

Committee Minutes

Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest

Edinburgh, 12 October 2011

Present:- Councillors Brock, Buchan, Dawe, Munro, McIvor and Bill Scott (Royal Scottish Academy).

Apologies:- Councillors Elaine Aitken, Thomas and Wilson; Amanda Catto (Scottish Arts Council).

1 Appointment of Convener

Decision

To appoint Councillor Brock as Convener of the Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest.

2 Minute

Decision

The minute of the meeting of the Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest of 9 March 2010 was approved as a correct record.

3 Financial Statement 2011/12

The balance of funds available on the Jean F Watson Bequest for 2011/12 was estimated at £61,596.72.

Decision

To note the financial statement.

(Reference – financial statement by the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted.)

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4 Acquisitions for the City's Fine Art Collection

The Committee gave consideration to purchasing the undernoted works and agreed as follows:

Description	Price	Decision
<p>4.1 Painting by William Kidd (1790-1863)</p> <p>Craigleith Quarry Oil on canvas 31.8cm x 42cm</p>	<p>£4,500</p>	<p>1) To approve the purchase.</p> <p>2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.</p>
<p>4.2 Paintings by Arthur Melville (1858-1904)</p> <p>(i) The Rialto Watercolour on paper (1894) 58.5cm x 84cm</p> <p>(ii) The Procession of Corpus Christi Watercolour on paper (1890) 78cm x 55cm</p>	<p>£120,000</p> <p>£220,000</p>	<p>1) To approve the purchase, subject to successful applications for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions, the Art Fund, the Friends of the City Art Centre and Museums and the Heritage Lottery Fund.</p> <p>2) To note that progress would be reported to the next meeting of the Committee.</p> <p>Not to proceed with the purchase.</p>

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Description	Price	Decision
<p>4.3 Artwork by Charles Avery (b 1973)</p> <p>Untitled (One Armed Snake) 2009 Taxidermy Unique</p>	<p>£12,000</p>	<p>1) To approve the purchase.</p> <p>2) To note that Creative Scotland had granted £8,000 towards the purchase of this work and that the balance of the purchase (£4,000) would be met from the Jean F Watson Bequest.</p>
<p>4.4 Works by David Mach (b 1956)</p> <p>(i) Die Harder Coathanger sculpture Approximately 3m x 2.5m</p>	<p>£250,000</p>	<p>1) To note that the Committee's preferred option was to purchase Noah's Ark 1 and, failing that, to purchase both Heaven (Winter) and Hell (Disneyland), subject to successful applications for grant aid.</p> <p>2) That grant aid be sought from the National Fund for Acquisitions, the Art Fund, and the Friends of the City Art Centre and Museums.</p>

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Description	Price	Decision
<p>(ii) Noah's Ark 1 Collage 244cm x 424.5cm</p> <p>(iii) Jacob's Ladder Collage 234.8cm x 271cm</p> <p>(iv) Jesus Walking on Water Collage 166cm x 259.1cm</p> <p>(v) Heaven Collage 172cm diameter</p> <p>(vi) Hell Collage 172cm diameter</p>	<p>£112,000</p> <p>£56,000</p> <p>£46,000</p> <p>£32,000</p> <p>£32,000</p>	<p>3) That progress on grant funding be reported to the next meeting of the Committee.</p> <p>4) Not to proceed with the purchase of any of the other works.</p>
<p>4.5 Works by Karla Black (b 1972)</p> <p>(i) Nature Equals Meaning Minus Choice (2011) Sawdust 95cm x 155cm x 168cm</p> <p>(ii) Division Is (2011) Sugar paper, chalk, lipstick, concealer stick, spray tan, thread 30cm x 40cm</p>	<p>The price for the two works together is £13,000.</p>	<p>1) Not to proceed with the purchase of either work.</p> <p>2) To indicate that the Committee would be minded to purchase an alternative piece of work from the artist.</p>

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Description	Price	Decision
		3) That a further report be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

5 Date of Next Meeting

Decision

That the Clerk liaise with the Convener with a view to arranging a meeting in March 2012.