



# Advisory Committee on the Government Art Collection

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## Summary of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 17 November 2016 at the Government Art Collection

### Present:

Iwona Blazwick, Acting Chair

Susan Collins, Nicholas Cullinan, Alex Farquharson, Penny Johnson (GAC), Clare Pillman, Andrew Renton, David Verey

GAC: Adrian George, Clive Marks, Andrew Parratt

### 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from David A Bailey, Gabriele Finaldi, Clare Lilley.

David Verey was scheduled to arrive late and so Iwona Blazwick agreed to take the Chair.

### 2. Minutes of the last Committee meeting held on 14 July 2016

The minutes were agreed and signed.

### 3. Matters arising

Iwona Blazwick raised the issue of the proposed acquisition prize. The Director suggested that Bloomberg New Contemporaries show might be the best option as it is an annual national touring exhibition and not confined to London. The Committee thought it should be an acquisition rather than a prize and that an indicative price of around £5,000 should be agreed but with some flexibility.

### 4. Acquisitions

#### 4.1 Acquisitions since 14 July 2016

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, subject to the Director negotiating a further discount for all works except for the David Shrigley prints and the Wolfgang Tillmans inkjet print.

ELIZABETH MCALPINE (born 1973)

**Ends (Sprayed Sound)** 2013

C-Type print, 128 x 85 cm

IVAN SEAL (born 1973)

**duchess** 2015

Oil on canvas, 112 x 90 cm

DAVID SHRIGLEY (born 1968)

Six ink drawings on paper, 42 x 29.7 cm each

**Untitled (Bad Art)** 2014

**Untitled (I Don't Have a Girlfriend)** 2014

**Untitled (The Race. Eventually You Must Join In)** 2014

**Untitled (We Are All Walking Tightropes. Every Single One of Us)** 2014

**Untitled (I Hate Giving Speeches)** 2014

**Untitled (Get Off the Wing You Idiot)** 2014

WOLFGANG TILLMANS (born 1968)

**in the back** 2010

Inkjet print mounted on Dibond in artist's frame, 145 x 217.5 cm, edition of 1 + 1 AP (1/1)

THOMSON & CRAIGHEAD

Jon Thomson (born 1969) and Alison Craighead (born 1971)

**Horizon** 2009

Digital collage from online sources

#### **4.3 Approaches made to GAC for consideration**

No proposed acquisitions were recommended for purchase.

#### **5. Update on Portrait of Queen Victoria, New Delhi**

Andrew Parratt has identified historic links between the work, its donor and possible location – the Dr Bhau Daji Lad Museum (until 1975 the Victoria and Albert Museum) in Mumbai. He has visited and met with museum officials and a representative of the British Council. The Museum was keen to display the work and had identified a prominent location within its building to do so, although they would have to be formally approached and the work would be on long term loan.

The work is in a poor state of repair and would require conservation work. It is hoped that the Hamilton Kerr Institute would undertake the work in tandem with local conservators providing a development opportunity. The Committee suggested ways in which funding might be obtained e.g. local sponsorship, Art Fund or crowd funding.

#### **6. Report on GAC works of art, Ambassador's Residence, Tehran**

Andrew Parratt updated the Committee on the works damaged after an attack on the British Embassy compound in Tehran in November 2011.

#### **7. Government Art Collection – Verbal Update**

Outset/Government Art Collection Fund

The GAC continues to work with OUTSET to bring new works into the Collection. Discussions are underway with Laure Prouvost to identify one of her works and with Richard Wentworth to finalise the display of one of his works.

Old Admiralty Building (OAB)

There are a number of design elements that remain unresolved, in particular within the small gallery space. The GAC has sought specialist architectural advice to help with this. It is anticipated that the likely occupation date will be 2018.

The Director confirmed that An Eyeful of Wry an exhibition curated by the GAC's Nicky Hodge (Curator of Information and Research, Modern & Contemporary), will be shown in Hull during the city's tenure as UK City of Culture in 2017.

**8. Director's Report of GAC activities since 17 March 2016**

The report was noted by the Committee.

**9. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for 16 March 2017.