

New & Noteworthy

March 11, 2008

Poster Passion

Artistic period posters are increasingly hard to track down as the demand for collectible art across the board soars internationally.

In response, Mickey Ross, owner of the **Ross Art**

Group, which specializes in collectible poster art, opened a second gallery on Madison Avenue last November. The new location (he also has a 13-year-old gallery in Westport, Conn.) presents hundreds of posters, including many iconic images from the early 1900's, but clients often come to Ross with special requests. "Poster art is typically personal and sentimental," he explains. One client wanted an Art Deco image of Atlantic City, where he spent his childhood, and another wanted the island of Capri, where he honeymooned. Ross is frequently commissioned to build poster collections for automobile, aviation, or fashion enthusiasts. Prices for collectible posters in good condition run the gamut from the \$14,000 *Monaco 1935* poster (pictured) by artist Georges Hamel to an Art Nouveau design by Alphonse Mucha that can command more than \$250,000. Aside from hunting down hard-to-find posters, Ross, a 20-year collector himself, will also assess the value of old posters and restore poster art. (212.223.1525, www.rossvintageposters.com)



—Jill Newman