

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

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts  
Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes  
Theater Level Conference Center, Room #1, 8:30 am  
Thursday, November 17, 2011

There were present:

Cynthia Kerr Fralin, Chair  
Ms. Susan S. Goode  
Dr. Elizabeth F. Harris  
Ivan P. Jecklin  
Mrs. Jane Joel Knox  
Dr. Shantaram K. Talegaonkar

By Invitation:

Alex Nyerges, Director  
Karen C. Abramson  
Stephen D. Bonadies  
Ms. Suzanne Broyles  
Alfonso L. Carney, Jr.  
Dr. Lee Anne Chesterfield  
Michael M. Connors  
Ms. Sarah Eckhardt  
Dr. Mitchell Merling  
Ms. Joan W. Murphy  
Robin Nicholson  
Dr. Elizabeth O'Leary  
John Ravenal  
Dr. John Henry Rice  
Dr. Peter Schertz  
Richard B. Woodward  
Dr. Sylvia Yount

Absent:

Thurston R. Moore, Ex-Officio  
Mrs. Suzanne T. Mastracco, Ex-Officio  
Mrs. Louise B. Cochrane  
Ms. Frances A. Lewis  
Steven A. Markel  
James W. McGlothlin

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Cynthia Kerr Fralin, at 9:00 am.

## II. MINUTES

**Motion:** proposed and seconded that the minutes of the last meeting of the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee held on the 20th of September 2011 be approved as distributed on the 7th of November 2011. Motion carried.

## III. PURCHASE, GIFT AND LOAN CONSIDERATIONS

At 9:09 am the meeting went into closed session.

**Motion:** proposed by Ms. Fralin, and seconded by Dr. Talegaonkar 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 9:50 am, by motion proposed, seconded and carried, the meeting resumed in open session.

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

1. Sue Williamson (South African, born England, 1941), For Thirty Years Next to His Heart, 1990, color laser prints, hand-covered frames, 49 panels, 77 x 103" overall for a price of \$63,000 (reduced from \$75,000), Vendor: The Artist, from the Sydney and Frances Lewis Endowment Fund
2. Roger Ballen (American, born 1950), Old man, Ottoshoop, 1983, gelatin silver print, 15-11/16 x 15 1/2" for a price of \$7,000 (reduced from \$9,000), from The Kathleen Boone Samuels Memorial Fund, Vendor: Gagosian Gallery, NY
3. Ian Berry (British, born 1934), South Africa, Supporters Climb to Every Vantage Point, 1994, gelatin silver print, 19-15/16 x 14 7/8" for a price of \$1,875 (reduced from \$2,500)

Vendor: Magnum Photos, INC., NYC

Alf Kumalo (South African, b. 1930), two digital prints: Soweto, 1980, 17½ x 24"; and A Protest March after the Uitenhage Massacre of 21st March, 1985, 1985, 20 x 24", for a price of \$4,500 each (reduced from \$5,500), Vendor: Axis Gallery, NYC

Jürgen Schadeberg (South African, born Germany, 1931), Miriam Makeba, 1955, gelatin silver print, 19⅞ x 15¾", for a price of 2,500€ (@\$3,500) (reduced from 3,000€), from funds provided by Mike Schewel and Priscilla Burbank, Vendor: The Artist

4. Zwelethu Mthethwa (South African, b. 1960), Untitled, 1998, chromogenic print mounted to UV Plexiglas, 38 x 51", for a price of \$15,200 (reduced from \$19,000), Vendor: Shainman Gallery, NYC

David Goldblatt (South African, born 1930), Children of Pomfret at the Entrance to the Incline Shaft, 2002, digital print in pigment dyes, 24-1/16 x 29⅝", for a price of \$10,400 (reduced from \$13,000), from funds provided by Ivan Jecklin and Allison Weinstein, Vendor: Goodman Gallery, South Africa

5. Nontsikelelo Veleko (South African, born, 1977): three pigment inks on cotton rag paper from the series "Beauty is in the Eye of the Beholder," each 14 ⅜ x 9 3/16": Kepi I, 2003/2006; Nonkululeko, 2003; and Phumeza, 2004, for a price of \$2,240 each (reduced from \$2,800), from funds provided by Ivan Jecklin and Allison Weinstein, and the Samuels Fund, Vendor: Goodman Gallery, South Africa

**Total Cost of DARKROOM exhibition purchase: @\$116,695**

Funding contributions: Ivan Jecklin and Allison Weinstein (\$30,000), Mike Schewel and Priscilla Burbank (\$15,000), and the Samuels Fund (@\$8,695) and the Lewis Fund (\$63,000)

**and** the following purchase considerations using special funds:

1. Theodore Géricault (French, 1791-1824), A Paralytic Woman, 1821, lithograph, sheet: 365 x 513 mm; plate, 225 x 317 mm, for a price of \$9500, from funds provided by Frank Raysor (\$3000) and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Nelson (\$300), with additional support from the Revolving Art Purchase Fund (\$6200), Vendor: C. & J. Goodfriend Drawings & Prints, New York, NY
2. Theodore Géricault (French, 1791-1824), The Dead Horse, 1823, lithograph, 275 x 350 mm For a price of 150€ (roughly \$200), from funds provided by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Nelson, Vendor: A+D Martinez, Paris, France

**and** the following 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gifts/Purchase considerations:

1. Gift consideration: P. Orr & Sons, Madras, India, Five-piece Tea Service, 1876, silver Purchase consideration: 229 pieces of Indian Silver, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century, for a price of \$380,000 (represents gift of \$30,000 off \$410,000 insurance value), from the Revolving Art Purchase Fund (to be repaid by the Williams Fund in December), Donor/Vendor: Paul F. Walter, New York, NY, in celebration of VMFA's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary
2. First installment of a gift/purchase of 43 Ethiopian objects, Gift consideration: Ethiopian Hand Cross, 12<sup>th</sup> century, iron, 16½"h; and Ethiopian Hand Cross, 17<sup>th</sup> century, iron, 8½"h Purchase consideration: Ethiopian Pendant Double Diptych, late 17<sup>th</sup> century, tempera on panel, 3¼"h for a price of \$14,000, from the Revolving Art Purchase Fund (to be repaid by the Williams Fund in December 2011), Total expenditure over two years: \$320,000; Gift value: \$319,500, Donor/Vendor: Robert and Nancy Nooter, Washington, DC, in celebration of VMFA's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary

- Jacob Lawrence (American, 1917-2000), The Legend of John Brown, 1977 (after 1941 gouache series), 22 silkscreen prints on Domestic Etching paper (50/60 ed.); image: 20 x 14", 14 x 20"; paper: 25 7/8 x 20", 20 x 25 7/8", for a price of \$100,000 (with gift of \$230,000 off \$330,000 insurance value), from The J. Harwood and Louise B. Cochrane Fund, Donor/Vendor: Derrick Johnson, Midlothian, VA, Credit: Gift of Derrick Johnson in honor of his grandson, Mark Devon Johnson, on the occasion of VMFA's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary

**and** the following gift considerations:

- Unknown artisan, Philadelphia, Armchair, ca. 1760, mahogany, replaced seat cover, 29 1/2 x 41", Donor: Mrs. Charles Dexter, Richmond, Virginia, in celebration of VMFA's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Thomas Hart Benton (American, 1889-1975), Instruction, 1940, lithograph on paper, 10 1/2 x 12 1/2", Daniel Ralph Celentano (American, 1902-1980), Benton's Musical Practice, early 1930s, charcoal on paper, 14 1/4 x 12 3/4", Donor: Keith Kisse, Richmond, VA, in celebration of VMFA's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Georgianne Stinnett (American, born 1962), Dog, 2009, digital laminated C-print mounted on aluminum and acrylic panel, 40 x 50", Donor: Barbara H. and James L. Peters, Richmond, VA
- Indian, North India, Page from the "Prince of Wales" Chandayan: Maina Refuses the Vermillion from Chanda, ca. 1525-60, opaque watercolor on paper, 10 1/2 x 7 3/4" Donor: Cynthia Hazen Polsky, New York, NY, in celebration of VMFA's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary

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

#### Loans from the Collection

- Francesco Clemente, Francesco Clemente Pinxit, 1981, 24 in individual paintings in natural pigment on paper, Gift of Sydney and Frances Lewis, 85.373.1/24, Exhibition: "Warhol – Basquiat – Clemente", Venues & dates: Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany, Bonn, Feb. 10 – May 20, 2012, Recommendation: lend with courier pending approval of borrower's facility
- Egyptian, XXVI Dynasty, ca. 663-525 BC, Saite Period, Seated Scribe, alabaster, Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 51.19.4 – 64.60, Egyptian, ca. 332-330, Ptolemaic Period, Lady with a large Wig, grey-green schist, Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 55.8.13, Egyptian, ca. 378-341 BC, 30<sup>th</sup> Dynasty, Late Period, Male Head, granite, Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund, 69.51, Egyptian, ca. 600 BC, 'Late Period', Vessel in the form of the god Bes, faience, Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 93.110, Exhibition: "Masterpieces of the Last Pharaohs" (working title), Venues & dates: Jacquemart-André Museum, Paris, March 23 – July 23, 2012, Recommendation: lend 69.51, with courier; deny 51.19.4 - 64.60, 55.8.13, and 93.110 because of fragility, limitations of the borrowing facility, and because they are key works in our recently opened gallery of Egyptian Art.
- Lee Bontecou, Untitled (No. 25), 1960, welded steel and canvas, Gift of Sydney and Frances Lewis, 85.364, Exhibition: "Painting the Void", Venues & dates: The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, Oct. 14, 2012 – Jan. 14, 2013; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Feb. 16 – May 19, 2013; Dallas Museum of Art, June 9 – Sept. 8, 2013, Recommendation: lend with courier.

4. 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 – Sept. 8, 2014, Recommendation: lend.
5. Rajasthan, Jina, probably Shreyamsanatha, 1160, white marble with traces of pigment, Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 2000.98, Indian, Punjab Hills, Page from a Kedara Kalpa Series: The Five Sages in Barren, Icy, Heights, ca. 1800 – 1820, paints on paper, Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund, 85.1548, Indian, Mughal, Page from a Kathasaritsagara Manuscript: Episodes from the Tale of Devadatta, ca. 1585 – 1590, opaque watercolor and ink on paper, Gift of Paul Mellon, The Nasli and Alice Heeramanek Collection, 68.8.55, Exhibition: “Yoga: The Art of Transformation”, Venues & dates: Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, early-mid October 2013 – late January 2014; Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, late Feb. – mid-May 2014; Possible third venue, mid-June – early Sept. 2014, Recommendation: lend 2000.98 with courier to Sackler only; lend 85.1548 and 68.8.55 to Sackler and Asian Art Museum and evaluate possible third venue for the two paintings.

#### Changes to Loans Previously Approved

1. Robert Henri, Her Sunday Shawl, 1924, oil on canvas, 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; Georgia O’Keeffe Museum, Santa Fe, NM, Sept. 23, 2011 – Jan. 15, 2012, The Hyde Collection has dropped out as the third venue for this exhibition and the Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse is the proposed new third venue., Lend to Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, NY, Feb. 11 – May 12, 2012

Motion carried.

**Motion:** proposed by Ms. Fralin and seconded by Dr. Harris that the Board ratify the recommendation of the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee that the Director, and in his absence Dr. Sylvia Yount, be authorized to accept gifts of art offered to the Museum between November 18, 2011 and December 31, 2011. Motion carried.

#### IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sylvia Yount noted the Director’s Discretionary Purchases.

1. Photographer Unidentified, Elephant in State Costume, ca. 1890, photochrome, printed title in gilt, 11<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>”; Charles T. Scowen (British, active 1870s-90s), The Kandy Perahera, an Annual Buddhist Procession, ca. 1880, albumen print, 8<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>”. £900 (@ \$1440) total from the Revolving Art Purchase Fund. Roland Belgrave Vintage Photography, Brighton, UK.
2. Six photographs: George Tice (American, b. 1938), Lincoln Hotel and Abe's Disco (\$3,200); Andre Kertesz (b. Hungary, 1894–1985), Going Home and Untitled (\$2,600 together); Barbara Morgan (American, 1900-1992): Artificial Life from the Laboratory (\$1,000) and Martha Graham: Lamentation (\$1,600); Alvin Langdon Coburn (American, 1882-1966), Portrait of Max Weber, 1903 (\$325). \$8,790 total from the Samuels Fund. Eastman House Auction, Rochester.

3. Arthur Rothstein (American, 1915–1985), two gelatin silver prints: Mrs. Dodson, Old Rag, VA, 1935, 6 ¾ x 5½” (\$550); Skull, Badlands, South Dakota, 1936, 10½ x 13½” (\$1,300). \$2,312.50 total from the Samuels Fund. Doyle Auctions, New York.
4. Three Vases by Walter B. Stephen: Crystalline Glaze Vase, 1936, 9¼”h (\$3,600); Monumental Vase, crackled blue glaze, 1940, 18”h (\$2,400); Cameo Pottery Vase with Westward Ho Scene, 1939, 7”h (\$3,400). \$11,314.18 total from the Burton Fund. Brunk Auctions, Asheville.

## V. ADJOURNMENT

No additional business was brought before the Committee and the meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.

Suzanne Broyles  
Secretary of the Museum

MOTION:	Ms. Fralin	MEETING:	Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee
SECOND:	Dr. Harris	DATE:	17 November 2011

### **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/Goode/Harris/Jecklin/Knox/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: Cochrane/Markel/McGlothlin/Moore

Suzanne Broyles  
Secretary of the Museum