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ARTnews

Special Issue

The Metropolitan

1870-1970-2001





Cover: One of the Met's spectacular acquisitions of the 1960s is *The Fortune Teller* by Georges de La Tour. Dating before 1733, it is one of the rare signed works by this still little-known master. Its purchase created a scandal in France and the government conducted an investigation of the Fine Arts bureaucracy to discover how such a National Treasure had been allowed an export license. André Malraux personally announced his displeasure, and the picture was on the front pages for months. This month the Metropolitan Museum itself, celebrating its 100th anniversary, is making news; a discussion of its situation begins on page 27.

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The Metropolitan Museum, 1870-1970-2001

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 Leland Bell, Harry Bober, Louis Finkelstein, George Heard Hamilton, Thomas B. Hess, John McAndrew, Barnett Newman, Linda Nocklin, John A. Pope, Fairfield Porter, Harold Rosenberg, Meyer Schapiro, Cornelius C. Vermeule, Rudolf Wittkower

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Coming

Animals in gold, silver and bronze were created by nomadic tribes between the third millenium B.C. until around 800 A.D. in a style of powerfully interlaced symbols whose world-wide influence is still being explored by scholars; an exhibition at Asia House, three years in the making, offers a rare look at this extraordinary oeuvre . . . The Neo-Plasticism of Ilya Bolotowsky, a straightforward abstract approach founded on subtleties and arcane theory . . . a major exhibition of the arts of Africa opens at the National Gallery, Washington, D.C. and gives a full picture of the complex styles on which are based the forms often misnamed "primitive" . . . Leland Bell, embattled traditionalist.