



A Q&A with *Market Warriors* Picker Bob Richter

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If you could collect only one thing what would it be?

Artwork. I have so much respect for those who create. Whether an artist has captured a glance or a moment, or enabled us to see the world in a different way, I find that paintings in particular hold a great deal of emotion for me. Because I'm so passionate about artwork, I own a great deal of it, and have to rotate my collection. I need a few more walls!

Can you describe one of your greatest finds?

An incredible art find at the flea market was a painting by McClelland Barclay. I stopped dead in my tracks when I found it. Barclay's work was incredibly popular in the 1930s and early 1940s. He did lots of magazine covers, pin-up art, and advertisements. His career came to an end in WWII when he was killed in the line of duty. Because he was only active for a short period of time, original works are limited and rare. The largest collection of his work I've seen is in the 21 Club, here in NYC. Needless to say, I am pretty elated to have found a piece that I am able to now own. I believe that in my home, I'm curating beautiful and interesting things and caring for them so they can continue to bring joy to future generations of passionate collectors.

Outside of antiques and design what are your interests?

If there's a Karaoke night somewhere, I'm game! I am also vegetarian and love discovering new fresh and healthy places to eat. I also love to box and do gymnastics rings, in addition to running and weightlifting. I am also very passionate about old movies. I especially love films of the 1930s and 1940s.

If you could give a flea market novice one tip what would it be?

Buy what you love. At the end of the day, if it makes you happy and it enriches your home, then it's all good. Live with what you love!

Do you have any decorating tips for the flea market novice?

Consider flea markets for one-of-a-kind art that is often very inexpensive. Also, look for vintage frames. I use vintage frames for both old and new artwork. They cost considerably less, look great, and can be adjusted in size by a good framer if need be.