

# Minutes

## Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest

2.00 pm, Thursday 2 February 2023

### Present

Councillors Walker (Convener), Fullerton, Heap (substituting for Councillor Rae), McNeese-Mechan, Meagher, Mitchell, and Thornley.

### In attendance

John Aghodeaka (Accountant, Corporate Services), Karl Chapman (Head of Service, Heritage, Cultural Venues, Museums and Galleries, Place), David Patterson Curatorial and Conservation Manager, Place) and Helen Scott (Curator, Place).

## 1. Minutes

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### Decision

To approve the minute of the Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest of 17 December 2021 as a correct record.

## 2. Jean F. Watson Financial Statement 2020/22 and Forecast 2022/23

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Details were provided on the financial position of the Miss Jean Fletcher Watson (known as Jean F. Watson) Charitable Trust since the last Committee meeting on the 17 December 2021.

### Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To circulate briefing note to the members providing information about the investments which had been made.

(Reference - report by the Interim Executive Director of Corporate Services, submitted.)

## 3. Approval of the 'City of Edinburgh' Prize at the Inaugural Scottish Landscape Awards Exhibition

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Approval was sought for the offer of 'The City of Edinburgh' prize at the inaugural Scottish Landscape Awards exhibition at the City Art Centre.

### Decision

- 1) To approve the offer of 'The City of Edinburgh' prize at the inaugural Scottish Landscape Awards exhibition at the City Art Centre.

- 2) That if any of the members were to find out about any relevant art networks, to contact David Patterson (the Curatorial and Conservation Manager)

(Reference - report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

#### **4. Purchase of an Oil Painting by Steven Campbell**

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Committee was asked to approve the purchase of the oil painting *Portrait of the Lost Travelogue Writer* (2006-2007) by Steven Campbell (1953-2007).

##### **Decision**

- 1) To approve the purchase of the oil painting *Portrait of the Lost Travelogue Writer* (2006-2007) by Steven Campbell (1953 - 2007).
- 2) That the next meeting of the Committee should be in person, to allow the members improved viewing of the artwork.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

#### **5. Purchase of Two Photographs by Sekai Machache**

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Committee was asked to approve the purchase of the photographs *A Hint of Blue I* and *A Hint of Blue II* by Sekai Machache (b.1987).

##### **Decision**

To approve the purchase of the photographs *A Hint of Blue I* and *A Hint of Blue II* by Sekai Machache (b.1987).

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

#### **6. Purchase of a Group of Works by Will Maclean**

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Committee was asked to approve the purchase of a group of works by Will Maclean (b.1941) and accept the gift of a suite of 12 screen prints produced by Maclean in partnership with Scottish author and poet John Burnside.

##### **Decision**

- 1) To approve the purchase of a group of works by Will Maclean (b.1941). The group comprised *Mariner's Museum / Taxonomy of Tides* (2014); *De Bestis Marins (For Simon Lewty)* (2014); and *Gaelic Text* (2015). The latter two works were produced collaboratively with English based artist Simon Lewty (1941-2021).
- 2) To accept the gift from the artist of *A Catechism of the Laws of Storms* (2015), a suite of 12 screen prints produced by Maclean in partnership with Scottish author and poet John Burnside.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

## 7. Purchase of Three Artworks by Leena Nammari

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Committee was asked to approve the purchase of three artworks by Leena Nammari (b. 1970) – *Remembered Places*, *Places Remembered: Arches* (2013), *Remembered Places, Places Remembered: Tower* (2013) and *Before long ago became long ago* (2020).

### Decision

- 1) To approve the purchase of three artworks by Leena Nammari (b. 1970). The artworks are: *Remembered Places*, *Places Remembered: Arches* (2013), *Remembered Places, Places Remembered: Tower* (2013) and *Before long ago became long ago* (2020).
- 2) To arrange for members to visit the Art Centre to view the all the art works which had been discussed.
- 3) To emphasise the need to meet in person to view the art works being considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)