



department for
**culture, media
and sport**

Government Art Collection
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Advisory Committee on the Government Art Collection

Summary of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 22 November 2012 at the Government Art Collection

Present

Julia Somerville (Chairman)
Penelope Curtis, Iwona Blazwick, Penny Johnson (GAC), Sandy Nairne, Clare Pillman, Andrew Renton, Sarah Shalgosky,
GAC: Julia Toffolo, Clive Marks

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Nicholas Penny

2. Minutes of the last Committee meeting held on 12 July 2012

The minutes were agreed and signed by Sarah Shalgosky who chaired the meeting on 12 July.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

Sandy Nairne asked if there was any progress on the Three Collections Review. The Director said that discussions were on-going.

4. Acquisitions

4.1 Acquisitions since 12 July 2012

The following works were accessioned:

GAC18451, engraving after William HOGARTH

The Bench

Accessioned from Cliffords Inn (Royal Courts of Justice), London, April 2012

GAC18480, Susan PHILLIPSZ

Timeline 58/100 2012

Inkjet print

Gift from Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Culture & External Affairs, to Ed Vaizey, DCMS Minister for Culture, on behalf of the Scottish Government, August 2012.

A group of works from Somerset House, London, accessioned as part of the GAC's project to rationalise works of art from the building on HM Revenue & Customs' departure from it in 2012:

GAC18452, G.F. MORRELL

Improving the Port of London: The Huge New Albert Dock [later King George V Dock] c.1912

Coloured newsprint

GAC18453, Unknown 19th/early 20th century photographers

Old Somerset House 1568 to 1777

Five black and white photographs in one frame

GAC18454, Charles Ernest DEACON

From the Old Bullion Yard, Bank of England 21/100

Drypoint etching

GAC18455, Ebenezer LANDELLS,

Bird's Eye View of the London Docks published with The Illustrated London News 27 September 1845

Coloured wood engraving

GAC18456, Louis Philippe BOITARD

The Imports of Great Britain from France published 7 March 1757

Engraving

GAC18457, ELLIOT & FRY Ltd

Philip Snowden, Viscount Snowden (1864-1937) politician; Chancellor of the Exchequer

Black and white photograph

GAC18458, J.S. ALLEN after Samuel SCOTT

Westminster Bridge in 1745

Coloured engraving

GAC18459, Arthur L. CHERRY

The Savoy and Waterloo Bridge from Hungerford Bridge

Drypoint etching

GAC18460, J.C. BLUCK after Thomas ROWLANDSON & A.C. PUGIN

West India Docks published 1 January 1810 for The Microcosm of London

Coloured aquatint

GAC18461, John Heaviside CLARK

Somerset House from Waterloo Bridge from "Mighty London" (London 1851-1855)

Engraving

GAC18462, James GILLRAY

"The Friend of the People" & his Petty-New-Tax-Gatherer, paying John Bull a visit published 28 May 1806

Coloured etching

GAC18463, Frederick James SMYTH

Panorama of the River Thames in 1845 published with The Illustrated London News of 11 January 1845

Coloured wood engraving

GAC18464, R. Randal PHILLIPS

Somerset House and Waterloo Bridge 1908

Black and white photograph

GAC18465, E.L. MINTY

Somerset House, Victoria Embankment September 1949

Pastel and gouache drawing

GAC18466, Samuel READ

Somerset House and St. Mary-le-Strand from "Mighty London" (London 1851-1855)

Engraving

GAC18467, "Ape" [Carlo PELLEGRINI]

Lewis Guy Phillips (1831-1887) soldier: Order at Wimbledon published as "Men of the Day" No.229,

Vanity Fair 24 July 1880

Chromolithograph

GAC18468, Petrus KAERIUS (Pieter van den KEERE)

The South of Scotland 1627

Coloured engraving

GAC18469, Petrus KAERIUS (Pieter van den KEERE)

The Isles of Hebrides with their Borders 1627

Coloured engraving

GAC18479, "T" (Theobald CHARTRAN)

Babble, Birth and Brummagem published as a Supplement to Vanity Fair, 6 July 1880

Chromolithograph

4.2 Olivier portraits

Julia Toffolo explained the GAC had received valuations for the group of paintings. The Committee felt that the the group which had a very niche appeal and it was agreed that if theGAC could acquire them it should do so without the involvement of other institutions.

5. Government Art Collection 2012 – 14

The Director outlined the plans for the relocation of the GAC to new premises. The emphasis would be on the reduction of cost in line with the 50% reduction in DCMS administration costs agreed by the previous Secretary of State, Jeremy Hunt. A number of options had been explored and further work was taking place. It was hoped that somewhere could be found that offered a reception space that would offer the chance to display works of art to the public.

6. Government Art Collection exhibition

The Director highlighted the success of the exhibition at the Whitechapel Gallery. Iwona Blazwick noted that the exhibition had brought new visitors to the gallery and had given an opportunity for those who liked traditional work to experience more contemporary and challenging art and vice versa. The Director reported that the exhibition Revealed: Government Art Collection, now on display in Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery Art to 24 February, had garnered positive publicity and featured on BBC's Midlands Today.

7. Director's Report of GAC activities since 12 July 2012

The Director detailed the art she and Iwona Blazwick had selected and displayed in the British Business Embassy, set up in Lancaster House for the duration of the Olympics and Paralympics. Clare Pillman noted that the display of contemporary art had been very well received.

Julia Toffolo gave an illustrated presentation on the rehang of the Long Gallery in Lancaster House. 80 GAC works had been placed into what was once a picture gallery to bring it back to its former glory. The Committee congratulated her on the new display.

The Director reported on the temporary installation of Anthony Gormley's sculpture Extend in the garden of the Residence. The Director also noted that Julia Toffolo's recreation of a "print room" style hang on the walls of the main stairwell of the Residence was continuing to attract much attention and interest.

8. AOB

Iwona Blazwick asked about the status of the purchase budget. The Director said that it was due to be reinstated in the Financial Year 2013-14.

9. Date of next meeting

21 March 2013.