The Collectors' House
Ballyfin Antiques Retreat
26–28 February 2027

A TWO-NIGHT RETREAT FOR GUESTS WHO TAKE ANTIQUES SERIOUSLY, CO-HOSTED BY 1STDIBS





Ballyfin was never simply decorated. It was collected. Over a decade, the Krehbiel family sought out and brought together one of the finest private collections of Irish and European antiques under one roof: Chippendale mirrors, 17th-century Flemish tapestries, a Roman mosaic set into the entrance hall floor, 18th-century Chinese panels once owned by the Prince of Hanover, a marble sarcophagus beneath the cantilevered staircase.

'The Collectors' House' retreat is a two-night experience for guests who take antiques seriously. Guests live with the collection rather than tour it, alongside the people who know it best.

- **Format:** Those who book a room at Ballyfin on a full board basis for these dates can participate in a weekend of programming built around the house and its collection.
- **Timing:** Friday 26 – Sunday 28 February 2027
- **Co-Host:** Tony Freund, Editorial Director at 1stDibs (@tony1stdibs / @1stdibs)

GUEST COLLABORATORS

- **Barbara Paca** – Landscape designer and art historian, who first came to Ireland as a Fulbright Scholar in the 1990s. She curated three exhibitions at Dublin Castle earlier this year, including one for which Ballyfin loaned a few paintings.
- **Bryan O'Sullivan** – Irish-born, London- and New York–based interior designer. Tony noted his work on modern-day castles around the world, as well as projects including the recent refresh of Claridge's in London and the new café at the reopened Frick in New York.
- **Roisin Lafferty** – Dublin-based interior and furniture designer. She is known for layered interiors that blend antiques with contemporary design, including her recent renovation of a nearly 200-year-old Georgian manor outside Dublin.

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

Day One: Arrival & The House

- **Afternoon:** Guests arrive, check in and are welcomed with champagne into the Whispering Room. The house is theirs.
- **16:30:** A butler-led objects tour with Ballyfin's own team, covering provenance, restoration and the decisions behind specific acquisitions.
- **18:00:** Informal cocktail introduction to meet the speakers and fellow guests before dinner.
- **Evening:** Dinner at leisure

Day Two: The Conversations

- Breakfast at leisure
- **10:30:** Panel discussion with Bryan and Roisin on the art of blending antiques with modern design. Bryan and Roisin will also share their own stories.
- **12:00:** Art discussion led by Barbara
- **13:00:** 3-course lunch in the conservatory
- **15:00:** Garden conversation with Barbara focusing on landscape design – an interactive session outside
- **Late afternoon:** Free time. Spa, grounds or the house.
- **Evening:** Sharing cocktail hour – a relaxed, interactive session where guests can bring questions, thoughts and examples of their own personal collections. Speakers and Tony will attend and offer expert advice.
- Closing gala dinner with a long table in the dining room, hosted by Tony. Guests and speakers together.

Day Three: Departure

- Leisurely morning, late departures encouraged. Optional breakfast conversation or walkthrough for those who want it.

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MORE INFORMATION: *For more information, visit www.ballyfin.com*

