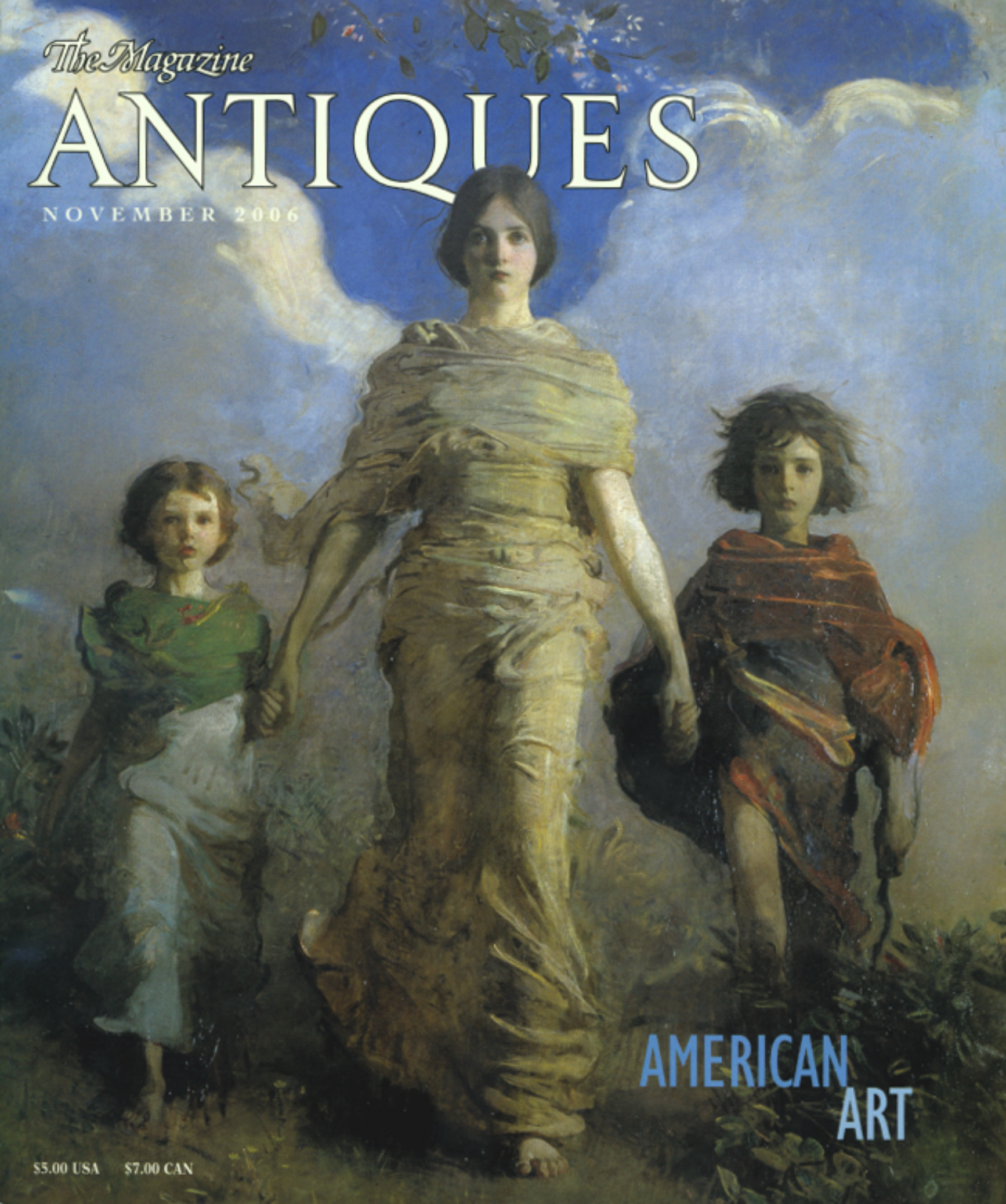


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Packing, shipping, installing, and storing works of art

There are collectors who are so passionate, some might say addicted, to the fine and decorative arts, that they simply cannot stop acquiring objects. This is usually not a problem for those who collect smaller-scale pieces such as snuffboxes, ceramic figures, or ephemera, for in these cases there is almost always room for one more piece. However, if one concentrates on larger objects—paintings, furniture, sculpture, or architectural elements—finding available wall space or house room for another acquisition can mean deaccessioning something equivalent

in size or deciding to put something in storage. Many collectors choose storage, and, often, not surprisingly, so do museums and art and antiques galleries around the world.

Storage naturally involves packing and shipping an artwork to an off-site location. Artex Fine Art Services, headquartered in Landover, Maryland, has aided



museums, galleries, auction houses, corporate collections, artists, and private collectors with these practicalities since it was founded in 1990 by John K. Jacobs and Todd Herman. The company has nearly two hundred full-time employees whose specialties range from art restoration and installation to packing, shipping, and storage. The firm has facilities that serve four metropolitan regions: New York, Washington, D. C., Boston, and Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

More and more, insurance companies are looking at art storage facilities and demanding that museum standards be in place in order for them to write policies. One only needs to cite the art lost in Hurricane Katrina last year and the fire in an art storage facility in East London in 2004 to realize that much is at stake when these buildings do not measure up to current-day standards. Artex's facilities are of the highest quality.

The firm has assisted many museums. For example, when the Delaware Art Museum in Wilmington undertook a major renovation and expansion, Artex moved portions of the collection to the nearby Riverfront Arts Center. In 2003 Artex also served as adviser to the Philadelphia Museum of Art when it was examining options for off-site storage.

Opening this month is a new storage facility



just outside Manhattan in the Bronx, which is owned and operated by Artex in partnership with Storage Deluxe. Artex already has a building in the Chelsea section of Manhattan. The Bronx building is devoted solely to the storage of art and antiques and has temperature and humidity controls, a back-up generator, private viewing rooms, oversized elevators and high ceilings, and storage spaces that can be customized to a client's needs, all with a state-of-the-art security system and around-the-clock access.

For more information telephone 212-265-3111 or access the company's Web site at www.artexfas.com.

