



department for
culture, media
and sport

Government Art Collection
2-4 Cockspur Street
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Advisory Committee on the Government Art Collection

Summary of the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3 July 2008 at the Government Art Collection's London premises

Present

Chairman: Julia Somerville

Members: David A Bailey, Mick Elliott, Penelope Curtis, Sandy Nairne, Nicholas Penny, Sarah Shalgosky

GAC staff: Penny Johnson, Adrian George, Nicky Hodge, Clive Marks, Julia Toffolo

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Stephen Deuchar and Andrew Renton.

2. Minutes of the Last Committee Meeting, Held on 3 March 2008

The Committee approved the Minutes, which were signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Director brought the Committee up to date on events concerning the theft of two GAC paintings from the premises of the Somerset House Trust in February: borrowers of works from the GAC were being re-apprised of the need for vigilance and security as regards the loans for which they are responsible; the remaining original works on loan to the same location had been more securely fixed to the walls; a press release had been issued about the theft and articles had appeared in the press; and the works were now on various specialist databases (e.g. Interpol and Scotland Yard Art & Antiques Squad).

4. Acquisitions

The Committee noted the Director's list of acquisitions since the last meeting.

The Committee approved the following works of art for purchase:

- **Overlook XXIII** 2007, Gillian Carnegie, oil on canvas, from Galeria Capitain, Cologne
- **Related Faction** 2008, Liam Gillick, painted aluminium and plexiglass wall sculpture, from Corvi-Mora, London
- **Palast I – VI** 2005, Tacita Dean, photogravures, from Frith Street Gallery
- **Outpost** 2007, Anne Hardy, diasec-mounted C-type photographic, from Maureen Paley, London
- **Flatland A Landscape of Punjab** 2004, Max Kandhola, two photographs, from the artist

New British Embassy, Warsaw

The Director showed the Committee plans of the new Embassy and where works of art could be sited. The Committee suggested a number of artists who might be commissioned to provide works.

6. New British High Commission, Colombo

The Director gave a presentation on the new building and the opportunities for placing art in the public areas.

7. New British Embassy, Algiers

Adrian George presented plans of the Embassy and potential areas for works of art.

8. Commission Updates:

New British Embassy, Doha

Adrian George reported that the commission (the sculpture **Let me count the ways** by Jonathan Parsons) had been installed in March 2008.

New British Embassy, Manila

Adrian George reported that he planned to oversee the installation of the new works later in July.

Ministry of Justice, London (Queen Anne's Gate)

Adrian George noted that work was progressing well.

Home Office, London

Adrian George reported on proposed changes to siting work.

9. Director's Report of GAC Activities Since 5 March 2008

This was noted by the Committee.

10. Date of the Next Meeting

Wednesday 19 November 2008.