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Advisory Committee on the Government Art Collection

Summary of the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14 November 2018 at the Government Art Collection

Present:

Ex Officio:

Alex Farguharson - Director, Tate (Acting Chair)

Penny Johnson - Director, GAC

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

Independent:

Susan Collins - Artist and Director, Slade School of Art

Melanie Keen - Director, Institute of International Visual Art

Claire Lilley - Director of Programme at Yorkshire Sculpture Park

Mary Ann Prior - Art Curator and Adviser

GAC staff in attendance: Jessica Cerasi, Christopher Christophorou, Claire FitzGerald, Eliza Gluckman, James Morrison, Andrew Parratt

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Sir David Verey, Nicholas Cullinan, Gabriele Finaldi and Ben Luke.

2. Minutes of the last Committee meeting held on 11 July 2018

The minutes were agreed and signed.

3. Matters Arising

- The Chair welcomed two GAC staff members invited to attend as observers Christopher Christophorou, Technical Manager and Claire FitzGerald, Curator: Information and Research (Modern & Contemporary).
- Andrew Parratt updated the Committee on the portrait of Queen Victoria.

4. Acquisitions

4.1 Acquisitions since 14 November 2018

The Committee noted the acquisitions.

The GAC Director informed the Committee on an additional acquisition - a maquette of Gillian Wearing's statue of Millicent Fawcett, Courage Calls to Courage Everywhere, is now in the process of being gifted to the GAC.

4.2 Proposed list of women artists

The GAC would like to commission work for the new premises at the Old Admiralty Building (OAB) and a number of artists were mentioned. Committee members agreed to identify and approach artists they know from the list to discuss potential commissions, acquisitions and gifts for the GAC. Some names from the list were mentioned as potential artists to undertake a new commission for OAB. A list of all artists (female and male) purchased by the GAC since 2000 will be made available to Committee members.

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4.3 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:

4.3.1 To be Purchased by the GAC

ANDREA BÛTTNER (born 1972)

And Then We See 2018

Two woodcuts on Japanese paper, each 103.5 x 196 x 4 cm

MELANIE MANCHOT (born 1966)

Sahara Dust 2017

C-print, 40 x 60 cm

Sahara Dust (Night) 2017

C-print, 40 x 60 cm

Cadence 2018

4K video, silent, 4'11" minutes

YELENA POPOVA (born 1978)

Lise Meitner 2018

unique re-upholstered chair, 88 x 75 x 70 cm

One neutron too many (U238>PU239) 2018

jacquard woven tapestry, 140 x 175cm

PHOEBE UNWIN (born 1979)

Almost Transparent Pink 2018

oil on canvas, 51 x 41 cm

Fen 2018

oil on canvas, 70 x 50 x 2 cm

LYNETTE YIADOM-BOAKYE (born 1977)

Almond Clasp 2018

oil on linen, 85 x 70.5 cm

4.3.2 Approach to GAC

ROSE FINN-KELCEY (1945-2014)

Divided Self (Speakers' Corner) 1974-2011

silver gelatin print mounted on aluminium, 77.8 x 51.2 x 4 cm (framed)

4.3.3 OUTSET/GAC Fund

FIONA BANNER (born 1966)

Imeweyou 2018

unique archival giclée print on canvas, 135 x 105 cm

Gift of the artist via the Outset/Government Art Collection Fund, with additional funds provided by the Government Art Collection

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SIOBHAN HAPASKA (born 1963)

snake, apple, tree 2018

aluminium, artificial snakeskin, fibreglass, two-pack acrylic paint, oak, lacquer, 146 x 65 x 66 cm This sculpture is currently in production

Gift of the artist via the Outset/Government Art Collection Fund, with additional funds provided by the Government Art Collection

ZARINA BHIMJI (born 1963)

A decision on which work to acquire will be made following a viewing of her exhibition at Tate Britain.

4.3.4 GAC/OUTSET TENTEN Fund

LAURA GANNON (born 1972)

Enormous Changes at the last minute 2018

acrylic and ink on primed linen with cut-outs, 207 x 70 x 7 cm

After the meeting it was decided to purchase the work from the TenTen fund rather than the GAC acquisition budget

LOUISE GIOVANELLI (born 1993)

Ambia I 2018

oil on canvas, 112 x 87 cm

HILARY JACK (born 1968)

No Borders 2018

C-type on aluminium

120 x 140 cm, Edition of 3 + 1 AP

The Late Great Planet Earth 2015

found postcards, 120 x 90 cm approx.

5. TenTen Print Project

The Committee discussed the shortlist and agreed on the artist who should be approached for the 2019 TenTen Print Project Commission. Suggestions from the Committee for the 2020 shortlist were welcomed.

6. Update on move to Old Admiralty Building (OAB)

The Committee noted the update on the GAC's move to OAB.

7. Director's report of GAC activities since 11 JULY 2018

The Committee noted the report. It was reported that the works of art brought to the UK for restoration following the 2011 attack on the British Embassy in Tehran, are now scheduled to return in December 2018 to be reinstated as part of a new display at the Embassy.

8. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 20 March 2019