

A Princely Taste: From Renaissance to Baroque

19 January – March 2026

38 Dover Street, London W1S 4NL

A selection of **outstanding Old Master paintings** will go on view in Robilant+Voena's flagship London gallery in January 2026, including pieces by artists that are **rarely seen outside of museums, especially in the United Kingdom**. With pictures from the Renaissance to the 19th century, the exhibition opens with **two masterpieces from 15th-century Florence**: a monumental altarpiece by **Neri di Bicci** and an easel painting by his student **Francesco Botticini**. In the second room of the gallery, a selection of **Italian and Spanish pictures from the 16th to 19th centuries** are displayed in the manner of a princely collection, including **Caravaggesque still lifes, history paintings and exuberant capricci**.

Unmissable works include:

Neri di Bicci (1419–Florence–1491)

Tobias and Archangel Raphael, Saint Simon, Saint Thaddeus, Saint Nicholas of Tolentino, Saint Augustine, Saint Monica and Saint James the Greater, c. 1475

Tempera with gold and silver foil on panel, 170.8 x 179.9 cm (67 1/4 x 70 7/8 in.)



A magnificent altarpiece by Florentine painter Neri di Bicci, painted around 1475, is one of the artist's finest and most ambitious works, measuring almost 2 x 2 metres. Depicting a passage from the *Book of Tobit* featuring Tobias and the Angel, the work offers a unique opportunity for audiences in London to see a work by this influential early Renaissance painter; only a handful of works by the Florentine artist are housed in UK public collections, and none in London museums. The work is executed in tempera with gold and silver leaf, resulting in such luminosity that one cannot believe over 500 years have passed since its creation. The exquisite technical skill of its maker is evident in the detail of the saints' clothing and haloes, incised directly into the gilding and remarkably preserved.

Francesco Botticini (1446–Florence–1497)

Madonna and Child with two angels, second half of the 15th century

Oil on panel, 88.6 x 66.7 cm (34 7/8 x 26 1/4 in.)



A charming oil on panel by Francesco Botticini – who began his career in Neri di Bicci's workshop – continues the Renaissance experience. *Madonna and Child with two angels* takes as its model the composition of Filippo Lippi's famous *Madonna and Child* (now in the Uffizi), reflecting Botticini's great admiration for the earlier master, whose work exerted a profound influence on successive generations of Florentine painters. More than a replica, Botticini offers his own vivid interpretation, exaggerating the drapery and enhancing the colours; indeed, **technical examination** has confirmed the presence of **loose underdrawings**, which suggests Botticini applied his own imagination in the genesis of the work, rather than setting out to make a copy. Furthermore, this outstanding picture has a **storied provenance**: in the early 19th century it was owned by Cardinal Joseph Fesch, half-brother of Napoleon Bonaparte's mother, and was then sold to the Spiridon family, who assembled one of the greatest Old Master collections of their day, with works owned by them now in the Metropolitan

Museum, the Art Institute of Chicago and the Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza. *Madonna and Child with two angels* was also briefly owned by the legendary dealer and collector Marzell von Neme in Berlin.

Michelangelo Cerquozzi (1602–Rome–1660)

Allegory of Autumn, early to mid 17th century

Oil on canvas, 73.5 x 144 cm (29 x 56 3/4 in.)



This luscious still life overflows with fruit, vegetables and verdant foliage, with three rosy *putti* bringing yet more offerings to the already laden stone ledge. The work is a **masterful example by Roman artist Michelangelo Cerquozzi**, also known as Michelangelo delle Battaglie, and widely known for his battle scenes. Here, however, he demonstrates his aptitude for the genre of still life, representing a **rare opportunity to encounter such works by the artist**; there are no still life paintings by Cerquozzi in British museums. In his earlier work, Cerquozzi was clearly influenced by Caravaggio's approach, yet the younger painter developed his own style which **contributed to the direction of the still life tradition in Rome**, the splendour and exuberance of which is vividly displayed here. The wide horizontal format of this sumptuous picture suggests that it was designed as a **sopraporta or overdoor painting**, probably for the palazzo of a grand patron in Rome, perhaps that of 'Cardinale Giuseppe' whose name is inscribed on the back of the canvas.

See these exceptional paintings and others by artists including **Paris Bordone, Domenico Fiasella, Alessandro Magnasco** and **Sassoferrato** in our London gallery this spring.

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Notes to editors

Robilant+Voena is a partnership of art dealers Edmondo di Robilant and Marco Voena. They launched Robilant+Voena in London in 2004. Further gallery spaces were opened in Milan in 2009, and Paris and New York in 2020. Robilant+Voena has distinguished itself as one of the leading international art dealers in Old Master paintings, as well as 20th-century Italian art. In recent years, the gallery's dual specialisms in European Old Master paintings and 20th-century Italian art have been complemented by a carefully curated programme of contemporary projects, working with artists whose practices build upon the artistic inheritance of the past.

R+V is committed to excellence across all its activities. The gallery strives to create dynamic, thought-provoking exhibitions that juxtapose the old and the new, creating unexpected links between artists working across the centuries and drawing out eternal themes through art.

The gallery has sold paintings and works of art to many important private and royal collectors and museums including the Brooklyn Museum of Art, the Frick Collection, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the National Gallery London, the Gallerie dell'Accademia, Venice, the Pinacoteca di Brera, the Uffizi Galleries, the Musée d'Orsay, the National Gallery of Stockholm, the Louvre Abu Dhabi, and the Museum of Western Art, Tokyo. R+V is represented at the most prestigious fine art fairs in the world, and is committed to its active exhibitions program and the publication of books and scholarly catalogues.

Current and upcoming exhibitions

New York

Nancy Blum: The Black Drawings, 12 December – 22 January

Robert Ryan: Another Time and Place, 12 December – 22 January

Milan

Philippe Pastor. North Pole and Other Precarious Landscapes, 1 December – 24 January

Jordan Watson. Sound of Gold, 2 – 28 February

St. Moritz

Michelangelo Pistoletto, 30 January – 4 March

Art fairs

NOMAD St. Moritz, 12 – 15 February

TEFAF Maastricht, 14 – 19 March