

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts  
DRAFT – Minutes of the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee Meeting  
Claiborne Robertson Room, 4:00 pm  
Monday, 29 September 2014

There were present:

Cynthia Kerr Fralin, Co-Chair  
Karen C. Abramson  
Louise B. Cochrane  
Susan S. Goode  
Margaret N. Gottwald  
Dr. Lindley Smith  
Dr. Shantaram K. Talegaonkar  
William A. Royall, Jr., Ex-Officio

By Invitation:

Alex Nyerges, Director  
Tyler Bishop  
Stephen D. Bonadies  
Dr. Lee Anne Chesterfield  
Dr. Sarah Eckhardt  
John H. Hager  
Jil Womack Harris  
Li Jian  
Claudia E. Keenan  
Dr. Mitchell Merling  
Rebecca L. Morrison  
Cameron O’Brion  
Christopher Oliver  
John Ravenal  
Dr. Susan Rawles  
Dr. John Henry Rice  
Barry Shifman  
Richard B. Woodward

Absent:

Ivan P. Jecklin, Co-Chair  
Michael M. Connors  
Dr. Elizabeth F. Harris  
James W. McGlothlin  
Dr. Claude G. Perkins

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Cynthia Kerr Fralin, Co-Chair, at 4:46 pm.

## II. MINUTES

**Motion:** proposed by Dr. Talegaonkar and seconded by Ms. Goode that the minutes of the last meeting of the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee, held on the 17th of June 2014, be approved as distributed. Motion carried.

## III. PURCHASE, GIFT, AND LOAN CONSIDERATIONS

At 4:47 pm the meeting went into closed session.

**Motion:** proposed by Dr. Talegaonkar, and seconded by Ms. Goode 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 5:40 pm, the meeting resumed in open session.

**Motion:** proposed by Dr. Talegaonkar, and seconded by Dr. Smith 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. Abramson, and seconded by Ms. Goode that the Board ratify the recommendation of Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee to accept

the following purchase consideration from the funds specified:

Tsogo culture (Gabon), *Gong*, 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century, wood, paint, 17½ x 7¾ x 3½"

Price: \$40,000

Vendor: Robert and Nancy Nooter, Washington, DC

Source: Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund

**and** the following gift considerations:

Ethiopian, *Triptych of the Virgin and Child flanked by Archangels and John the Baptist*, early 17<sup>th</sup> century, tempera on wood panel, 13¼" h

Donor: Robert and Nancy Nooter, Washington, DC

**and** to approve the following loan recommendations made by the Staff:

1. Vincent van Gogh, Daisies, Arles, Summer, 1888, oil on canvas. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 2014.207.

Exhibition: “Van Gogh, Manet and Matisse: The Art of the Flower”

Venues & dates: Dallas Museum of Art, October 26, 2014 – February 8, 2015 (“Bouquets: French Still-Life Painting from Chardin to Matisse”); VMFA, March 21 – June 21, 2015; Denver Art Museum, July 19 – October 11, 2015 (“In Bloom: Painting Flowers in the Age of Impressionism”)

Recommendation: lend.

2. Edgar Degas, Little Dancer, Aged 14, cast after 1919, from a wax statue of 1880, bronze. State Operating Funds, and the Art Lover’s Society, 45.22.1.

Purpose: loan to the permanent collection of the New Orleans Museum of Art

Venues and dates: New Orleans Museum of Art. Loan period: Sept. 30, 2014 – March 13, 2015

Recommendation: lend with courier.

3. Myron Helfgott, Detail, 1986, oil on plywood. John Barton Payne Fund, 86.162a-b.

Exhibition: “Myron Helfgott: An Inventory of my Thoughts”

Venues & dates: Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts, Anderson Gallery, January 16 – March 8, 2015

Recommendation: lend

4. Mary Cassatt, Child Picking a Fruit, oil on canvas. Gift of Ivor and Anne Massey, 75.18.

Exhibition: “Monet and American Impressionism”

Venues & dates: Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida, Feb. 3 – May 24, 2015; Hunter Museum of American Art, June 26 – Sept. 26, 2015; Telfair Museums, Oct. 16, 201 – Jan. 24, 2016

Recommendation: lend to the Harn venue; deny the loan to the Hunter and Telfair venues in order to keep this often lent painting on view for our visitors.

5. Eugène Boudin, Outskirts of Le Légué, the Port of Saint-Brieuc, ca. 1871–1873, oil on canvas. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene B. Sydnor, Jr., 79.167.

Andre Derain, The Port of Douarnenez, 1936, oil on canvas. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 83.19.

Exhibition: “Monet to Matisse: - on the French Coast”

Venues & dates: Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida, February 7 – May 31, 2015

Recommendation: lend the Boudin; deny the Derain due to Mellon loan restrictions.

6. Camille Pissarro, Coconut Palms by the Sea, 1856, oil on canvas. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 83.45.

Camille Pissarro, Landscape, St. Thomas, 1856, oil on canvas. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 83.46.

Exhibition: “Pissarro. Between Danish Golden Age Painting and French Impressionism”

Venues & dates: Ordrupgaard Museum for Fransk Impressionisme, Copenhagen, February 27 – May 31, 2015.

Recommendation: lend Landscape, St. Thomas, with courier; deny Coconut Palms by the Sea, due to Mellon loan restrictions.

7. Vincent van Gogh, Marsh with Water Lilies, Etten, June, 1881, pen and India ink on paper with pencil under-drawing. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 85.777.

Exhibition: “Van Gogh and Nature”

Venues & dates: Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute, June 6 – September 13, 2015

Recommendation: lend.

8. Jan Miense Molenaer, Allegory of Marital Fidelity, ca. 1633, oil on canvas. Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 49.11.19.

Beauford Delaney, Marian Anderson, 1965, oil on canvas. J. Harwood and Louise B Cochrane Fund for American Art, 2012.277.

Exhibition: “The Art of Music”

Venues & dates: The San Diego Museum of Art, September 26, 2015 – January 5, 2016.

Recommendation: lend.

9. John Singer Sargent, The Sketchers, 1913, oil on canvas. Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund, 58.11.

Exhibition: “Jewel City: Art of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition”

Venues & dates: Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, de Young Museum, October 17, 2015 – January 10, 2016

Recommendation: lend

10. George Henry Durrie, Winter in the Country: A Cold Morning, 1861, oil on canvas. J. Harwood and Louise B Cochrane Fund for American Art, 92.124.

Junius Brutus Stearns, Washington as a Farmer at Mount Vernon, 1851, oil on canvas. Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 50.2.4.

Exhibition: "Grant Wood and the American Farm"

Venues & dates: Reynolda House Museum of American Art, September 8 – December 31, 2016

Recommendation: lend

11. Claude Monet, Irises by the Pond, 1914 – 1917, oil on canvas. Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 71.8

Purpose: loan to the permanent collection of the New Orleans Museum of Art

Dates: February 16 – October 1, 2015

Recommendation: lend pending conservation evaluation, with courier.

### **Loans Denied**

1. Sally Mann, Jessie #34, 2004, gelatin silver print photograph. Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund, 2006.13.

Exhibition: "Anywhere but Now" A VCU Museum Studies Program exhibition.

Venues & dates: Wilton House Museum, November 7, 2014 – January 15, 2015

Reason for denial: the facility is unable to maintain a steady rate of relative humidity which is required for this fragile photograph.

2. Claude Monet, Irises by the Pond, 1914-1917, oil on canvas. Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 71.8.

Exhibition: "Looking at Monet. Claude Monet and his Influence on Austrian Landscape Painting and Photography"

Venues & dates: Osterreichische Galerie Belvedere, Austria, October 22, 2014 – February 8, 2015.

Reason for denial: lateness of the request and lack of scholarly merit of the exhibition.

### **Motion carried.**

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Lee Anne Chesterfield reported on changes to previously approved loans, and the Director's discretionary purchases.

**Changes to previously approved loans:**

1. Norman Lewis, Post Mortem, 1964, oil on canvas. Gift of the Fabergé Society, 2001.9.

Exhibition: "From the Margins: Lee Krasner, Norman Lewis, 1945 – 1952"

Venues & dates: The Jewish Museum, September 12, 2014 – February 5, 2015

Loan approved June 17, 2014. The loan request has been withdrawn.

2. Francisco Goya, General Nicolas Philippe Guey, 1810, oil on canvas. Gift of John Lee Pratt, 71.26.

Exhibition: "Goya: Order and Disorder"

Venues & dates: Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, October 12, 2014 – January 19, 2015

Loan approved May 16, 2012. The loan request has been withdrawn.

3. Mason Chamberlin, Portrait of Thomas Nelson, Jr., 18<sup>th</sup> century, oil on canvas. Gift of Dr. John Randolph Page, 54.4.

Exhibition: "Painters and Paintings in the American South," DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts

Venues & dates: Museum, Colonial Williamsburg, March 23, 2013 – September 8, 2014

Loan approved November 17, 2011. The loan has been extended for one year, to September 8, 2015.

4. Camille Pissarro, Coconut Palms by the Sea, 1856, oil on canvas. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 83.45.

Exhibition: "From San Juan to Paris and Back: Francisco Oller, His Caribbean, and the Era of Impressionism"

Venues & dates: Blanton Museum of Art, The University of Texas at Austin, June 14 – September 6, 2015; Brooklyn Museum, October 2, 2015 – January 3, 2016

Loan to Brooklyn Museum approved September 18, 2013. Approve change in dates for Brooklyn Museum venue and approve Blanton Museum venue.

5. John Scottow and Randle-Davis Group, High Chest, 1720-1730, maple, white pine, paint, gesso, gilt, grass pulls. Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 91.8a-b.

Venues & dates: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, December 15, 2014 – April 13, 2015

The exhibition has been postponed until late 2016 – early 2017

### Director's Discretionary Purchases:

1. Willie Anne Wright (American, born 1924):

*Branch with Brugs*, 2013, Lumen print (unique), 16 x 20" ..... \$900  
Source: Aldine S. Hartman Endowment Fund

*Pensive Girl #2*, 2011, Lumen print (unique), 11 x 14" ..... \$1,350  
Source: Funds provided by Linda Sawyers, Richmond

Price: \$2,250 (reflects 10% courtesy discount)  
Vendor: Page Bond Gallery, 1625 W. Main St., Richmond, VA 23220

2. Cynthia Henebry (American, born 1973), *Mavis in the Backseat*, 2013, archival inkjet print, 40 x 50", ed. 2/7, framed ..... \$1,800

Vendor: Page Bond Gallery, 1625 W. Main St., Richmond, VA 23220  
Source: Aldine S. Hartman Endowment Fund

3. LeRoy Henderson (American, b. 1936), *Boy with Flag*, 1989, silver gelatin print, image: 18<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 11-15/16", artist proof ..... \$3,500

Vendor: the artist, 753 Hancock Street, Brooklyn, New York 11233-1204  
Source: Funds provided by Linda Sawyers, Richmond

4. Gene Kloss (American, 1903-1996), *Christmas Eve – Taos Pueblo*, 1946, drypoint on paper, edition of 75, plate: 11<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 14<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" ..... \$12,000

Vendor: The Owings Gallery, Santa Fe  
Source: Funds provided by Frank Raysor in gratitude for VMFA's Member Travel program

5. William D. Washington (American, 1833-1870), *The Burial of Latané*, 1868, steel engraving on paper (in period frame with period glass), 24 x 31" ..... \$2,800

Vendor: Alexander Reeves Fine Art, 3810 Dover Road, Richmond, VA 23221  
Source: John Barton Payne Fund

6. Edward Weston (American, 1886–1958), *Untitled (3 Cacti, Joshua Tree)*, 1937, vintage gelatin silver print mounted to board, image: 7<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 9<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>"; mount: 11<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 13<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" ..... \$2,000

Jim Dow (American, born 1942), *Motel Sign at Night, US 11, Chattanooga, TN*, 1979, Chromogenic dye coupler print, edition of 15, image: 20 x 24"; framed: 24½ x 30½" . . . . . \$1,100

Henri Cartier-Bresson (French, 1908–2004), *Peshawar, Pashtuns at the Bazaar*, 1948/printed later, gelatin silver print, image: 13.75 x 9.25 inches; sheet: 15 x 11" . . . . . \$1,000

William Gottlieb (American, 1917–2006), *Nat King Cole, New York, June*, 1947/printed later, gelatin silver print, image: 19 x 15½"; framed: 23½ x 19½" . . . . . \$1,000

Lee Miller (American, 1907–1977), *Mr. and Mrs. Bukins Flat*, 1940, vintage gelatin silver print, sheet: 8-5/16 x 7¾"; image: 8 x 7½" . . . . . \$1,000

Ralph Gibson (American, born 1939), *Untitled (nude)*, 1971, gelatin silver print on Agfa paper, image: 12 x 8"; sheet: 14 x 11"; framed: 20 x 15" . . . . . \$500

Cecil Beaton (British, born 1904), *Yul Brynner*, c. 1930, gelatin silver print, sheet: 9.825 x 8 in., image: 9.5 x 7.5 in. . . . . \$1,300

Total Price: \$9,600 (\$7,900 + \$1,700 buyer's premium)

Vendor: Santa Monica Auctions, Bergamot Station Arts Center, 2525 Michigan Ave. A5, Santa Monica, CA 90404

Source: Kathleen Boone Samuels Memorial Fund

7. Ervin Marton (Hungarian, 1912–1968), *Untitled (Hand & lace)*, undated, vintage silver gelatin photogram. . . . . \$6,000

Andre de Dienes, (American, born 1913), *Marilyn, Ecstasy*, ca.1945, vintage silver gelatin photograph. . . . . \$2,500

Total Price: \$8,500

Vendor: Stephen Cohen Gallery

Source: Aldine S. Hartman Endowment Fund

8. George Barbier (French, 1882-1932), *La Belle Dame Sans Merci (The Beautiful Lady without Mercy)*, 1921, watercolor and pen on paper, sheet: 15⅛ x 16¾, image: 8 x 10 . . . . . \$7,000

Vendor: Leonard Fox Ltd., 790 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10065

Source: John and Maria Shugars Fund

No additional business was brought before the Committee and the meeting was adjourned by Cynthia Kerr Fralin, Co-Chair, at 5:45 pm.



MOTION: Dr. Talegaonkar  
 SECOND: Ms. Goode

MEETING: Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee  
 DATE: 29 September 2014

**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/Abramson/Cochrane/Goode/Gottwald/Smith/Talegaonkar

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: Jecklin/Connors/Harris/McGlothlin/Perkins

Recorded by: Rebecca L. Morrison  
 Assistant for Trustee Board Relations and Museum Planning