

## THE PETERSFIELD ANTIQUES FAIR

The Festival Hall, Petersfield, Hampshire GU31 4EA

**9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

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## Hampshire Persian Rug Specialist at The Petersfield Antiques Fair

The Festival Hall, Petersfield, Hampshire GU31 4AE

**9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

**A superb display of Persian and Oriental rugs and carpets will be a major attraction at The Petersfield Antiques Fair at the Festival Hall, Petersfield, from 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2011.** With names like Kilim, Yuruk, Gabbeh, Esfahan and Salor, collectors have an opportunity to discover the colourful and mysterious qualities of Eastern craftsmanship while at the same time acquiring a rare antique of useful and lasting quality.

Hampshire-based rug specialist and fair exhibitor Arash Karimzadeh of Pars Rug Gallery from Hartley Witney explains the appeal of antique rugs: 'Not only will a good quality Persian carpet add a touch of luxury to the home, it will also add immense character and should last a lifetime. The carpet should be a work of art, meaning hand-knotted with recognisable marks of age and origin and preferably a pattern with significance.'



Display from  
Pars Rug Gallery

The term 'tribal' is also used to refer to rugs made between 1850 and 1920 by three tribes: the Turkomans, the Iranian-based tribes, and the Yuruks of Turkey (Yuruk means 'nomad'). They can often be bought for as little as £500 and a number will be on sale at the fair. Most other names applied to carpets, such as Kilim and Yuruk, usually indicate the place of origin, which itself reveals something of the date of origin and is likely to be a guide to quality, material and value.

Buyers are also intrigued by motifs and designs. The best have particularly striking designs. Those found in the borders are another indication of origin, while the central motifs often suggest a combination of religious and mythological influences. Experts can also recognise the work of one particular weaver or group of weavers. Few rugs were ever made with any kind of signature - the weavers believed the quality and individuality of their work was sufficiently telling for their customers.

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As anyone who has visited the Middle East will testify, they are still making very fine carpets today, although 90% of these will have been coloured with modern aniline or chrome dyes, and not the vegetable dyes used in the 19th century. Modern dyes produce a more uniform and often less appealing appearance. Experts also value the type of knots and the number used. 'The feel of a carpet is almost as important as its colour and design', says Arash.

The Petersfield Antiques Fair was established back in the early 1970s and is flourishing, busy event attracting collectors from across the south of England. Organised by Penman Fairs from East Sussex, the Fair runs for three days, Friday to Sunday. There is something for everyone with forty-three specialist art and antiques dealers from across Britain showing a wide range of fine quality pieces at prices from less than £50 to more than £10,000. Every exhibit is vetted for quality and authenticity. Fine period furniture, silver, jewellery, porcelain, Chinese Blue & White, oils, watercolours, portrait miniature, scent bottles, sculpture, bronze sculpture, Persian rugs, engravings, art books and much more are always on sale.

**Admission: £3.00.**

**Times:**

Friday 9 September 10.30am-6.00pm

Saturday 10 September 10.30am-6.00pm

Sunday 11 September 10.30am-5.00pm

**Organised by:**

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