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George A. Hart's "Eros" (1988)

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PREVIEW

DEALER SPOTLIGHT

Ashitha Nagesh zeroes in on some significant works showing at the fair

DE BACKKER MEDIEVAL ART

ARIADNE GALLERIES

LONDON / NEW YORK

“Masterpiece is a refined setting — there’s a diverse showing work, with exemplary presentations that are not overwhelming to visitors.”

— Gregory Demirjian

What: Ariadne specialises in antiquity, and has presented its impressive collection of ancient Egyptian, Greek, Roman, Eurasian, Byzantine, and Medieval works at Masterpiece for two years. It has two galleries — one in New York’s Upper East Side, and a new space in London’s Mayfair.

Who: At its heart, Ariadne is a family business. Founded by Torkom Demirjian, it is now run with the help of his two sons, James and Gregory.

The Fair: Ariadne plans to go against the grain with its Masterpiece layout. “We plan on having a more contemporary

booth construction rather than the traditional look associated with antiquities,” Gregory Demirjian says. “We have done the same for our new gallery, which looks wonderful.”

Showstopper: According to Demirjian, the highlight of their stand will be a head of a Cycladic female figure. “This superb example of Cycladic sculpture belongs to the highly accomplished Late Spedos style of the Bronze Age Keros-Syros culture,” he explains. “The sculpture is in excellent condition and quite large — the entire figure would have measured nearly 60 cm.”



Right: Head of a Cycladic female figure at Ariadne Galleries

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