 1840 – Rome 1919)

Cesare Maccari was among the leading 19th century painters of Italian Orientalism, along with artists Alberto Pasini, Roberto Guastalla and Giuseppe Gabani. Fascinated by Eastern cultures, he painted oriental subjects and collected rugs, objects, paintings, prints and drawings from the East. His most important works remain in Rome. They include the public commissions for Palazzo Madama, the seat of the Italian Senate, and the Palace of Justice, which he decorated with frescoed scenes of the history of ancient Rome.

About Crispian Riley-Smith

Crispian Riley-Smith will exhibit at the LAPADA Art & Antiques Fair for the first time in September 2014. Crispian has been working in the art market since 1989, as a specialist at Sotheby's, Christie's and Phillips, and since 1998 as a dealer, principally selling Fine Master Drawings from the 16th to early 20th centuries. While the main part of his business includes dealing, valuations and acting as an agent, Crispian also writes articles in publications, lectures and conducts historical art tours of country houses.

Event:	LAPADA Art & Antiques Fair 2014
Dates:	Wednesday 24 th September – Sunday 28 th September 2014
Location:	Berkeley Square, Mayfair, London, W1J 6EB
Website:	www.lapadalondon.com
Telephone:	+44 (0)20 7823 3511
Opening Hours:	Collectors' Preview: Tuesday 23 th September 2014: 11am – 9pm* Wednesday 24 th September 2014: 11am – 5.30pm Thursday 25 th September 2014: 11am – 9pm Friday 26 th September 2014: 11am – 7pm Saturday 27 th September 2014: 11am – 7pm Sunday 28 th September 2014: 11am – 5pm
Admission:	Entrance by ticket priced at £15 each or by invitation <i>*£65 each for Collectors' Preview invitation</i>
Underground:	Green Park - Jubilee, Victoria & Piccadilly lines Bond Street - Central & Jubilee lines
Major bus routes:	via Piccadilly, Regent Street and Oxford Street

LAPADA The Association of Art and Antiques Dealers



LAPADA (The Association of Art & Antique Dealers) is the largest society of professional art and antiques dealers in the UK. It is a trusted resource for private collectors and the art & antiques trade in the UK and 16 other countries around the world. Established in 1974, and celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2014, it boasts 600 worldwide members, who are experts in their fields, with specialities ranging from fine art, jewellery and furniture to contemporary works, sculpture and ceramics. Due to the Association's strict Code of Practice, clients are offered total reassurance when purchasing from a LAPADA member. LAPADA offers a referral service for any member of the public looking for a trusted dealer in a specific area, who is seeking quality and assurance of authenticity. It also offers industry advice and lobbies on issues affecting its members and good practice in the art and antiques trade.

www.lapada.org