



DOERR DALLAS VALUATIONS

YEAR OF THE RABBIT – RABBITS IN ART

To celebrate the Chinese New Year and the start of the Lunar New Year on the 22nd January we thought we would look at the rabbit, our friendly bunny.

So, what might we expect from this new year?

The rabbit is a symbol of longevity, peace, and prosperity in Chinese culture. 2023 is predicted to be a year of hope. People born in a Year of the Rabbit are believed to be vigilant, witty, quick-minded, and ingenious.



Chinese symbol for Year of the Rabbit - 2023

Rabbits have been seen as a symbol of sex and fertility since antiquity. In ancient Rome rabbits were frequently depicted as the animal of Venus. Conversely the rabbit was used by artists of the Middle Ages and Renaissance as a symbol of sexual purity and was often depicted alongside the Madonna and Child.



Madonna and Child with Saint Catherine and a Rabbit (recto) (copy after Titian) 1844. Clement Burlison (1815–1899)

For those wanting to celebrate the Year of the Rabbit, you can purchase a £5 gold coin from The Royal Mint. If you have something more elaborate in mind, Christian Dior have produced a watch for this auspicious year, which retails at £29,000.



A £5 coin from The Royal Mint can be purchased for £14.50



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We could, however, simply celebrate the role of the rabbit in art over many centuries. See how the furry creature has inspired artists throughout the years.

Wishing everyone a Happy Year of the Rabbit.



This silver rabbit pin cushion made in Birmingham in 1908 by **Adie and Lovekin** sold for £1,320 at auction last year.



Song – Jin Dynasty, A Large Celadon And Russet Jade 'Rabbit' Plaque.



Jeff Koons, Balloon Rabbit (Red), Porcelain, With The Original Foam-Lined Box



Ridolfo Ghirlandaio, Portrait of a Lady with a Rabbit, ca. 1508



Marc Chagall, The dream (The rabbit), 1927



Utagawa Hiroshige, Untitled (Two Rabbits, Pampas Grass, and Full Moon), 1849-1851



Pierre Bonnard, Young Girl Sitting with a Rabbit, 1891



Late Pithouse; Classic Mimbres, Ceramic bowl; black on white rabbit figures interior; plain exterior, A.D. 800-1150



Roman, Rabbit and Figs, before 79 CE



John Everett Millais, Love, ca. 1862.