

Date: _____ Approved: _____

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
Theater Level Conference Center, Room #1, 9:00 am
Thursday, September 16, 2010

There were present:

Cynthia Kerr Fralin, Chair
Mrs. Louise B. Cochrane
Dr. Elizabeth Ann Fisher
Ivan P. Jecklin
Jane Joel Knox
Dr. Shantaram K. Talegaonkar
Thurston R. Moore, Ex-Officio

By Invitation:

Alex Nyerges, Director
Karen C. Abramson
Ms. Suzanne Broyles
Dr. Lee Anne Chesterfield
Dr. Joseph M. Dye III
Susan S. Goode
Li Jian
H. Eugene Lockhart
Dr. Mitchell Merling
Ms. Joan W. Murphy
Robin Nicholson
Ms. Nancy H. Parsons
John Ravenal
Dr. Susan Rawles
John Henry Rice
Dr. Peter Schertz
Barry Shifman
Dr. Sylvia Yount

Absent:

Dr. Elizabeth F. Harris
Ms. Frances A. Lewis
Steven A. Markel
James W. McGlothlin
Mrs. Suzanne T. Mastracco, Ex-Officio

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Cynthia Kerr Fralin, at 9:30 am.

II. MINUTES

Motion: proposed and seconded that the minutes of the last meeting of the Art Acquisitions Committee held on the 26th of May 2010 be approved as distributed on the 21st of July 2010. Motion carried.

III. PURCHASE, GIFT AND LOAN CONSIDERATIONS

At 9:31 am the meeting went into closed session.

Motion: proposed by Ms. Fralin, and seconded by Mrs. Fisher that the meeting go into closed session under Section 2.2-3711 (A) (6), (8) and (9) of the Freedom of Information Act

to discuss the **investing of public funds** where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the Museum would be adversely affected, and

to discuss and consider matters relating to specific **gifts, bequests, and fundraising activities, and grants and contracts for services to be performed, and**

to discuss and consider matters relating to specific **gifts, bequests, and grants.** Motion carried.

At 10:05 am, by motion proposed, seconded and carried, the meeting resumed in open session.

Motion: proposed by Ms. Fralin, seconded by Dr. Fisher that the Committee certify that the closed session just held was conducted in compliance with Virginia State law, as set forth in the Certification Resolution distributed. Motion carried.

A roll call vote was taken, the results of which are outlined in the Certification Resolution.

Motion: proposed by Ms. Fralin and seconded by Dr. Fisher to recommend to the Full Board of Trustees approval of the following purchase considerations for the amounts and funds specified:

1. Gustave Doré (French, 1832-1883), Spanish Poachers (*Contrabandiers Espagnols*), ca. 1860s-1870s, oil on canvas, 77¼ x 94-7/8 inches; for a price of \$275,000 (reduced from \$375,000), from Deaccessioning Funds; Vendor: Jack Kilgore Gallery, New York, NY
2. Japanese, Edo period, Writing Box, Writing Table, and Incense Set, ca. 1830, lacquer decorated with *maki-e*, gold and silver sprinkled powder, various dimensions, for a price of \$200,000, from Deaccessioning Funds; Vendor: Sebastian Izzard LLC Asian Art, New York, NY
3. Salem, Mass., Pair of Painted Side Chairs, ca. 1790, maple, painted and detailed with floral decoration, each: 44½ x 32 x 26 inches, for a price of \$75,000, \$45,000 from the Gabe W.

Burton Art Purchase Fund (and our \$30,000 credit); Vendor: Bernard & S. Dean Levy, Inc., New York, NY

and the following gift/purchase considerations:

1. Gift Consideration: Tibet, Flaming Trident, 18th century, iron, silver, and gilded copper, 21 inches high
Purchase Consideration: Central Tibet, Yamantaka and Vajravetali, mid-15th century, opaque watercolor on cloth, 34 x 29 inches, for a price of \$800,000, from The Robert A. and Ruth W. Fisher Fund and the Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund; Donor/Vendor: Zimmerman, L.P., Putnam Valley, NY
2. Gift Consideration: William Comyns & Sons (English (London), founded 1859) Belt, 1906-07, silver, 27 inches long; Purchase Consideration: Rudolf Wagner (German, dates unknown) for Wild & Cie. (German (Pforzheim), before 1867-1939), Buckle, 1906, silver, gilding, mother of pearl, enamel, amethysts, peridots, 4¼ inches long; and Design for a Buckle, 1906, pen and ink on paper for a price of \$6,200; Piel Frères (French (Paris), 1855-1925), Belt, 1899-1900, silver, enamel, gilding, 9 inches long for a price of \$5,600; Total Price: \$11,800, from The Swenson Art Nouveau Fund
Donor/Vendor: Dr. Karl and Gisela Kreuzer, Munich, Germany

and the following purchase with special funds:

1. William Hogarth (English, 1697-1764), The Cock Pit, November 1759, etching and engraving, 12-3/8 x 15 inches; sheet: 16¾ x 18 inches, for a price of \$2,200, from Funds provided by Friends of Sporting Art, VMFA; Vendor: Susan Schulman, Planetarium Station, New York, NY

and the following gift considerations:

1. Antoine-Louis Barye (French, 1796-1875), Cheval Turc, ca. 1857, bronze, 11½ x 4½ x 12 inches; Donor: Mrs. Nelson L. St. Clair, Jr., Williamsburg, Virginia
2. Eight photographs by Hullahen Williams Moore (American, born 1942):
 - a. Appalachian Trail and Mist, 1994, pigment print, image: 30 x 23½ inches
 - b. Falling Spring, 1996, pigment print, image: 30 x 24½ inches
 - c. Rhododendron and Tall Trees, 2007, pigment print, image: 30 x 22¾ inches
 - d. Baldface Mountain Overlook, 1981, pigment print, image: 20 x 26 inches
 - e. Baldface Mountain Overlook, 1988, pigment print, image: 20 x 24¾ inches
 - f. New Ferns, 1992, gelatin silver, image: 19-7/8 x 19¼ inches
 - g. Big Meadows Pine, Fog and Ice, 1991, pigment print, image: 14 x 11¼ inches
 - h. Ice Orb and Lace, 1992, gelatin silver print, image: 10-3/8 x 13¼ inches
 Donor: Hullahen Williams Moore, Richmond, Virginia
3. Brenda Zlamany (American, born 1959):
 - Portrait #23 (Alex Katz), 1995, oil on panel, 30 x 20 inches
 - Portrait #15 (Lawrence Weiner), 1994-95, oil on panel, 29 x 19 inches

and the following loan recommendations made by the Staff:

Loans from the Collection

1. Nathaniel Dance-Holland, Portrait of Maria Walpole, Duchess of Gloucester, ca 1766-69, oil on canvas, Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund, 60.36

- George Stubbs, Tiger, ca. 1769-70, oil on canvas, Paul Mellon Collection, 99.95
 Godfrey Kneller, John Locke, 1704, oil on canvas, Bequest of Dr. Bernard Samuels in memory of his mother, Kathleen Boone Samuels, 60.39.9
 James Northcote, Lion and Snake, 1799, etching and mezzotint on wove paper, Paul Mellon Collection, 85.1433
 George Morland, A Tea Garden, 1780 or 1790, colored stipple engraving on paper, Gift of the Estate of Mrs. Ailsa Mellon Bruce, 70.9.346
 George Morland, Milkmaid and Cowherd, 1798, hand-colored mezzotint on wove paper, Paul Mellon Collection, 85.1429
 George Morland, The First of September, Morning and First of September, Evening, 1794, hand-colored mezzotint on wove paper, Paul Mellon Collection, 85.1428.1/2
 Richard Cosway, Perseus, n.d., black chalk and pastel on paper, Bequest of Douglas H. Gordon, 86.227
 John Martin, Classical Figures in an extensive wooded landscape, ca 1820
 pencil and grey wash on paper, Gift of the Fabergé Society of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 97.95
 Thomas Gainsborough, A Mountainous Landscape, ca 1775, black chalk heightened with white on blue paper, Gift of the Fabergé Society of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 97.94
 John Constable, Cloud Study, n.d., 19th c, watercolor on paper, Bequest of Douglas H. Gordon, 86.272
 George Stubbs, Anatomy of a Horse, 1766, Bound Volume, VMFA Library special collection: SF 765 S79
 Exhibition: "From Classic to Romantic, British Art in an Age of Transition"
 Venues & dates: University of Virginia Art Museum, Oct. 29, 2010 – Jan. 30, 2011
 Recommendation: Lend.
2. Alexis Rockman, Seaworld, 2004, oil and acrylic on wood panel, Gift of Pamela K. and William A. Royall, Jr., 2010.73
 Exhibition: "Alexis Rockman: A Fable for Tomorrow"
 Venues & dates: Smithsonian American Art Museum, Nov. 19, 2010 – May 8, 2011
 Recommendation: Lend with courier.
3. India, Siraguja State, Howda, 19th-20th century, silver, gilded silver, wood, velvet, glass, paint, Robert A. and Ruth W. Fisher Fund, 2004.17a-b
 North India, Rajasthan, Mughal, Powder Horn, 18th century, silver, semi-precious stones, Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 2003.58a-b
 India (modern Pakistan), Kashmir region, probably Gilgit, Akshobhya, 8th or 9th century, copper alloy with copper, silver and niello inlays and traces of polychromy, Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund, 86.120
 India, Mughal, Page from the "Late Shah Jahan Album." Ram Singh of Amber, opaque watercolor on paper, Gift of Paul Mellon, The Nasli and Alice Heeramaneck Collection, 68.8.64
 India, Mughal (Oudh), A Festival at the Nawab of Oudh's Palace, opaque watercolor and ink on paper, Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund, 89.26
 India, Mughal (Aurangzeb), Imperial Firman of the Emperor Aurangzeb, 1661 – 1662, ink and opaque watercolor on paper, Asian Art Acquisition Fund and the Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 89.74
 India, Rajasthan, Mewar School, Maharana Ari Singh of Mewar Hunting beneath the Kumbhalgarh Fort, 1764, opaque watercolor on paper, Robert A. and Ruth W. Fisher Fund, 2006.40
 Exhibition: Maharaja: The Splendor of India's Royal Courts
 Venues & dates: Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Nov. 20, 2010 – Feb. 27, 2011, unspecified venue, May – August, 2011, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, Oct. 21, 2011 – April 8, 2012, VMFA, May 19 – August 19, 2012

Recommendation: Lend with courier to Art Gallery of Ontario and Asian Art Museum; lend to additional venue pending identification and approval of facility.

4. East India, Assam, Fragment of a Lampas depicting the Avatars, 17th century, dyed and undyed silk, Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund, 89.4
East India, probably Assam, Fragment of a Lampas depicting Krishna and the Gopis, 19th century, dyed and undyed silk, Robert A. and Ruth W. Fisher Fund, 94.4
Exhibition: “Vishnu: Hinduism’s Blue-Skinned Savior”
Venues & dates: Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville, TN, February 25 – May 29, 2011, Brooklyn Museum of Art, June 24 – September 18, 2011
Recommendation: Lend with courier.
5. Elizabeth-Louise Vigée Lebrun, Portrait of le Comte de Vaudreuil, 1784, oil on canvas
Gift of Mrs. A. D. Williams, 49.11.21
Exhibition: “Neoclassicism”
Venues & dates: Museum of Fine Arts Houston, March 20 – May 30, 2011
Recommendation: Lend.
6. Maurice de Vlaminck, Sailing Boat, Chatou, 1906, oil on canvas, Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 95.23
Exhibition: “1911: Art and Revolution in Liverpool”
Venues & dates: Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool (National Museums, Liverpool), June – September, 2011
Recommendation: Lend with courier.

Changes to Previously Approved Loans

1. Hester Bateman, Coffeepot, 1787, silver, wood, Gift of Mrs. E. Claiborne Robins 2001.52
Hester Bateman, Two open Sauce Dishes, 1789, silver, Gift of Mrs. E. Claiborne Robins 2001.72.1 and 2
Hester Bateman, Tankard, 1790, silver, Gift of Mrs. E. Claiborne Robins, 2001.179
Exhibition:
Exhibition: “Hester Bateman, The Queen of Silversmiths: Eighteenth-century English Silver”
Venue: Lora Robins Gallery of Design from Nature, University of Richmond Museums
Date: the loan commenced April 1, 2008
Approve request to extend loan for two additional years beginning June 15, 2010
2. Robert Henri, Her Sunday Shawl, 1924, Gift of Charles Thalhimer in memory of his wife, Rhoda. 2003.125
Exhibition: “From New York to Corrymore: Robert Henri and Ireland”
Venues & dates: The Mint Museum, Charlotte, NC, May 7 – August 7, 2011
Proposed additional venues: Georgia O’Keeffe Museum, Santa Fe, NM, Sept. 23, 2011 – Jan. 15, 2012; The Hyde Collection, Glens Falls, NY, Feb. 5 – May 1, 2012
Approve additional venues.
3. Konrad Cramer, Glass Bowl of Fruit, 1928, oil on board, John Barton Payne Fund, 88.44
Bumpei Usui, 14th Street, ca. 1925, oil on canvas, J. Harwood and Louise B. Cochrane Fund for American Art, 2006.245
Exhibition: “Before the Fall: Art of the American Twenties”
Venues & dates: Brooklyn Museum of Art, Oct. 28, 2011 – Jan. 22, 2012
Proposed additional venues: Dallas Museum of Art, February 24 – May 27, 2012; Cleveland Museum of Art, July 1 – September 16, 2012
Approve additional venues.

Loans Denied

1. Patrick Caulfield, The Mysterious Suspicion – After Magritte, October, 1974, acrylic on canvas, Gift of Sydney and Frances Lewis. 85.369
Exhibition: exhibition of post-war British painting
Venues & dates: Haunch of Venison, New York, opening March 2011

Motion carried.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Joseph Dye noted the Director's Discretionary Purchase and Gift.

Director's Discretionary Purchase

1. Yun-Fei Ji (Chinese, born 1963), Migrants of the Three Gorges Dam, 2009, hand-printed watercolor woodblock mounted on mulberry paper and silk, 18-1/8 x 348-3/8 inches, number 106 from edition of 108 (\$3,000 from the VMFA Art Purchase Fund)

Director's Discretionary Gift

1. James F. Dicke II (American, born 1945), Untitled #23, 2009, mixed media on canvas, 48 inches diameter (Gift of the Ralls Collection, Washington, DC)

The Director announced that today Dr. Joseph Dye has added the most important and crowning acquisition achievement in his career with the Flaming Trident and the Yamantaka and Vajravetali. He went on to say that Dr. Dye has built VMFA's astounding South Asian art collection over the years and it is renowned in this country and across the globe. The Director added that today marks a transition as Dr. Dye will soon retire and today hands over the Chief Curator position to Dr. Sylvia Yount, Chief Curator Designate. Dr. Dye will continue on here until his retirement and after that we hope he will stay close to VMFA. Dr. Dye thanked the group and said it has been a great pleasure to work with such a wonderful staff and he couldn't have found a better place to work. Joan Murphy added that as we look around the room at the many wonderful curators in place we remember that this Department has been built in a large part by Dr. Dye's selection of these very talented curators. The Trustees responded with a round of applause.

V. ADJOURNMENT

No additional business was brought before the Committee and the meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm.

Suzanne Broyles, Secretary of the Museum

MOTION: Ms. Fralin
 SECOND: Dr. Fisher

MEETING: Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee
 DATE: 16 September 2010

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Committee that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee.

VOTE

AYES: Fralin/Cochrane/Fisher/Jecklin/Knox/Talegaonkar/Moore

NAYS: None

[For each nay vote, the substance of the departure from the requirements of the Act should be described.]

ABSENT DURING VOTE: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Harris/Lewis/Markel/McGlothlin/Mastracco

Suzanne Broyles
 Secretary of the Museum