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mayfair times

*FRED SIRIEIX on sending out an industry SOS
PLUS: Watch and jewellery special
and our Christmas gift guide*

CONNECT ART FAIR

A new art fair run by independent art dealers for the entry and mid-level collector has been announced, running from January 29 to February 2.

Connect will take place at the Mall Galleries on The Mall, and will see 34 dealers take part, showing styles ranging from 19th century to contemporary.

"This will be an opportunity for seasoned collectors and beginners alike to access an area of the market neglected by most other art fairs," says Matthew Hall of Panter & Hall, one of the fair's initiators. "We expect the works, all carefully vetted by a committee of experts, to represent tremendously good value in what can sometimes seem an over-inflated London art market."



Rosie Sanders, Flower
Coombe Gallery @Connect



The Wolseley's
Mayfair Hamper

MAYFAIR AND ST JAMES'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Restaurants across Mayfair and St James's are getting into the Christmas spirit with events and initiatives celebrating the festive season. Highlights include the newly Michelin starred HIDE on Piccadilly's festive pop-up café in Burlington Arcade, Hideaway. Here diners can enjoy dishes of chicken liver parfait, fig and hibiscus chutney and toasted brioche, croque monsieur or breakfast birch sap croissant – as well as hot Christmas gin punch, wines and spirits courtesy of Hedonism Wines – the restaurant's backer. Guests can also buy food and drink gifts just in time for Christmas.

Cutting-edge sketch on Conduit Street has invited Hackney florists Rebel Rebel, sustainable lighting brand Tala, designer Tony Marklew, artist Diane Harris and flower artist Carly Rogers to create festive scenes within the building's rooms.

The Wolseley has recently launched a new range of products allowing guests to bring the approachable luxury of the Piccadilly institution home – including the new Mayfair Hamper, which will surely warm the cockles at Christmas, featuring a bottle of Old Forester bourbon, two crystal rocks glasses and a box of the restaurant's Dark Sea Salt Caramel Truffles in a black wicker hamper, £125; while Park Lane's The InterContinental has launched its Twelve Days of Christmas afternoon tea, served in the Wellington Lounge. The tea includes smoked salmon, gammon, lobster and turkey sandwiches; warming partridge pie; winter spiced scones; and mince pies, alongside a glass of Perrier-Jouët champagne.

NOVIKOV CHRISTMAS MARKET

Novikov's annual Mayfair Christmas Market is returning on November 30 and December 1, with Mayfair Place going traffic-free to make way for festive stalls selling artisan gifts including jewellery, clothing and Christmas decorations, to food and drink from Novikov's kitchen and traders including Ibérico ham-peddlers Cinco Jotas. Louis Roederer is introducing its Champagne Ice Bar, while Asahi will bring its super dry beer. Entry to the Christmas market is free and suitable for the whole family.
50 Berkeley Street

