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bryan ferry on...

THE ART MARKET FOR THE MASSES

When I first started buying paintings, I could only afford the work of friends. Later on I began to collect the work of more high-profile artists. It's particularly rewarding when your purchases rise in value over the years. This has been the case with some of my favourite artists, such as Walter Sickert and Vanessa Bell.

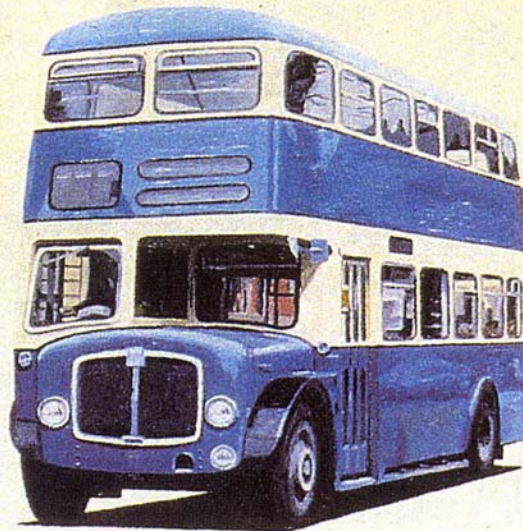
There are those who think that collecting art is only for the super-rich. The Contemporary Art Society's Art Market proves them wrong. Its annual exhibition – now in its 11th year – features over a thousand works by rising stars in the creative arts, nominated by the society's staff. The work includes paintings, sculpture, drawings, photographs, limited editions and prints,

and prices range from £50 to £2,000 per piece.

In keeping with tradition, a number of acclaimed artists – this year Peter Blake and Bruce McLean – contribute low-price works to the four-day event. If anything appeals, you just take it off the wall and pay at the till.

If nothing appeals, at least you will have enjoyed a journey into someone else's concept of artistic excellence. But if something does, you may have on your wall an eternal reminder of your visit to the Royal Festival Hall – an appreciating Art Market original.

**The Contemporary Art Society's Art Market,
Royal Festival Hall, Tue 26 Nov to Sun 1
Dec, noon to 10.30pm.**



Art decker: detail from Jeremy Dickinson's *Regent v (Bradford)*, 1995, on sale at the Contemporary Art Society's Art Market.