

Splendour is court in the act

Robilant + Voena's show, *Splendour and Magnificence: Art from the European Courts*, features 25 Old Master paintings, sculptures and works of decorative art.

Each piece ranged across the Dover Street gallery's exhibition space is accompanied by a note detailing its provenance, offering some insight into the often grand families (Borghese and Rothschild among others) who either commissioned or previously owned the pieces.

For example: an Italian carved gilt-wood and marble mounted console table reputed to have been commissioned by the Borghese family, and a *Portrait of Homer with a Violin* by Baldassare Franceschini (Il Volterrano) commissioned by Giancarlo de Medici in the 17th century.

The show is a chance to see and acquire such works, and is also for contemporary collectors to look back on pieces owned by some of their aristocratic, spiritual forebears.

It launched as part of *London Art Week* and runs until January 19 with prices ranging from **€100,000 to approximately €1.2m**.

The gallery specialises in fine art from the 15th to the 21st century and also has locations in Milan and St Moritz.

robilantvoena.com



Left: Antonio Canova, *Bust of Caroline Murat née Bonaparte*, c.1813, plaster, 18in (46cm) tall, commissioned by Caroline and Joachim Murat.



Above left: George Jacob, an Empire period throne, 1804, mahogany, gilded bronze and ivory, 2ft 8in x 2ft x 2ft (80.5 x 63 x 62.5cm), executed for the painter Louis David, probably to mark the coronation of Napoleon I. It remained in the possession of the artist's family until 1955.



Above right: Anthony van Dyck, *John Belasyse*, first Baron Belasyse of Worlaby, 1636, oil on canvas, 3ft 3in x 2ft 7in (99 x 79cm).