



Advisory Committee on the Government Art Collection

Summary of the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15 July 2015 at the Government Art Collection

Present

David Verey, Chairman

David A Bailey, Iwona Blazwick (via conference call from New York), Susan Collins, Penny Johnson (GAC),

Clare Pillman, Andrew Renton

GAC: Adrian George, Clive Marks

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Nicholas Cullinan and Clare Lilley.

The Chairman suggested that when the new ex-officio appointees arrive the Committee should meet informally away from the GAC.

2. Minutes of the last Committee meeting held on 19 March 2015

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

3. Update on fundraising options for GAC's acquisitions

The Chairman informed the Committee that a meeting with Tim Sparrow of DCMS Finance confirmed that charitable status could not be conferred on the GAC. The Director told the Committee that GAC had bid for an uplift to £300K in its capital budget for purchases. The Director informed the Committee that the Outset/Government Art Collection Acquisition Fund partnership had resulted in visits to the studios of Anne Hardy, Isaac Julien and Gillian Wearing with the possibility of acquisitions. She asked Members if they knew of any artist's estates which might donate to GAC. In answer to Andrew Renton's question the Chairman said that it was works rather than funds that the GAC was seeking.

4. Acquisitions

4.1 Acquisitions since 19 March 2015

The Committee noted the acquisitions.

4.2 Acquisitions

Approved for acquisition

Walter Hugo (born 1980) and Zoniël (born 1980)

Tank outside at night

(The Physical Possibility of Inspiring Imagination in the Mind of somebody Living) 2014

Digital photographic print, 50 x 74 cm image; 63 x 87 cm frame

Jamie Lau (born 1978)

Red Green and Black 2014

Imperial 2014

Chinese Theme 2014

C-Type prints, 100 x 76 cm each

Committee very supportive but price to be negotiated

Dexter Dalwood (born 1960)

Marquee 2012

oil on canvas, 101 x 124 cm

4.3 Outset/Government Art Collection Fund

Accepted for the collection as part of outset/gac acquisition fund

Isaac Julien (born 1960)

No Moon Shining (Ten Thousand Waves Series) 2010

Endura Ultra Photograph, 180 x 240 cm

The Committee were impressed by the result of the work done by the Director which led to this acquisition. They asked it to be noted that it was a fine example of what working with Outset could produce. Clare Pillman highlighted it also as a great example of the multiplier effect of DCMS/Treasury funding.

The Committee was shown other potential acquisitions under the scheme. The work by Gillian Wearing was seen as something worth acquiring but Andrew Renton noted that as Tate had a copy the GAC may not wish to duplicate. Susan Collins asked if the newer work by the artist, a 3D piece called Charm, might not be a better option if it was available.

The Committee felt either of the Anne Hardy works should be acquired and were prepared to let the Director decide which she thought would work best for the Collection.

5. Decommissioned works

Adrian George brought the Committee up to date on the position of the works by Runa Islam, **Home Office, London** 2003-5 and Robert Holyhead, **Embassy, Brussels** 2009. The location of the Holyhead had been redesigned and there was nowhere for the work (vinyls on glass) to be redisplayed. The Islam work had been refabricated but still did not work. The building owners wanted a piece and were required by Westminster Council to have one but they were looking for something "off the shelf".

6. Government Art Collection 2015 – 18

The update was noted by the Committee.

7. Director's report of GAC activities since 19 March 2015

The update was noted by the Committee.

8. AOB

David Bailey offered to help with the installation of GAC works in Barbados as he visits for work on a fairly regular basis. Adrian George thought it a good idea and would check timings and get back.

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 12 November 2015.