Annual Report: Gifts of Art Committee AY2018-2019

Gifts of Art Committee Members:
Michael Baenen (Chief of Staff, President’s Office), Nancy Bauer (Dean of School of the Museum of Fine Arts), Dina Deitsch (Director and Chief Curator), Jillian Imapastato (Undergraduate Representative/Tufts), Keith Baillargeon (Graduate Student Representative), Nancy Mahler (Senior Director of Development, Arts and Sciences Development), Christina Maranci (Professor and Chair of Art History Department), Claire Beaulieu (Professor, Classics), Laura McDonald (Art Collection Registrar), Ethan Murrow (Professor of the Practice), John Rossetti (Associate Collections Registrar).

Report prepared by Laura McDonald, Art Collection Registrar

Annual Report FY19

1. Approved Purchases
   - Harry Dodge (American, b.1966), *Notes on Thought-Object*, 2008, Ink on archival Bristol board, 9 x 12 inches Purchase offer from Callicoon Fine Arts, N.Y, N.Y., $2,100 (- 20% discount) = $1,680
   - Harry Dodge (American, b.1966), *We Exceed our Skins*, 2008, Ink on archival Bristol board, 9 x 12 inches Purchase offer from Callicoon Fine Arts, N.Y, N.Y., $2,100 (- 20% discount) = $1,680
   - Evelyn Rydz (American), *Floating Artifacts*, 2014, Archival pigment print mounted on aluminum 48” x 36”, Purchase offer from the Artist, $3500 (-20% discount) = $2800 (Purchase funded by The Henricks Art Fund)

2. Approved Accessions
   - George Augusta (American 1922-1912), *Portrait of Mr. Ralph Bradley*, 1961, oil on canvas, 41 x 36; Property of the SMFA
   - George Augusta (American 1922-1912), *Portrait of Mrs. Eleanor Cabot Bradley*, 1982, Oil on canvas, 41 x 36; Property of the SMFA
   - Andrew Boyle (Irish), *Self Portrait with Warrior*, intaglio on Arches paper, 35.5 x 24.75, Gift of Dr. Michael P. Mortell (Print found in summer 2018-Gifted to Tufts President John DiBiaggio in 1996)
   - Goon T. Chan (Sik Kwan), (Chinese, 1893-1951/SMFA Alum), *Hong Kong Harbor*, 1949, watercolor on paper, 24 x 20; Property of the SMFA
   - Goon T. Chan (Sik Kwan), (Chinese, 1893-1951/SMFA Alum), *Portrait of a Boy*, Marble with granite base, 12 x 6 x 6; Property of the SMFA
   - Jan Cox, (Netherlands, 1919-1980) *Unknown Title*, oil on canvas, 26 x 26; Property of the SMFA
   - Larry Dinkin (American b. 1943), *Interior Landscape*, Giclee Print, Gift of the Artist (facilitated by Mr. Marty Karlin)
   - Julie Graham (American
   - T. Lux Feininger (American 1910-2011), *Untitled (Student-Faculty Senate)*, 1982, Oil on Linen mounted on wood panel, 20 x 18.125; Property of the SMFA
• Julie Graham, *Untitled (Drawing)*, 1999, Mixed media and collage on paper, 45 x 32 inches, Proposed Purchase
• Charles Sydney Hopkinson (American 1869-1962), *Portrait of Katherine Lane Weems*, Oil on Canvas, 40 x 50; Property of the SMFA
• Bernard Perry (American), *The Pink Mosque*, 2017, Giclee Print, 18 x 24; Gift of the Artist (facilitated by Mr. Marty Karlin)
• Bernard Perry (American), *Beijing Railway Station Platform*, 2013, Giclee Print, 18 x 24; Gift of the Artist (facilitated by Mr. Marty Karlin)
• Paul Ramirez-Jonas (American b. 1965), *Publicar*, granite boulder, cork, pushpins and notes added by the public, 26 x 56 x 21; Gift of the Artist
• Henry Schwartz (American 1927-2009), *Untitled (Infanta)*, February 25, 1961, Oil on canvas wrapped on masonite panel, 26.625 x 19.75; Gift of the Estate of Henry Schwartz
• Henry Schwartz (American 1927-2009), *Tristian*, 1953, Oil on canvas, 10x 7; Gift of the Estate of Henry Schwartz
• Shady El Noshokaty, Exhibition material for the project, *Stammer: Multimedia Contemporary Art Project in Seven Parts*, 2010, Offset color photolithograph on paper, 32.5 x 24.5; Property of the SMFA
• Hubert Phipps (American b. 1957), *Rendezvouls*, 2017, Charcoal on paper, 26 x 35; Gift of the Artist (facilitated by Mr. Marty Karlin)
• Lorna Simpson (American b. 1960), *Jet Rouge*, from the collage series, Jet, 2018, Collage (images from Jet magazine) and ink on paper, 11.25 x 8.75, Edition: Unique; Gift of the Artist, made possible with the support of Friends of the SMFA at Tufts
• Lorna Simpson (American b. 1960), *Jet Earring*, from the collage series, Jet, 2018, Collage (images from Jet magazine) and ink on paper, 11.25 x 8.75, Edition: Unique; Gift of the Artist, made possible with the support of Friends of the SMFA at Tufts
• Lorna Simpson (American b. 1960), *Jet Over the Shoulder*, from the collage series, Jet, 2018, Collage (images from Jet magazine) and ink on paper, 11.25 x 8.75, Edition: Unique; Gift of the Artist, made possible with the support of Friends of the SMFA at Tufts
• Henry Van der Weyde (Netherlands 1838-1924), *Portrait of Alice L. Wilson*, albumen print mounted on cardstock, 7 x 5; Property of the SMFA
• Carrie Mae Weems (American b. 1953), *Roaming*, 2006, Archival print mounted on foamcore, 23.5 x 23.5; Property of the SMFA
• Unidentified Artist (Valencian [Spain]), *Mary Magdalen Enthroned*, 15th century Egg tempera with gold leaf on wood panel, 19.125 x 16.5 inches, Gift of the Estate of William G. Dickenson (2018.026)
• Jedediah Caesar (American, b. 1973), *Keectt4*, 2013, Resin and mixed media, 36.5 x 26 x 1 inches, Gift of the artist (delayed delivery)
• Harry Dodge (American, b.1966), *Notes on Thought-Object*, 2008, Ink on archival Bristol board, 9 x 12 inches Purchase offer from Callicoon Fine Arts, N.Y, N.Y. (see above)
• Harry Dodge (American, b.1966), *We Exceed our Skins*, 2008, Ink on archival Bristol board, 9 x 12 inches Purchase offer from Callicoon Fine Arts, N.Y, N.Y (see above)
James (Jim) Dow (American b. 1942), 4 Panel Panorama of Fenway Park, Boston, Massachusetts, October 1982, Cibachrome print, 12.25 x 34.875; Gift of the Artist

Omer Fast (Israeli, b. 1972), Godville Portraits, Ten Illustrated Short Stories, 2006, Archival pigment prints on paper, 16.5 x 11.75 inches (each), Gift offer from the artist (acquired through the SMFA, Medal Award)

Louis Gippetti (American, b. 1947), Sol Gittleman, 2004, Oil on canvas 44 X 38 inches, Commissioned by Tufts University

Peter Norton and Gwen Adams (American), Book design by Yuko Uchikawa, The End: A Summing Up, 2017, Printed book with cutout, 12.375 x 9.5 x .5 inches, Gift offer from the Peter Norton Christmas Project (2017)
  o Robert The (American, b. 1961), Scorpion, 2017, Book binding and printed paper, 3.25 x 6.125 x .5 inches
  o Jackson Bridgers (American). This Is The End: A Further Summing Up, 2017 Video book, 7.375 x 8.75 x .875 inches


Sandra Stark (American), Nature Versus Not Sure, Hare, 2011, Archival pigment print, 26.250 x 21.875; Gift of the Artist

Heidi Whitman (American), Lost City of R, 2016, ink, gouache acrylic, paper, canvas, and cast shadows 17.5" x 15" x 2", Gift of the Artist

Student Projects

Kevin Vogelaar MA ’20, a first-year student working on his MA in Art History and Museum Studies degree, has been serving as the Graduate Assistant working in the Permanent Collection department of the Tufts University Art Gallery during AY 2018-2019. In addition to working on the BookWorks exhibit scheduled for Fall 2019, Kevin has been working on standardization of database entries and writing extended text for objects in the database that are related to the history of Tufts University. Kevin brings to the position an MA in
Medieval Studies from Fordham University as well as a demonstrated interest in collections and archival management.

- Xiaohan (Shirley) Wang (A ’21), currently a sophomore studying International Relations with an interest in art, globalization, cultural appropriation and global environment worked with the Collection Department during the summer of 2018. Shirley assisted with the annual inventory and wrote object summaries for recent acquisitions-she is also planning an exhibit for the Slater Concourse Gallery and is currently serving as the undergraduate student on the Gifts of Art Committee.

- Rebecca Lowell MA’18 (Art History) served as Graduate Assistant in the Permanent Collection Department for AY 2017-2018. She was an instrumental part of the digitization project and we are grateful for her service. In addition to research projects related to everything from antique silver and tableware to recent acquisitions, Rebecca also compiled extensive histories of outdoor sculpture objects for conservator Rika Smith McNally who will be developing a cyclical maintenance program for these objects.

- Elizabeth Kendrick MA’19 (Art History) served as Graduate assistant at both the Medford and SMFA Galleries, with a focus on the exhibitions program. Elizabeth has been enormously helpful in providing research and label copy for 39 objects gifted by Andrew and Linda Safran. These objects are currently on view in the Tisch Gallery as Expressions Unbound: American Outsider Art from the Andrew and Linda Safran Collection.

- Juan Omar Rodriguez Payan MA’19 (Art History) served as a Graduate Assistant at the Gallery and assisted in the preparation for the Gifts of Art Committee meeting by researching and writing several object summaries. Juan Omar performed historical research for the Alumnae Lounge murals and summarized the cultural contexts in which the murals were created and viewed today.

- Sam Agnew ‘A21 (Art History) will be working during the summer of FY19 with both Exhibitions and Permanent Collections Departments. Sam comes to the Gallery with some experience working in art galleries and he will be working on a variety of projects including gallery preparation and installation, campus inventory and assisting with the move at Artex.

**Digitization Project**

Permanent Collection staff is currently in the final phase of a digitization project that will result in an online searchable database of art and antiquities owned by the Tufts University School of Arts and Sciences. Objects that are part of the Tufts University Permanent Collection (as well as objects that are maintained as Property of the School of Arts and Sciences) will be published as a group through a stand-alone PastPerfect Online site in in June 2019 that will be linked directly to the website of the Tufts University Art Gallery.

Thanks to the hard work of many students, faculty and staff members, each database entry has been populated with new high res images and all information including artist names, dates, object information and credit lines etc. has been updated and standardized. In this final stage of the project, we are finishing up photography of objects on campus, refining the fields that will appear with various types of objects and working with Tufts’ Legal Counsel to develop terms and conditions of use.

**Conservation**

Louise Nevelson’s, *Untitled Two-Part Sculpture*, 1960 (1985.2/black paint on wood measuring 108 1/2 x 25 1/2 x 11 ¾) which was gifted to Tufts by the artist in 1985 was the only object damaged in the flood of summer 2017. The sculpture was in standing water for several hours and took months to completely dry out before conservation could be undertaken. During the summer, Conservator Scott
Fulton consolidated the water-damaged wood with acrylic resin and in-painted areas of loss. The conservation work was covered as part of the insurance claim for the flood.

In late May 2019 sculpture conservator, Rika Smith McNally undertook repairs to the patina on the **Jumbo** sculpture which was installed in 2014. Though recently cast, it appears that a chemical reaction is taking place that is causing the patina to break down and become discolored. Bronze patinas are the result of different recipes of chemicals that cause a controlled corrosion on the surface of the piece. The corrosion is then halted when the desired color is achieved. Given concerns that the patina is changing rapidly, we need to work to ensure that whatever is triggering the change is stopped and that a new patination is applied. We are working with the Advancement and Facilities Departments which will be underwriting the cost of the repairs through various accounts. The sculpture will need to be cleaned and waxed annually after the conservation is complete.

**Alumnae Lounge Murals**
The murals in the Alumnae Lounge (AI 34400.a and AI 34400.b) will be removed this July by Gianfranco Pocobene and Elizabeth Leto Fulton. A working group comprised of faculty and staff was convened to determine if the works should stay where they are or be removed to storage. Based on the fact that these works do not reflect the diversity of the Tufts Community as it was in 1956 when they were commissioned or as it is now it has been determined that the murals must come down. These works of art each measuring approximately 10 feet x 30 feet were commissioned by two artists, Nathaniel Judah Jacobson and Mathew William Boyhan and were carried out in egg tempera on canvas that has been adhered to the walls. During the conservator’s initial examination of the murals it was determined that the canvas separated from the walls with relative ease which will allow for the safe removal of the works from the wall. The paint film appears to be stable and will safely withstand the removal and then the rolling of the canvases onto Sono-tubes. The room and the murals will be thoroughly photo-documented prior to removal and eventually an online exhibit will be developed to highlight these works for the Tufts Community. After the works are removed, the paintings will be stabilized and then transported to Artex where they will be safely stored.

**Fine Art Storage:**
This summer Collections staff will be consolidating all Tufts-owned artwork into one large vault at the Artex/Crozier Fine Art Storage facility in the Union Square neighborhood of Somerville. Although we already store the collection at that location, we will be moving out of a vault which holds only artwork owned by The School of Arts and Sciences, and we will be moving into a new larger space which we will be sharing with Central Administration. The new space will give us room to store the large murals (Alumnae Lounge Murals and the Yuan Yunsheng Mural) neither of which will not be going back on view for the foreseeable future. The new space will also afford us the room to have tables set up for individuals who are interested in seeing our objects in person.