

## Minutes of the Advisory Committee on the Government Art Collection

Summary of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14 November 2019 at the offices of Martinspeed

### **Present:**

Sir David Verey CBE - Chair

### **Ex Officio:**

Nicholas Cullinan - Director, National Portrait Gallery

Penny Johnson - Director, GAC

Emma Squire - Director, Arts, Heritage and Tourism, DCMS

### **Independent:**

Susan Collins - Artist & Professor at the Slade School of Fine Art

Clare Lilley - Director of Programme at Yorkshire Sculpture Park

Ben Luke - Critic and Writer on the Visual Arts

Mary Ann Prior - Art Curator and Adviser

### **GAC staff in attendance:**

Jessica Cerasi

Eliza Gluckman

James Morrison

Andrew Parratt

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## 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Alex Farquharson, Gabriele Finaldi and Melanie Keen.

## 2. Minutes of the last Committee meeting held on 17 July 2019

The minutes were agreed and signed.

## 3. Matters arising

The GAC Director informed the Committee that there was no substantial update on the portrait of Queen Victoria. However, work on this continues.

## 4. Acquisitions

### 4.1 *Acquisitions since 17 July 2019*

The Committee noted the acquisitions.

### 4.2 *Acquisitions for consideration*

After discussions by the Committee and in compliance with the criteria in the GAC's Acquisitions Policy, the Committee agreed the acquisition of the following works:

#### 4.2.1 *To be purchased by the GAC*

DAVID A. BAILEY (born 1961)

##### **Family Album Series** 1987

Black-and-white photographs, 17.8 x 12.7cm, per image. Series of 12 images.

NORMAN HYAMS (born 1966)

##### **Court** 2018

Oil on linen, 210 x 240 cm

TANIA KOVATS (born 1966)

##### **WELL** 2019

Tin-glazed earthenware tiles with cobalt, wooden structure, tap, 90 x 60 x 60 cm

MARK TITCHNER (born 1973)

##### **Some questions about us** 2019

Eight digital prints onto aluminium dibond, eight wooden posts, Placards each 70 x 50 x 0.3 cm; posts 180cm

#### 4.2.2 *OUTSET/GAC Fund*

Twelve artists were selected to participate in the project and the work of four artists are yet to be acquired. The Committee agreed the commissioning of Rockdispenser by Nicole Wermers.

#### 4.2.3 *GAC/OUTSET TenTen Fund*

JESSE DARLING (born 1981)

##### **Equestrian statue** 2015

Mild steel, wheels, metal chain, 102 x 97 x 40 cm

MATTHEW KRISHANU (born 1980)

##### **Mountain Tent** 2019

Oil on canvas, 60 x 50cm

##### **Two Boys in a Tree** 2019

Oil on board, 61 x 46 cm

ROBIN MEGANNITY (born 1985)

##### **being satisfied** 2019

Artists soft pastel, rabbit skin glue size, oil-based primer, oil paint with resin/wax medium, satin/matte varnish, 110 x 75 x 4.5 cm

INGRID POLLARD (born 1953)

**Parabiosis – solid generated by rotation** 2001

Digital print on stretched synthetic canvas, 310 x 252 cm

**Asymptotic – not falling together** 2001

Digital print on stretched synthetic canvas, 310 x 252 cm

**4.2.4 Bloomberg New Contemporaries**

The Committee noted that the following works have been purchased from Bloomberg New Contemporaries 2019

ELEONORA AGOSTINI (born 1991)

**Relaxation Island** 2018

Gelatin Silver Print, 100 x 80 cm, Edition of 5 + 2 AP

**Wednesdays IV** 2018

Gelatin Silver Print, 86 x 67 cm, Edition of 5 + 2 AP

SAMUEL FORDHAM (born 1987)

**I Just Want To Know My Daughter Better** 2018

Aluminium mounted chromogenic print on baryta paper, 101.6 x 81.28 cm

ZOE RADFORD (born 1995)

**Bodies** 2017

Two screen prints, black ink on paper, 84 x 114 cm each, Edition of 4

**4.2.5 Commissions**

*HMA Residence Bangkok*

The new HMA Residence will open in Bangkok at the end of 2019 and the FCDO has provided a budget for some commissioned artwork. Three artists were proposed and Sara Barker was approved.

**5. TenTen print project**

The Committee noted the update on the 2019 Commission. It was noted that the artist approached for the 2020 commission had now accepted and the Committee agreed on who should be approached for the 2021 and 2022 commissions.

**6. Proposed amendment to the constitution of the Advisory Committee on the GAC**

The Committee approved the amendments to the Constitution.

**7. Update on the move to Old Admiralty Building (OAB)**

The Committee noted the update on the GAC's move to OAB. They were encouraged to hear about the progress being made with the building, public engagement programme and external commission.

**8. Director's report of GAC activities since 17 JULY 2019**

The Committee noted the report - special mention was given to the Chair for his assistance with the purchase of the Philip Alexius De László portraits of Tibor and Madame Tibor De Scitovszky, which are now on display in the Ambassador's Residence in Budapest.

**9. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for 12 March 2020