

Bamberg offers sweet summer treats for antiques and art

THE Bavarian city of Bamberg has long been a major centre of the German antiques trade.

This UNESCO world heritage site, with many preserved medieval and baroque buildings, attracts thousands of visitors throughout the year and in the summer months opera fans from the Wagner festival in nearby Bayreuth also visit.

For many years now local antique dealers, among them many of the most prestigious in Germany, have taken advantage of the summer influx and opened their doors for the *Bamberger Kunst und Antiquitäten Wochen*.

The 19th edition runs from July 23 to August 18. Taking part are a dozen dealers who see themselves as cooperating competitors, coordinating their respective shows to maximize the mutual benefits.



Left: *Young Boy in the Larder*, painted by Frans Snyder (1579-1657) in the 1630s, is priced at €1.2m from Walter Senger in Bamberg.

glass and modern Danish silver. Equally broad is the price spectrum, which ranges from €2700 for a vase by Daum Frères, Nancy, offered by **Glaserie Pusch**, to €1.2m, the price-tag on a 4ft 11in x 6ft 7in (1.5 x 2m) canvas titled *Young Boy in the Larder* (pictured here), painted by Frans Snyder (1579-1657) in the 1630s (pictured here), which is one of the attractions at **Walter Senger**.

Among the more unusual works of arts on offer is an early Victorian gold and agate-mounted ivory snuff box in the shape of a falconer's glove making a sign, which can either be interpreted as an obscene gesture or as a way of warding off the evil eye (€18,800). Visitors to **Christian Eduard Franke's** exhibition can make their own decision.

www.bamberger-antiquaeten.de

Jonathan Franks

The accompanying programme includes guided tours of the old town and the dealer's premises and lectures on related subjects. The focus is definitely

set on traditional fields of collecting: sculpture, 18th and 19th century furniture, Old Master and 19th century paintings, but also includes Art Nouveau