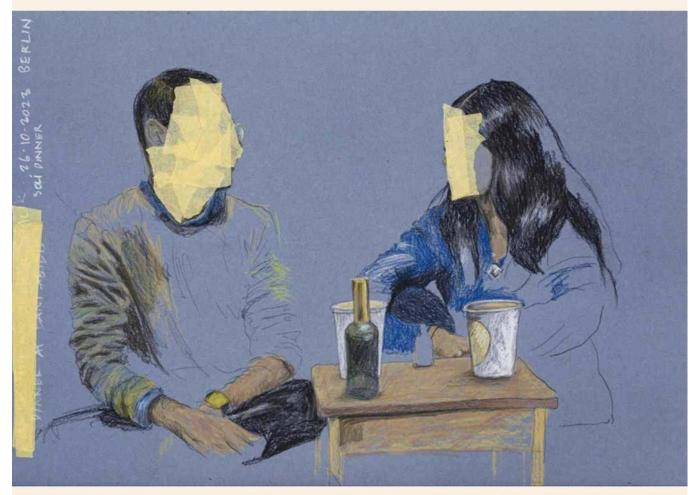
## Frieze London 'more buoyant than expected' in risk-averse climate

Eric Clapton's de Kooning sells for £3.5mn at Christie's; Hockney fetches £13.2mn at Sotheby's



'Society for aching bodies' by Bani Abidi (2023) © Courtesy the artist and Experimenter

Ancient art specialist Charles Ede reveals its new direction at Frieze Masters, with a booth that spans from a c2686-1795BC wooden Egyptian statue (£8,500) to a 1957 oil painting of "An Indian Student (Kulwant Aurora)" (£48,000) by Peter de Francia, late professor of painting at the Royal College of Art.

Expanding the timeline to include 19th- and 20th-century work alongside antiquities, "reflects the practices of great collectors and museums that have long embraced works from various periods and cultures," says James Richards, who joined Charles Ede from the Daniel Katz Gallery at the start of this year. He adds that "for galleries to thrive today, they must adopt a business mindset and be more dynamic, focusing on understanding consumer preferences, effective storytelling, and innovation."



'An Indian Student (Kulwant Aurora)' by Peter de Francia (1957)