

Miami Beach Show Gets New Name

The Palm Beach Show Group will change the name of the Miami Beach Jewelry & Antiques Show to the Miami Beach Jewelry & Watch Show. The event will be held February 1-4, 2018.

According to the promoters, this name change will more accurately reflect the jewelry and watch dealers represented at the show. Participating dealer input and progressive market trends contributed to the change.

Andrea Canady, show director of the Miami Beach Jewelry & Watch Show, announced, "The jewelry market is strong and getting stronger. The demand by collectors for quality luxury accessories from all categories can't be ignored. The presence of jewelry at the Miami Beach show is unparalleled with an emphasis on antique and estate jewelry, especially the periods of Art Deco, retro, and Art Nouveau as well as signed pieces. The num-

ber of exhibitors currently participating in the show that deal in rare jewelry and timepieces rivals all shows in the south Florida region. We want the name of the show to specifically denote the inclusion of jewelry and watches, which will allow us to better focus marketing and promotion efforts to strengthen our position as the premier destination for fine jewelry and watch buyers and collectors."

For more information, visit the website (www.palmbeachshowgroup.com).

Connecticut Ivory Ban Dead

HB 6335, "An Act Prohibiting the Sale and Trade of Ivory and Rhinoceros Horn in Connecticut," introduced in the Connecticut General Assembly in January, failed to make it out of the Judiciary Committee, thus killing the bill for 2017.

Vareika Elected to Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame

In the 30th anniversary year of the founding of his gallery in Newport, Rhode Island, art dealer William "Bill" Vareika has been inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame. In 2011 Vareika had accepted a posthumous Hall of Fame honor on behalf of his favorite artist, John La Farge (1835-1910).

The Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame was established in 1965 to extol the achievements of Rhode Island men and women who have "made significant contributions to their community, state, and, or nation." The institution's mission is to tell the story of Rhode Island history using the biographies of the inductees, noting their collective impact upon every phase of Rhode Island's development. Inductees are historical and contemporary individuals from a wide range of fields, including government and politics, the arts and humanities, sports, education, entertainment, religion, business, and medicine.

Past inductees include Roger Williams, Moses Brown, Oliver Hazard Perry, Richard Morris Hunt, Stanford White, Edward Bannister, H.P. Lovecraft, politicians Claiborne Pell, John Chafee, John Pastore, Jack Reed, and Bruce Sundlun, and actors James Woods and Anthony Quinn.

Vareika, a 1974 magna cum laude graduate of Boston College with a degree in political science, abandoned law school plans to move to Newport, where he volunteered to direct a six-year legal battle to save a historic church in Newport. The church was decorated by John La Farge, a 19th-century American artist Vareika had discovered in his one art history course at Boston College.

Vareika's first job after college was as a part-time custodian at the Newport Art Association, now the Newport Art Museum. During this time, he helped to support himself as a modest art dealer, commonly referred to as a "picker." He later took a leave of absence from graduate studies in American civilization at Brown University in order to begin a serious career as an art dealer. His primary interest has been the major historic American artists who were attracted to Newport and the Narragansett Bay region. He began by working as a private dealer out of his home but in 1987 opened a large Bellevue Avenue Newport gallery with his wife in order to present public exhibitions that illustrate the rich artistic heritage of the Newport region and its role in the development of the arts in the U.S. He has specialized in the art of John La Farge and William Trost Richards.

From the beginning, Vareika has used



William Vareika in front of a John La Farge stained-glass triptych that he and his wife, Alison, donated to the McMullen Museum of Art, Boston College.

his gallery to raise public awareness and millions of dollars for a variety of charitable causes in the arts, education, the environment, health care, animal welfare, social services, and historic preservation. Vareika has donated dozens of artworks to museums and other charitable organizations, including the Addison Gallery of American Art at Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts; the McMullen Museum of Art, Boston College; the Newport Art Museum, Newport, Rhode Island; and the Davis Museum at Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts.

Vareika served on the board of the Newport Art Museum for 20 years and was a member of the museum's collections and exhibitions committee for 38 years. He has been a board member of the Redwood Library and Athenaeum in Newport, the Newport Music Festival, and Save the Bay. He has served on a number of advisory committees, including the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center in Newport; the McMullen Museum of Art, Boston College; the New Bedford Whaling Museum; and the Trinity Preservation Trust, Boston. He is a former vice-chairman of the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, appointed by Governor Bruce Sundlun.

Governor Donald Carcieri appointed Vareika to the Rhode Island State House Restoration Society, on which he continues to serve. Vareika is a member of the board of the Rhode Island State Council on the Humanities, appointed by Governor Lincoln Chafee. Vareika is a former trustee of Historic New England and a current member of the organization's board of overseers. He serves as a trustee of the nonprofit Newport Festivals Foundation, which operates the Newport Jazz Festival and the Newport Folk Festival.

Vareika and his wife, Alison, have three children and two dogs and live in an 1877 National Historic Register home in Newport, which they have been restoring for over 25 years and in which they display their large collection of art by living Rhode Island artists.

Former Director of High Museum of Art Joins Leslie Hindman Auctioneers

Michael E. Shapiro has been appointed as senior advisor, museums and private collections for Leslie Hindman Auctioneers. Shapiro recently retired from his role as director at the High Museum of Art, Atlanta, Georgia. He will work closely with Hindman's six locations, including its Chicago headquarters.

Shapiro joined the High Museum's leadership team in 1995 and was the Nancy and Holcombe T. Green Jr. Director of the High Museum of Art from March 2000 through July 2015. At the museum, Shapiro oversaw growth of the collection, developed numerous partnerships with national and international art institutions, and increased the reach and impact of the museum's education programming and accessibility for diverse audiences.

"It was a privilege to be at the helm of the High for the past fifteen years and to help shape the vision and future of Atlanta's art museum," said Shapiro. "I now look forward to assisting the energetic and entrepreneurial team at Leslie Hindman Auctioneers."

During his tenure at the High Museum of Art, Shapiro oversaw several initiatives, such as the collaboration with former director of the Musée du Louvre, Henri Loyrette, to found Louvre Atlanta, which brought nearly 500 works of art from the Louvre's collections to the High over a three-year period. He regularly partnered with museums across the globe to organize similar exhibitions and bring masterpieces to the U.S.

Before his tenure in Atlanta, Shapiro held positions as director of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, chief curator at the Saint Louis Art Museum, and assistant professor in the department of art at Duke University. Shapiro holds a Ph.D. from Harvard University, a Master of Arts degree from Williams College, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hamilton College. He received an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree from Hamilton College in 2016. He specializes in 19th- and 20th-century painting and sculpture.



Last year Shapiro released a book, *Eleven Museums, Eleven Directors: Conversations on Art and Leadership*, a collection of Shapiro's interviews with some of the museum industry's most innovative change agents, who discuss the mentors and events that led them to success in the field.

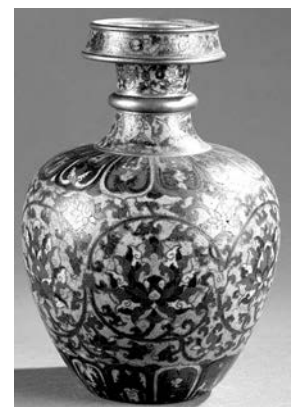
"Michael and I have known each other for years. I have an enormous amount of respect for all that he has accomplished in the museum world," said Leslie Hindman, president and CEO of Leslie Hindman Auctioneers. "I'm absolutely delighted that he will be joining our firm." Shapiro's primary responsibilities will be museum outreach and assisting in collection review and the deaccession process in conjunction with Leslie Hindman Auctioneers' business development and specialist teams.

Cloisonné Chinese Bottle Vase Realizes \$812,500

A Chinese cloisonné bottle vase offered on iGavel (www.iGavel.com), estimated at \$400/600, finished at \$812,500 (includes buyer's premium) when the sale closed on April 20. The 10" tall vase, dated as 18th/19th century, was being offered by Quinn's Auctions, Falls Church, Virginia. Quinn's sale of 466 lots realized a total of \$1,441,206.

Matt Quinn said the vase was consigned by a local Washington, D.C., area family, who assumed it didn't have much value. "We knew that iGavel was the perfect platform for getting this special vase the best exposure possible and are thrilled with the results," said Quinn.

The bottle was cataloged "Tibetan Benba Ping form. Blue, green, red, yellow and white enamel with copper strips. Neck decorated with the eight Buddhist emblems, including the Wheel of Dharma, the conch shell, the victory banner, the parasol, lotus, the treasure vase, the paired fish, and the endless knot. The vase body decorated with lotus motifs in continuous design." It was missing its lid and had multiple old wax repairs, missing enamel, and cracks.



Free Admission Wednesday Evenings at the Westmoreland

Admission to the Westmoreland Museum of American Art in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, is now free on all Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. The new "Free Admission Wednesday Evenings" initiative is sponsored by First Commonwealth Bank and will run until October.

Admission to the museum is normally a suggested donation amount of \$15 for adults and \$10 for seniors, with free admission for museum members, children 18 and under, students with valid ID, veterans, and military active duty and reserve, along with their families. The museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., with late hours on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m.

Owners of NETTE Auctions Arrested

Donald and Naomi Karagianes, owners of New England Toy Train Exchange in Danbury, Connecticut, were arrested on April 18. Each was charged with 12 counts of first-degree larceny and one count of conspiracy to commit first-degree larceny. According to police, more than 60 consignors were allegedly defrauded of more than \$700,000. NETTE specialized in toy train auctions.

In late 2016, a civil suit was filed against NETTE Auctions, Inc., Donald Karagianes, and Naomi Karagianes by the estate of Dwight A. Ingalls. According to the suit, which has been withdrawn, the estate consigned a collection of antique model trains and paraphernalia worth \$34,790 and was not paid.

Connecticut business records indicate that NETTE Auctions was dissolved in 2016.