Quotes and Dates Associated with Galleries in the VMFA Special Exhibition *Picasso: Masterpieces from the Musée National Picasso, Paris,* on view from February 19–May 15, 2011

- 1900-1905 "It took me four years to paint like Raphael but a lifetime to paint like a child."
- 1906-1909 "Painting isn't an aesthetic operation: it's a form of magic designed as a mediator between this strange, hostile world and us."
- 1910-1914 "Every act of creation is first of all an act of destruction."
- 1915-1924 "When I paint, I feel that all the artists of the past are behind me."
- 1905-1971 "Art is a lie that makes us realize the truth."
- 1925-1935 "Art is never chaste."
- 1936-1939 "No pleasure without the taste of ashes."
- 1936-1951 "Art is an offensive weapon in the defense against the enemy."
- 1946-1973 "It takes a long time to become young."
- 1956 "God is really only another artist. He invented the giraffe, the elephant, and the cat. He has no real style. He just goes on trying other things."