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 9 1/2", 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, 7 1/4" long; Donor: Suzanne Freeman, Richmond, VA

2. Fifty pieces of 18th- and 19th-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 22 1/2"
   b. Jens Risom (Danish (active in U.S.), b. 1916), *Upholstered Chair #21*, designed 1941, made ca. 1954, birchwood, upholstery, 30 1/4" x 23 3/4" x 30 1/2"
   c. Andre Dupre (French, dates unknown), *Stacking Chair #130*, designed 1947, made ca. 1954, chrome-plated tubular steel, vinyl cord, 31 1/4" x 19 7/8" x 21 1/4"
   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 21 1/2"

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

**Loans from the Collection**


Recommendation: Lend.

   Exhibition: “Tiffany Ecclesiastical Designs”
   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”
   Recommendation: Lend with courier.

   Exhibition: “Afield in America: 400 Years of Animal and Sporting Art, 1585-1985”
   Recommendation: Lend the Fisher and the Delatte with courier; deny the Ranney, the Goodwin, the Homer and the two Walkers.

Changes to Previously Approved Loans:


Loans Denied


2. Claude Monet, *Iris by the Pond*, 1914-17, oil on canvas. Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 71.8; Exhibition: “Monet, Late Work”
   Venues & dates: Gagosian Gallery (21st Street gallery), May through July 2010.


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
SECOND: Mrs. Knox
MEETING: Art Acquisitions Committee
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