

**Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco
Executive Committee**

Tuesday, December 9, 2014

I. Calling of the Meeting to Order – Diane B. Wilsey, President

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco was held on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 in the Board Room of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, San Francisco. A quorum was present. The meeting was called to order at 3:42 p.m. by Diane B. Wilsey, President.

II. Calling of the Roll

Present:

Diane B. Wilsey, President
Carol N. Bonnie
David H. S. Chung
Belva Davis, Vice President
Lauren Hall
Kathryn Lasater
Holland Lynch
Sarah Ogilvie
Carl Pascarella
Louise H. Renne
David Spencer
Jeana Toney
Lisa Zanze

Excused:

Cynthia Fry Gunn
Trevor D. Traina

Other Trustee in Attendance:

George Hecksher, Vice President for Collections

III. Report of the President

A. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Minutes of the October 16, 2014 Meeting of the Board of Trustees

There being no discussion among Trustees or comments from the public, the minutes of the October 16, 2014 meeting of the Board of Trustees, having been delivered in advance to all Trustees, were unanimously approved.

B. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Report of the Acquisitions Committee

President Wilsey called on George Hecksher, Vice President for Collections and Chair of the Acquisitions Committee to report on recent activities of the Acquisitions Committee. Mr. Hecksher noted that an opportunity arose between committee meetings to purchase a work of art, and the committee voted unanimously via e-mail ballot to approve the purchase. This purchase is for a painting by Eugene Delacroix entitled *Portrait de Charles de Verninac*. Mr. Hecksher called on Colin B. Bailey, Director of Museums, to review the history and importance of this painting. Excerpts from the Acquisitions Statement are included herein for reference:

Eugène Delacroix was one of the foremost practitioners of French Romanticism in the nineteenth century. In 1816, he enrolled at the École des Beaux-Arts--making frequent visits to the Musée du Louvre to study the works of the old masters. Delacroix's imposing and dramatic compositions came to be seen in stark contrast to the rigid and classical forms of his rival Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres. Many of Delacroix's most famous works explore themes of violence or struggle, such as *Massacres at Chios* (Musée du Louvre) or *Liberty Leading the People* (Musée du Louvre), and they exemplify his interest in depicting contemporary events in grand manner paintings.

This portrait, however, is a more personal exercise in the artist's oeuvre. The sitter, Charles Etienne Raymond Victor de Verninanc (29 November 1803-22 May 1834) was Delacroix's nephew. Delacroix and Charles were born only five years apart, and they were raised alongside one another. As Delacroix's studio practice thrived, his nephew joined the Foreign Ministry and was appointed Vice-Consul to Chile in 1831. On Charles's return journey to France in 1834, he contracted yellow fever in Vera Cruz and died in quarantine in New York a few months later. Delacroix was devastated by Charles's premature death.

This painting is one of several known portraits of Charles de Verninac by Delacroix, and it can be dated around 1826, soon after his return from England (May-August 1825). While in London Delacroix admired the work of contemporary portraitists such as Sir Thomas Lawrence (1769-1830), whose studio he visited. Upon his return to France, he mounted an impassioned defense of English portraiture, challenging the "foolish opinion" that portraiture was a secondary branch of painting--below that of history painting. Lawrence's stylistic influence is particularly evident in the portrait of Charles de Verninac in Delacroix's use of contrasting pure colors--bright red against white, and the elegant and looseness of posture and dress. However, still evident is Delacroix's characteristic brushwork--seen in the fluid curling sweeps of the sitter's hair, as well as the thick and swirling lines of the red that compose the cravat. The painting was certainly a significant and personal achievement for Delacroix; in his will, the artist referred to this portrait as the one hanging over his bed.

The painting was exhibited at the Legion of Honor on long-term loan from 1947 until 1950, as part of the Arthur Sachs collection. This would be the first painting by Delacroix to enter the Fine Arts Museums. There are three drawings by Delacroix in the Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts: *Arabs and Horses Near Tangiers* (1951.35), *A Sheet of Studies* (1976.2.11), and *A Male Academie* (1975.2.17) -- as well as numerous lithographs and engravings. The inclusion of the painting would further strengthen the collection of French Romantic paintings of the early nineteenth century,

Mr. Hecksher next reviewed two objects from the Africa, Oceania and the Americas collection being proposed for first-step deaccession. These two objects are also being proposed for second-step deaccession, effective June 4, 2015. He then offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco does hereby approve the actions proposed by the Acquisitions Committee of the Fine Arts Museums Foundation, including approving the work of art acquired through purchase as a gift to the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco from the Fine Arts Museums Foundation and approving first and second step deaccessioning.

Upon motion, duly seconded, there was no discussion among Trustees. There was no public comment. Trustees voted unanimously to approve the December 2, 2014 Report of the Acquisitions Committee (Appendix I to these minutes) and adopted the above resolution as **Board Resolution 1795**.

C. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve a Change in Date for the Next Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Fine Arts Museums from Thursday, January 22, 2015 to Wednesday, January 21, 2015, at 3:00 p.m., in the Piazzoni Murals Room, de Young Museum.

President Wilsey proposed a change in date of the next Board of Trustees meeting with the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That due to a scheduling conflict, the Board of Trustees of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco does hereby change the date of the Thursday, January 22, 2015 to Wednesday, January 21, 2015, with the time and location remaining the same, namely at 3:00 p.m., in the Piazzoni Murals Room, de Young Museum.

Upon motion, duly seconded, there was no discussion among Trustees. There was no public comment. Trustees voted unanimously to adopt the above resolution as **Board Resolution 1796**.

IV. Report of the Director

A. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Loan Requests

Mr. Bailey reviewed the following requests for loans of art:

1 From: Arthemisia Group – Milano Roma

For: James Tissot

- Opening date: 10/1/2015
- Closing date: 2/1/2016

A. James Tissot, French, 1836-1902

Self-Portrait, ca. 1865

Oil on wood panel

19 5/8 x 11 7/8 in. (49.8 x 30.2 cm)

Museum purchase, Mildred Anna Williams Collection

1961.16

Insurance Valuation: \$1,000,000

Stipulations: The artwork must be accompanied by a FAMSF courier to and from Arthemisia Group.

2. From: The Museum of Modern Art, New York

For: Picasso's Sculpture

- Opening date: 9/1/2015
- Closing date: 1/1/2016

A. **Pablo Picasso**, Spanish, 1881–1973

The Orator (L'Orateur), 1933–1934

Plaster, stone, metal dowel

72 x 26 x 10 5/8 (182.9 x 66 x 27 cm)

Museum purchase, Roscoe and Margaret Oakes Income Fund and Art Trust Fund

1994.199

Insurance valuation: \$10,000,000

Stipulations: The artwork must be accompanied by a FAMSF courier to and from The Museum of Modern Art.

3 From: Peabody Essex Museum

For: Asia in Amsterdam

- Opening date: 2/27/2016
- Closing date: 6/5/2016

A. **Jan Steen**, Dutch, 1626–1679

The Marriage of Tobias and Sarah (The Marriage Contract), ca. 1673

Oil on canvas

41 x 50 1/4 (104.1 x 127.6 cm)

Gift of the M.H. de Young Museum Society

62.12.1

Insurance valuation: \$10,000,000

Stipulations: The artwork must be accompanied by a FAMSF courier to and from Peabody Essex Museum.

4 From: Yokohama Museum of Art

For: Mary Cassatt Retrospective

- Yokohama Museum of Art: 6/25/2016 to 9/11/2016
- National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto: 9/27/2016 to 12/4/2016

A. **Mary Cassatt**, American, 1844–1926

Mrs. Robert S. Cassatt, the Artist's Mother, ca. 1889

Oil on canvas

38 x 27 in. (96.5 x 68.6 cm)

Frame: 44 1/4 x 33 7/8 x 2 3/8 in. (112.4 x 86 x 6 cm)

Museum purchase, William H. Noble Bequest Fund

1979.35

Insurance valuation: \$10,000,000

Stipulations: The artwork must be accompanied by a FAMSF courier to and from Yokohama Museum of Art and be part of a couriered shipment between venues.

5 From: Brandywine River Museum of Art
Chadds Ford, PA

For: Horace Pippin: The Way I See It

- Opening date: 4/25/2015
- Closing date: 7/19/2015

- A. **Horace Pippin**, American, 1888–1946
The Trial of John Brown, 1942
Oil on canvas
16 1/2 x 20 1/8 in. (41.9 x 51.1 cm)
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd
1979.7.82
Insurance valuation: \$1,500,000

Stipulations: The artwork must be accompanied by a FAMSF courier to and from Brandywine River Museum of Art

6 From: Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid

For: Georges de La Tour

- Opening date: 2/23/2016
- Closing date: 6/12/2016

- A. **Georges de La Tour**, French, 1593–1652
Old Woman, ca. 1618–1619
Oil on canvas
91.4 x 60 cm (36 x 23 5/8 in.)
Frame: 117.8 x 85.7 x 10.2 cm (46 3/8 x 33 3/4 x 4 in.)
Roscoe and Margaret Oakes Collection
75.2.10
Insurance valuation: \$15,000,000

- B. **Georges de La Tour**, French, 1593–1652
Old Man, ca. 1618–1619
Oil on canvas
91.1 x 60.3 cm (35 7/8 x 23 3/4 in.)
Frame: 117.8 x 85.7 x 10.2 cm (46 3/8 x 33 3/4 x 4 in.)
Roscoe and Margaret Oakes Collection
75.2.9
Insurance valuation: \$15,000,000

Stipulations: The artwork must be accompanied by a FAMSF courier to and from Museo Nacional del Prado

Upon motion, duly seconded, there was no discussion among Trustees. There was no public comment. Trustees voted unanimously to approve the loan requests reviewed by Dr. Bailey.

V. Public Comment

There were no public comments on any matters during the course of this meeting.

VI. Meeting Schedule, Future Events and Current and Future Exhibitions

A. Board of Trustees Meetings

Date	Time	Location
Wednesday, January 21, 2015*	3:00 pm	Piazzoni Murals Room, de Young
Thursday, April 23, 2015**	3:00 pm	Board Room, Legion of Honor
Thursday, June 4, 2015	3:00 pm	Piazzoni Murals Room, de Young
Thursday, October 22, 2015	3:00 pm	Board Room, Legion of Honor

*This is a change in date from January 22, 2015

**[This date to be changed at the January meeting to Wed. April 15.]

B. Executive Committee Meetings

(Will be held if there is business to conduct between full Board meetings)

Date	Time	Location
Thursday, March 5, 2015	3 p.m.	Board Room, Legion of Honor

C. Current and Future Exhibitions¹

1. Legion of Honor — Special Exhibitions

Title	Open	Close
Masters of Fire: The Copper Age in the Holy Land	6/28/14	1/4/15
Houghton Hall: Portrait of an English Country House	10/18/14	1/18/15
<i>Artists and Editions: A Publication in Memory of Steven Leiber (1957-2012)*</i>	10/18/14	3/29/14
<i>The Malcolm D. Gutter Collection of Early Meissen Porcelain*</i>	12/13/14	ongoing
High Style: The Brooklyn Museum Costume Collection	3/14/15	7/19/15
<i>Luminous Worlds: British Works on Paper, 1770-1870</i>	7/11/15	11/29/15
Breguet: Art and Innovation in Watchmaking*	9/19/15	1/10/16
Ancient Luxury and the Roman Silver Treasure from Berthouville	9/19/15	1/10/16

2. de Young Museum — Special Exhibitions

<i>Lace: Labor and Luxury</i>	12/16/13	ongoing
<i>Shaping Abstraction*</i>	2/1/14	Spring 2015
Lines on the Horizon: Native American Art from the Weisel Family Collection*	5/3/14	1/4/15
<i>Anthony Friedkin: The Gay Essay*</i>	6/14/14	1/11/15
<i>Celebrating the Spectrum: Highlights from the Anderson Collection*</i>	9/13/14	4/5/15
Keith Haring: The Political Line*	11/8/14	2/16/15
<i>Janet Delaney: South of Market</i>	1/17/15	7/19/15
Embodiments: Masterworks of African Figurative Sculpture	1/31/15	7/5/15
Botticelli to Braque: Masterpieces from the National Galleries of Scotland	3/7/15	5/31/15
Bouquets to Art	4/13/15	4/19/15
J.M.W. Turner: Painting Set Free	6/20/15	9/20/15
Royal Hawaiian Featherwork: Nā Hulu Ali'i*	8/29/15	2/28/16
Jewel City: Art of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition	10/17/15	1/10/16

¹ Dates of future exhibitions are subject to change

*Exhibitions organized by FAMSF

Bold indicates Major Exhibitions

D. Special Events

Date and Location	Event
de Young (dY), Legion of Honor (LH)	
Wednesday, December 10, 2014 (LH)	Elegant Evening in the Court of Honor – by invitation, ticketed
Friday, January 9, 2014 (dY)	deYoungsters 2015 Family Art Party – ticketed
Thursday, January 29, 2015 (dY)	Donor Reception, <i>Embodiments: Masterworks of African Figurative Sculpture</i> – by invitation
Thursday, February 5, 2015	Tribal and Textile Arts Fair Opening Gala, Fort Mason - ticketed
Saturday, February 7, 2015 (dY)	ArtPoint Valentine's Celebration - ticketed
Thursday, March 5, 2015 (dY)	Donor Reception, <i>Botticelli to Braque: Masterpieces from the National Galleries of Scotland</i> – by invitation
Friday, March 6, 2015 (dY)	Members' Reception, <i>Botticelli to Braque: Masterpieces from the National Galleries of Scotland</i> – by invitation
Wednesday, March 11, 2015 (LH)	Black Tie Dinner and Preview, <i>High Style: The Brooklyn Museum Costume Collection</i> – by invitation
Thursday, March 12, 2015 (LH)	Donor Reception, <i>High Style: The Brooklyn Museum Costume Collection</i> – by invitation
Friday, March 13, 2015 (LH)	Members Reception, <i>High Style: The Brooklyn Museum Costume Collection</i> – by invitation
Friday, March 27, 2015 (LH)	The Junior Committee's Mid-Winter Gala – by invitation, ticketed
Monday, April 13, 2015 (dY)	Bouquets to Art Gala - ticketed
Thursday, April 30, 2015	Art Market Benefit Preview Reception - ticketed
Thursday, June 18, 2015 (dY)	Donor Reception, <i>J.M.W. Turner: Painting Set Free</i> – by invitation
Friday, June 19, 2015 (dY)	Members' Lounge, <i>J.M.W. Turner: Painting Set Free</i> – by invitation

VII Adjournment

President Wilsey adjourned the meeting at 3:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan A. Bourne
Executive Secretary to the Board of Trustees

NOTE: -These minutes set forth all actions taken up by the Board of Trustees on matters stated but not necessarily in the order in which they were considered.