

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts  
Draft Minutes of the Art and Collections Committee Meeting  
Friday, March 26, 2021, 8:30am  
Electronic Meeting

There were present:

Meg Gottwald, Chair  
Tom Papa, Vice Chair  
Edie Cabaniss  
Cindy Conner  
Anne Edwards  
Janet Geldzahler  
Martha Glasser  
David Goode  
Pamela Reynolds  
Suzy Szasz Palmer  
Monroe Harris, Trustee President, Ex-officio

Absent:

Steve Markel  
Michele Peterson

By Invitation:

Alex Nyerges, Director and Chief Executive Officer  
Kay Baker  
Stephen Bonadies  
Caprice Bragg  
Matt Cooper  
Stephanie Cooperstein  
Birch Douglass  
Denise Keane, Foundation Liaison  
Jim Klaus, Foundation Co-President  
Debbie Linn  
Cindy Norwood, Office of the Attorney General  
Hubert Phipps  
John Henry Rice  
Hossein Sadid  
Michael Taylor  
Deborah Valentine, Foundation Liaison

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Meg Gottwald called the meeting to order at 8:31am.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Ms. Gottwald reported there were no requests for public comment.

### III. MINUTES APPROVAL

**Motion:** Proposed by Ms. Janet Geldzahler and seconded by Ms. Suzy Szasz Palmer to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2021 Art and Collections Committee meeting as distributed. Motion carried.

### IV. *MAN RAY: THE PARIS YEARS*

Dr. Michael Taylor, Chief Curator and Deputy Director for Art and Education, presented an in-depth overview of the upcoming photography exhibition, *Man Ray: The Paris Years*, which he is curating. The exhibition is scheduled to open at the VMFA on October 30, 2021 and run through February 21, 2022. Dr. Taylor noted that his hope is to not only highlight the great work of this notable photographer but to also bring awareness about some of his sitters, such as singer Ruby Richards and actress Miriam Hopkins.

### V. CONSERVATION INSIGHTS ON AN 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY SOUTH ASIAN SCROLL

Mr. Stephen Bonadies, Chief Conservator and Senior Deputy Director for Conservation and Collections, introduced Ms. Debbie Linn, Assistant Chief Conservator, who joined the VMFA in September 2019 from the Field Museum in Chicago. Ms. Linn provided the Committee with a look at the process of conserving a 300 year-old scroll painting. *Picture Scroll Depicting Events from the Legendary History of the Gauda Caste* is nearly 50 feet long and provides conservators with a variety of projects in its conservation. While discussing the scroll, Ms. Linn explained the various tools used to analyze it, including the Bruker CRONO X-Ray Fluorescence Scanning Spectrometer which has the ability to identify different elements within paint. She noted that this information not only helps her team identify the materials used, but also see what may have been painted over in the process. She also shared preliminary plans on how to display the large scroll in the galleries while protecting it from light-based degradation.

### VI. OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:27am.

Recorded by: Stephanie Cooperstein  
Executive Administrator to the Chief Strategy Officer and  
Deputy Director for Strategic Planning, Government & Board Relations