

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

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts  
Art Acquisitions Committee Meeting Minutes  
Evans Court & Mellon Gallery, 9:00 am  
Thursday, February 18, 2010

There were present:

John R. Curtis, Jr., Chairman  
Dr. Herbert A. Claiborne, Jr.  
Mrs. Louise B. Cochrane  
Dr. Elizabeth Ann Fisher  
Cynthia Kerr Fralin  
Dr. Elizabeth F. Harris  
Ms. Carolyn Hsu-Balcer  
Ivan P. Jecklin  
Jane Joel Knox  
Dr. Shantaram K. Talegaonkar  
Pamela Reynolds, Ex-Officio  
Mrs. Suzanne T. Mastracco, Ex-Officio

By Invitation:

Alex Nyerges, Director  
Karen C. Abramson  
David B. Bradley  
Ms. Suzanne Broyles  
Dr. Lee Anne Chesterfield  
Dr. Joseph M. Dye III  
Li Jian  
Dr. Mitchell Merling  
Robin Nicholson  
Dr. Elizabeth O'Leary  
Ms. Nancy H. Parsons  
John Ravenal  
Dr. Susan Rawles  
John Henry Rice  
Dr. Peter Schertz  
Barry Shifman  
Ms. Mary Sullivan  
Richard B. Woodward  
Dr. Sylvia Yount

Absent:

Ms. Frances A. Lewis  
Steven A. Markel  
James W. McGlothlin

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, John R. Curtis, Jr., at 9:00 am.

## II. MINUTES

**Motion:** proposed and seconded that the minutes of the last meeting of the Art Acquisitions Committee held on the 17th of November 2010 be approved as distributed on the 26th of January 2010. Motion carried.

## III. GIFT AND LOAN CONSIDERATIONS

At 9:47 am the meeting went into closed session.

**Motion:** proposed by Mr. Curtis, and seconded by Ms. Hsu-Balcer 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 10:54 am, by motion proposed, seconded and carried, the meeting resumed in open session.

**Motion:** proposed by Mr. Curtis, seconded by Mrs. Knox 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 Mr. Curtis and seconded by Mrs. Harris to recommend to the Full Board of Trustees approval of the following purchase considerations for the amounts and funds specified:

1. Pio Fedi (Viterbo 1825- Florence 1892), The Sacrifice of Polyxena, ca. 1855, plaster study, 33 x 17 ¼ x 18½", for a price of \$250,000, from the Deaccession Funds; Vendor: Charles Janoray, NY, NY
2. Unknown artisan, Mirror with Three-light Sconce, ca. 1800-1820 (American, possibly Eastern Massachusetts), eastern white pine (pinus strobus), gessoed and gilded; iron wire with gilded plaster ornament, gilt-brass candleholders; mirrored plate, 54½ x 26 x 10-7/8", for a price of \$150,000, from The J. Harwood and Louise B. Cochrane Fund for American Art; Vendor: Hirschl & Adler Galleries, Inc., New York, NY

3. Bessie Potter Vonnoh (American, 1872-1955), Mother and Child (also known as Mother and Babe), 1902, bronze, 10-7/8 x 8 x 9½", for a price of \$30,000 (\$33,000 Insurance Value), from The J. Harwood and Louise B. Cochrane Fund for American Art; Vendor: Alexander Reeves Fine Art, Richmond, VA
4. Philip Evergood (American, 1901-1973), Street Corner, 1936, oil on canvas mounted to board, 30 x 55", for a price of \$819,000 (\$1,000,000 original asking price); \$400,000 due 2/2010; \$419,000 due 8/2010, from The J. Harwood and Louise B. Cochrane Fund for American Art; Vendor: Alexandre Gallery/Alexandre Fine Art, Inc., New York, NY

**and** acceptance with gratitude of the following gift considerations:

1. Joseph Clarico (American (Norfolk, Va.), d. 1828), Set of Six Table Spoons, "Fiddle Pattern", ca. 1815–20, coin silver, 9"long  
Joseph Mosely Freeman (American (Norfolk, Va.), 1806–1882), Set of Six Dinner Forks, ca. 1850, coin silver, 7¼"long; Donor: Suzanne Freeman, Richmond, VA
2. Fifty pieces of 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century English silver from the Gans collection [to be considered *in absentia*]; Donor: Rita Gans, New York

**and** the accessioning of the following:

1. Four pieces of Knoll furniture purchased by the Museum in the 1950s.
  - a. Florence Knoll (American, b. 1917), Structural T Table #306, ca. 1954, steel, wood, 16 x 45 x 22½"
  - b. Jens Risom (Danish (active in U.S.), b. 1916), Upholstered Chair #21, designed 1941, made ca. 1954, birchwood, upholstery, 30¾ x 23¾ x 30½"
  - c. Andre Dupre (French, dates unknown), Stacking Chair #130, designed 1947, made ca. 1954, chrome-plated tubular steel, vinyl cord, 31¾ x 19 7/8 x 21¾"
  - d. Mies van der Rohe (German (active in U.S.), 1886-1969), Barcelona Chair, designed 1929, made ca. 1954, chrome, leather, 29 x 30 x 21½"

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

#### Loans from the Collection

1. Gari Melchers, Madonna of the Rappahannock, 1923, oil on canvas. Gift of John Barton Payne, 30.1.2; Exhibition: "Winter Spotlight Exhibition"  
Venues & dates: Gari Melchers Home and Studio, University of Mary Washington, March 1 – May 31, 2010. Recommendation: Lend with courier.
2. Roy Lichtenstein, Still Life with Folded Sheets, 1976, oil and magna on canvas. Gift of Sydney and Frances Lewis, 85.556; Exhibition: "Roy Lichtenstein – Still Lives"  
Venues & dates: Gagosian Gallery, New York, May 1 – July 31, 2010.  
Recommendation: Lend.
3. Standing Bodhisattva, Xiangtangshan Southern Group of Caves, Northern Qi dynasty (550-577), limestone with traces of pigment. Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 56.9.2; Exhibition: "Echoes of the Past: The Buddhist Cave Temples at Xiangtangshan"; Venues & dates: Smart Museum of Art, University of Chicago, Sept. 30, 2010 – Jan. 16, 2011; Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, SI, Feb. 26 – July 31, 2011; Meadows Museum, SMU, Dallas, Sept. 10, 2011 – Jan. 1, 2012; San Diego Museum of Art, Jan. 28 – April 8, 2012; Recommendation: Lend with courier.

4. Jean Schlumberger, for Tiffany & Co., Pectoral Cross, 1960, 18 carat gold, diamonds, emeralds, sapphires, aquamarines. Collection of Mrs. Paul Mellon, 99.5.  
Exhibition: "Tiffany Ecclesiastical Designs"  
Venues & dates: MOBIA, Museum of Biblical Art, New York, Oct. 8, 2010 – Jan. 30, 2011.  
Recommendation: Lend with courier.
5. Edouard Manet, On the Beach, Boulogne-sur-Mer, 1868, oil on canvas. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 85.498; Exhibition: "Manet, Inventor of Modernity"  
Venues & dates: Musée d'Orsay, Paris, early March – late May, 2011"  
Recommendation: Lend with courier.
6. Alvan Fisher, Portrait of a Race Horse, American Eclipse, 1822, oil on canvas. Paul Mellon Collection, 85.640.  
Winslow Homer, Saddle Horse, n.d., oil on panel. Paul Mellon Collection, 85.643.  
Henri Delattre, Trotter and Driver on Union Raceway, Goshen, New York, ca. 1850, oil on canvas. Paul Mellon Collection, 85.634.  
William Tylee Ranney, Wounded Hound, 1850, oil on canvas. J. Harwood and Louise B. Cochrane Fund for American Art, 2002.538.  
Richard la Barre Goodwin, Hunter's Cabin Door, ca 1895, oil on canvas. Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 77.26.  
William Aiken Walker, Still-Life of Game Birds, 1868, oil on panel. Gift of Mrs. Isaac Parrish, 92.7.  
William Aiken Walker, Still-Life of Game Birds, 1868, oil on panel. Gift of Mrs. Isaac Parrish, 92.8.  
Exhibition: "Afield in America: 400 Years of Animal and Sporting Art, 1585-1985"  
Venues & dates: National Sporting Library, Middleburg, Sept. 2011 – Jan. 2012.  
Recommendation: Lend the Fisher and the Delattre with courier; deny the Ranney, the Goodwin, the Homer and the two Walkers.

#### Changes to Previously Approved Loans:

1. Hester Bateman, Coffeepot, silver and wood (2001.52), Two Open Sauce Dishes, silver (2001.72.1 and 2), and Tankard, silver (2001.179). Gifts of Mrs. E. Claiborne Robins. Exhibition: "Hester Bateman, The Queen of Silversmiths: Eighteenth-century English Silver," Lora Robins Gallery of Design from Nature, University of Richmond Museums, approved February 2008; Loan extended through June 15, 2010.
2. John Singer Sargent, The Sketchers, ca. 1913, oil on canvas. Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 58.11.  
Exhibition: "Very Social Lives: Americans at Home and Abroad in the Art of John Singer Sargent," Naples Museum of Art, approved May 2009; Request withdrawn.

#### Loans Denied

1. Ed Paschke, Duro-Verde, 1978, oil on canvas. Gift of the Sydney and Frances Lewis Foundation, 85.431; Exhibition: "Ed Paschke"  
Venues & dates: Gagolian Gallery, New York, March 4 – April 24, 2010.
2. Claude Monet, Irises by the Pond, 1914-17, oil on canvas. Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 71.8; Exhibition: "Monet, Late Work"  
Venues & dates: Gagolian Gallery (21<sup>st</sup> Street gallery), May through July 2010.
3. Junius Brutus Stearns, Washington as a Farmer at Mount Vernon, 1851, oil on canvas. Gift of Col. and Mrs. Edgar W. Garbisch, 50.2.4.  
George Henry Durrrie, Winter in the Country: A Cold Morning, 1861, oil on canvas. J. Harwood and Louise B. Cochrane Fund for American Art, 92.124.

Exhibition: "Virtue, Vice, Wisdom, and Folly: The Moralizing Tradition in American Art"  
 Venues & dates: Reynolda House Museum of American Art, Winston-Salem, NC, Sept. 11–  
 Dec. 31, 2010.

4. Pierre Bonnard, The Dining Room, ca. 1940-1947, oil on canvas. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 2006.46; Exhibition: "Pierre Bonnard. 1867 - 1947"  
 Venues & dates: Vienna Kunstforum, Oct. 14, 2011 – Jan. 8, 2012; Fondation Beyeler, Basel, Jan. 29 - April 22, 2012.

Motion carried.

#### IV. OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT

No additional business was brought before the Committee and the meeting adjourned at 10:55 am.

Suzanne Broyles  
 Secretary of the Museum

MOTION:	Mr. Curtis	MEETING:	Art Acquisitions Committee
SECOND:	Mrs. Knox	DATE:	18 February 2010

#### **CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

**WHEREAS**, the Art Acquisitions 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 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 Committee.

#### VOTE

AYES: Curtis/Claiborne/Cochrane/Fisher/Fralin/Harris/Hsu-Balcer/Knox  
 Talegaonkar/Mastracco

NAYS: None

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

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Reynolds/Jecklin  
 ABSENT DURING MEETING: Markel/Lewis/McGlothlin

Suzanne Broyles  
 Secretary of the Museum