



August 2006

Welcome to this month's NMDC newsletter which contains an update on our activities and the latest news from the museum sector in the UK and beyond. www.nationalmuseums.org.uk

National Museum News

Consultation on Future Sponsorship Arrangements for the Museum of London

DCMS has published a consultation paper examining options for the future sponsorship of the Museum of London. These include proposals which would devolve some or all of the Government's responsibilities for the funding and governance of the Museum to the Greater London Authority.

The deadline for responses is: **8 September 2006**. The paper can be read at:

www.culture.gov.uk/global/consultations/2006+current+consultations/cons_futurespons_mol.htm

Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art Opens at Victoria and Albert Museum

The new Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art at the Victoria and Albert Museum has been reopened by HRH The Prince of Wales, following a three year refurbishment and re-design of the gallery.

The Gallery features over 400 objects from the V&A's Islamic collection, including ceramics, textiles, carpets, metalwork, glass and woodwork. The centrepiece is the Ardabil carpet from 16th-century Iran, one of the largest and earliest dated carpets in the world. Works on display date from the Islamic caliphate of the 8th century to the early 20th century and originate from Spain in the west to Uzbekistan and Afghanistan in the east. The Gallery has been made possible by a donation from the Jameel family. www.vam.ac.uk/collections/asia/islamic_gall/

Listen to British Museum Collections Online

The British Museum has launched text-to-speech facilities to enable visitors to its online collections website, COMPASS, to hear, as well as read, about objects on display. The Museum is pioneering the use of **Readspeaker SayIt** which reads aloud information at the click of a button.

Visitors to Children's COMPASS www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/childrenscompass can listen to text about twenty museum artefacts displayed on the website, or highlight a word or phrase to hear the correct pronunciation. This multisensory approach offers a richer experience to visitors and makes the website more attractive to children who have difficulty reading.

A new 'audio description' tour of twenty objects from the collections is available on the main COMPASS website at: www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/compass. Artefacts are described in detail so as to enable a blind or partially sighted person to have a deeper understanding of the item being discussed. The tour can be downloaded to a computer or mp3 player.

Tate Media Launched

Tate has announced the launch of Tate Media in September 2006. Tate Media will work across a range of platforms, including online, television, public events and magazine publishing, using talent and intellectual property within Tate and collaborations with artists and broadcasters, to reach beyond the gallery walls and provide access to material that Tate has not been able to offer before.

Tate's website, the most visited visual arts website in the UK with almost 1 million visitors a month, will be transformed into a digital broadband arts channel. Content will be commissioned and produced to give insights into Tate's Collection and programme and Tate Media will own the rights to this material to enable audiences to access it in perpetuity. The first Tate Media projects include bi-monthly events, *UBS Openings: Saturday Live* at Tate Modern; the co-production of a series of programmes with Channel Four on the Turner Prize and an interview with Tate Director Nicholas Serota and Howard Hodgkin, produced by Tate Media, to be broadcast on Artsworld and available on Tate Online. www.tate.org.uk/about/pressoffice/pressreleases/2006/tate_media.htm

Tate Modern Extension

Tate has announced plans for a new extension to Tate Modern. The building, designed by Herzog & de Meuron, who converted Bankside Power Station into Tate Modern, will provide 60% additional public space. It is hoped that the new building, estimated to cost £165 million, might be finished for the Olympic Games in 2012. www.tate.org.uk/about/pressoffice/pressreleases/2006/tm_transformingt.htm

Charity Commission Report on Acquisition of Works by Artist Trustees

The Charities Commission has issued a press notice on the conclusions of its in-depth review of the acquisition by the Tate of certain works of art from serving trustees. The Commission has found that the acquisitions were in the best interest of the Tate and should therefore stand but highlighted deficiencies in the Tate's policies and called for significant improvements to be made.

Tate has accepted the Charity Commission's findings and has already made modifications to its procedures:

- All acquisition of works by serving Artist Trustees will only be agreed with the approval by the Charity Commission.
- The Trustees have also decided to refer gifts and pledges from artist trustees to the Commission for approval.
- Clear guidelines are being established on all transactions between serving Artist Trustees and Tate.

To strengthen its governance in this area Tate's Trustees have decided:

- To add an independent member to their Ethics Committee which advises the Trustees on ethical questions.
- That the cost of acquisitions made by Tate and the value of works given to Tate will be disclosed in Tate's Annual Report.

Tate welcomed the Charity Commission's finding that the acquisition of seven works by five Artist Trustees were in the best interests of Tate. Details of acquisitions from artist trustees in previous years have been published. The Charities Commission hopes to develop specific advice and guidance on good governance practice for charities in the arts sector with the DCMS and Arts Council.

www.tate.org.uk/about/pressoffice/pressreleases/2006/trustees_acquisitions.htm

www.gnn.gov.uk/environment/charitycommission/

National Museums Liverpool to Return Human Remains

National Museums Liverpool will return five items to New Zealand following a formal request from Te Papa Tongarewa Museum. The items are human remains, including three preserved tattooed heads, or toi moko. On their return to New Zealand the remains will initially be kept in Te Papa's consecrated repositories while researchers try to identify their source communities.

The Human Tissues Act came into force earlier this year, giving specified museums discretionary power to move human remains out of their collections. The Trustees of National Museums Liverpool authorised the return of the items to New Zealand at the first subsequent meeting, on 13 June 2006.

www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/about/news/newsarticle.asp?id=565&venue=0

Licence for the Public Display of Human Bodies, Body Parts and Human Tissue

From 1 September 2006, museums that hold material from a person who died less than 100 years ago need to apply for a licence for the display of human remains or tissue. Licence applications need to be submitted by 31 August 2006. All material collected after 1 September 2006 will require full consent for its use in public display. The requirement for consent does not apply to existing holdings.

More information on licensing is available at: www.hta.gov.uk/licensing.cfm

British Library Competition

To coincide with its exhibition, *Front Page*, which explores the newspaper industry in Britain over the last 100 years, the British Library is running a competition to design the newspaper front page of the future; write an article on a current issue; or take a photograph that captures the story behind the headlines. Winners will have the opportunity to work at a national newspaper for a week.

The judging panel includes Chair Andrew Neil, David Viggers, of Reuters, Mark Porter, Creative Editor of the Guardian and Faisal Islam, of Channel Four News. The deadline is Monday 7 August 2006. For more information visit: www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/features/frontpage/competition.html

New Imperial War Museum Trustee

The Prime Minister has appointed Admiral Sir Alan West GCB DSC to be a Trustee of the Imperial War Museum for a period of four years from 1 July 2006. Admiral West, who succeeds Admiral Sir Jock Slater, recently retired as First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Staff and is Chancellor of Southampton Solent University. During his Naval career he served in 14 different ships and commanded three, including HMS Ardent which he took to the Falkland Islands in 1982. www.iwm.org.uk

Current Issues

DCMS Consultation on Restitution of Works of Art Spoliated in the Nazi Era

Culture Minister David Lammy has launched a consultation on whether the current statutory and other legal restrictions which prevent national museums from de-accessioning works of art in their collections should be lifted to allow restitution of items that were spoliated during the Nazi era. The consultation also concerns non-statutory restrictions on disposal from national and non-national museums imposed by a condition on a gift or bequest.

The consultation invites views on how far a power to make restitution of objects lost during the Nazi era should extend, who should be responsible for taking decisions on restitution, and what role the Spoliation Advisory Panel should have. The powers discussed in the paper relate only to the return of items lost as a result of the actions of the Nazis or their allies. It does not propose to remove the restrictions on museums' powers to dispose of objects in their collection in any other case.

The consultation proposes separate provision to enable the restitution of the Benevento Missal, as it is not possible to say that there was any Nazi involvement in the loss of the Missal. A small number of claims have been received for items in public collections in the UK. The Spoliation Advisory Panel has recommended return of the object in two cases, including the Benevento Missal.

The deadline for responses is **10 November 2006**. The consultation document is available at:

www.culture.gov.uk/global/consultations/2006+current+consultations/cons_restitutionspol_n-era.htm

Report On Creativity in Schools

Nurturing Creativity in Young People, a report by educationalist Paul Roberts, provides a framework for creativity, which starts with Early Years, develops through mainstream education and leads to pathways into the Creative Industries. It recognises the rich array of creative opportunities for young people but argues for a more coherent "creativity offer".

Jointly commissioned by DCMS and DfES, the Creativity Review examines key issues such as:

- The role of partnerships between schools and the creative and cultural sector,
- The opportunities for creative activity in Extended Schools and Early Years' settings,
- The development of a Creative Portfolio to celebrate each young person's creative achievements,
- The education workforce's role in developing creativity,
- Clearer pathways into creative industries for young people,
- Creating spaces for creative activity through the Building Schools for the Future programme, and
- Ensuring Creativity is prominent in the Every Child Matters Framework.

The Government will consider the report and its recommendations and publish a response and action plan in the autumn. www.culture.gov.uk/global/publications/archive_2006/nurturing_creativity.htm

Minister Outlines Key DCMS challenges

Tessa Jowell has written to the Prime Minister, setting out the key challenges for DCMS and how it proposes deliver against them. In it she identifies the 2012 Olympics as the most significant challenge and details progress to date, ambitions for the legacy of the games and the cultural Olympiad. Ms Jowell says: "I want 2012 to have the same effect on culture as on sport: a renewed interest in participation, British institutions seen to be leading the world and a fillip to sponsorship and capital funding." She sites the department's objective over this Parliament as "to continue to increase the number of people who enjoy the arts".

The Secretary of State sites the intrinsic value of heritage in helping "to shape and define our national identity contributing to community cohesion at home and public diplomacy abroad" and states that DCMS will work with the FCO, British Council and cultural institutions to set out a roadmap for maximising "culture's impact on the UK's national self image, and its profile abroad in the coming year". www.culture.gov.uk/global/publications/archive_2006/dcmspriorities_letterto_pm.htm

New Permanent Secretary at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport

Jonathan Stephens has been appointed Permanent Secretary at the Department for Culture Media and Sport to succeed Dame Sue Street DCB. Jonathan Stephens is currently Managing Director, Public Services at HM Treasury and is expected to take over from Sue Street at the end of September.

<http://www.pm.gov.uk/output/Page9924.asp>

DCMS Taking Part Survey – Latest Data

The latest provisional results from the DCMS Taking Part Survey have been published. They include headline findings on engagement, future engagement and non-engagement in cultural and sporting activities. The data is available at: www.culture.gov.uk/global/research/taking_part_survey/survey_outputs.htm

Consultation to Optimize Benefits of 2012 Olympics for Tourism

A wide-ranging consultation of the tourist industry has been launched by Secretary of State Tessa Jowell to inform a comprehensive strategy for making the most of the Olympic Games as an opportunity for tourism. The consultation aims to ensure that:

- Tourism's interests are fully represented in all decision-making about the Games.
- The UK can market itself effectively to international and domestic audiences.
- The quality of UK tourism, and the skills of the people who work in it, are of the highest standard.

It is estimated that between 50 and 75 per cent of the economic gains of the Games will benefit tourism – and early projections put that at up to £2 billion.

The consultation document, *Welcome > Legacy*, suggests options for fully exploiting the benefits of the Olympics including:

- New links between tourism and the arts, media, and other sectors which will contribute to making 2012 a success. This could include themed marketing in the run-up to the Games, highlighting individual aspects of what the UK has to offer – including culture, heritage, landscape and diversity.
- Improving the quality of the personal welcome afforded to visitors by offering people on the front line, such as taxi drivers, the incentives and necessary support to act as effective "Olympic ambassadors".
- Using new technologies, such as pod casting and mobile telephone guides, to promote and market tourism.
- Making the most of the River Thames during the Games, for transport and as a venue for celebratory events.

Responses should be submitted by **17 November 2006**. The consultation document can be read at:

www.culture.gov.uk/global/consultations/2006+current+consultations/welcomelegacy_tourismstrategy.htm

Report on London Cultural Consortium

The London Assembly's Economic Development, Culture, Sport and Tourism Committee has published a report on its investigation into the London Cultural Consortium. The investigation was set up to look at the operation and achievements of the consortium in its first year and to examine its plans, targets and aspirations for the future, to find ways for the London Cultural Consortium to be better able to promote London's cultural development.

The report states that "the London Cultural Consortium has an important role to play bringing together major organisations in arts, sports, heritage and tourism, which control millions of pounds in funding. It needs to act as an independent voice for the cultural sector, and oversee and promote the delivery of the Mayor's Culture Strategy. However, it has made limited progress since it was set up, and in this review we have found that its goals aren't clear enough and it doesn't have the support or resources it needs to take real action." The report recommends that:

- The Department for Culture Media & Sport should fund the London Cultural Consortium on a fair and comparable basis with other regional cultural consortiums
- The London Cultural Consortium should have a small support office independent of the Mayor's Office
- The London Cultural Consortium should review the Mayor's Culture Strategy systematically, according to an annual work programme and producing an annual report.

The report can be read at: www.london.gov.uk/assembly/reports/culture/lon-cultural-consort.pdf

Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum Reopens

Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum has reopened following a three year, £28 million refurbishment. The refurbished museum includes a new temporary exhibition space, designed to host major touring exhibitions, a conference and lecture theatre, education rooms, a restaurant, shops and the Campbell Hunter Education Wing (the latter due to open in 2007). An additional 35% of floor space has been created by opening up the basement. 8,000 artefacts are on display, compared to 5,000 before the restoration.

Almost 55,000 visitors passed through the Museum's doors in the first three days after opening. www.glasgowmuseums.com/venue/index.cfm?venueid=4

Three swords were withdrawn from sale in the shop, after complaints that their sale was inappropriate following the nationwide knife amnesty.

Culture and Creativity Advisory Forum for the Cultural Olympiad

The first meeting of the Government's new Culture and Creativity Advisory Forum for the Cultural Olympiad was held on 25 July. The role of the Forum, which is chaired by David Lammy, Minister of Culture, is to advise and support the Government in developing the cultural programme for the 2012 Olympics and ensure a lasting cultural legacy. Members of the Forum are drawn from across the cultural sector and include Nicholas Serota, Tate; Neil MacGregor, British Museum and Sue Wilkinson, MLA. www.culture.gov.uk/global/press_notices/archive_2006/dcms109_06.htm

Museums and Galleries Month 2007

Museums and Galleries Month 2007 will take place from **Tuesday 1 to Thursday 31 May 2007** on the theme of "People – who are we?". The international celebration Museums at Night – Nuit des Musées – will take place on Saturday 19 May 2007.

MGM organisers are seeking input and contributions for 2007 and 2008 from across the arts and museums sector at a seminar in London in September, which will consider some of the new initiatives which took place in 2006 and the best way of building on them for the future. www.mgm.org.uk

Acceptance in Lieu Report 2005/06

The 2005/06 Acceptance in Lieu (AIL) Report shows that £25 million worth of paintings, sculptures, archives and other cultural objects, including works by Picasso, Turner and Hepworth, have been acquired for British public collections during the past year under the AIL scheme. The scheme, run by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council, allows taxpayers to offer significant heritage objects to public collections as a way of paying their inheritance tax.

According to MLA Chairman Mark Wood, many items acquired by public collections under the scheme would have left the UK were it not for AIL. He said that the scheme's "significance and contribution to maintaining the world-class position of the UK's museums, archives and libraries can't be over-estimated in the context of a serious lack of alternative funding for acquisitions" and called for the Treasury and DCMS to continue to develop a tax regime that encourages individuals and corporate bodies to give. www.mla.gov.uk/website/programmes/cultural_property/acceptance_in_lieu

Consultation on Proposal for Use of Unclaimed Assets

Proposals for a new Social Investment Bank to invest up to £400 million lying in dormant accounts in the UK are outlined in a report by the Commission on Unclaimed Assets).

The report proposes a bank to help finance third sector organisations by providing infrastructure, support, seed capital and loan guarantees. Stakeholder views are being sought on four key areas: investment gaps; barriers to third sector organisations accessing sources of capital; the impact of changes in funding structures; and working through specialist distributors.

The consultation paper and response form are available at: www.unclaimedassets.org.uk Comments should be submitted by **1 December 2006**

Priorities for the Department for Communities and Local Government

Ruth Kelly has confirmed the priorities for her new department in her reply to the Prime Minister's letter of appointment. She focuses on devolution "that will see communities in control of their services and local quality of life". In the run up to the Local Government White Paper, to be published in the autumn, Ms Kelly emphasizes that devolution must not stop at local government. "As central government devolves power to local authorities, they must, in turn, look more to what their communities want" and that there can be no one-size fits all solution to neighbourhood empowerment but that any arrangements should be appropriate to local circumstances and reflect local communities' needs and their desired level of involvement.

Ms Kelly wants the "DCLG to use its new responsibilities to develop a wider role as a champion of equality across Government" and to be "a champion of social justice."

www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1501559

Mayor to Lead Skills Strategy for London

As part of a new package of powers, the Mayor of London will be given a statutory duty to promote adult skills in London and will lead a new Skills and Employment Board to drive forward London's economic growth. www.dfes.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2006_0104

Arts Council Announces Public Value Inquiry for the Arts

The Arts Council will launch a major public debate and discussion about the role and value of the arts in the autumn, in order to “enter into a new relationship with the public, and place public dialogue and engagement and participation at the heart” of its work.

The Arts Council’s public value inquiry will consult the public, the arts sector, and other bodies to contribute to a framework by which the Arts Council will deliver value to the public and stakeholders and accomplish its mission: To put the arts at the heart of national life and people at the heart of the arts. www.artscouncil.org.uk/pressnews/press_detail.php?rid=10&id=685

Intellectual Property

IPPR has published a collection of papers on intellectual property (IP) and the public sphere:

- Innovating for Success: The IP review and economic competitiveness, by Lord Sainsbury, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Science and Innovation
- Inside the Creative Industries: Copyright on the ground, by Anthony Lilley, Managing Director of Magic Lantern Productions
- The Value of the Public Domain, by Rufus Pollock, Director and Co-Founder, Open Knowledge Foundation

The papers can be read or downloaded at: www.ippr.org.uk/publicationsandreports/

Parliamentary Report

Culture, Media and Sport Committee New Inquiry: Caring for our Collections

The Culture, Media and Sport Committee has announced a new inquiry focusing on museums and galleries, cultural property and archives.

The Committee will draw on submissions made to the recent inquiry on protecting and preserving our heritage (see report below), and will look at:

- Funding, with particular reference to the adequacy of the budget for museums, galleries and archives, and the impact of the London 2012 Olympics on Lottery funding for their sector;
- Acquisition and disposal policies with particular reference to due diligence obligations on acquisition and legal restrictions on disposal of objects
- The remit and effectiveness of DCMS, the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council and other relevant organisations in representing cultural interests inside and outside Government.

Anyone who submitted evidence to the earlier inquiry is welcome to submit a further memorandum to supplement or update what they have already said, but there is no need to resubmit the original evidence. It is expected that oral evidence sessions will be held during October and November.

Written submissions are invited from any interested organisation or individual by **Thursday 28th September 2006**. www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/culture_media_and_sport/cms060725.cfm

Report on Culture Media and Sport Select Committee Inquiry into Heritage

The Culture and Media Select Committee’s Report Protecting and Preserving our Heritage has been published. The Committee concludes that the UK’s historic buildings are at risk unless the Government starts providing English Heritage with the money and political support it needs. The Committee makes 57 recommendations and conclusion including:

- The decline in real terms grant-in-aid to English Heritage has led to justified fears that English Heritage will be unable to carry out its functions to the standard required.
- DCMS should strive to put together an economic case to justify to the Treasury the level of settlement which the historic environment deserves, and we believe that there is no justification for allowing its share to decrease.
- There should be an above RPI annual increase in Grant-in-Aid to English Heritage for the term of the 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review.
- Public heritage investment has been successful in leveraging in significant private and voluntary investment, and DCMS should undertake research to enable this case to put clearly to the Treasury.
- A mechanism is needed to achieve more in representing heritage across government.
- Encouragement should be given to local authorities to treat the historic environment as a higher priority. We recommend that a set of statutory services and standards should be developed.
- Simplification of the application process for HLF grants...should be a high priority for the fund.

The report is available at: www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200506/cmselect/cmcmds/912/91202.htm

Government of Wales Bill Receives Royal Assent

The Government of Wales Bill received Royal Assent on 25 July 2006. The bill makes changes to the assembly's structure and electoral system and allows Assembly Members to make laws without going through Parliament. The assembly will be able to request additional powers in areas for which it already has responsibility and there is provision for an eventual move to full law-making powers, following a referendum. The act can be read at: www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2006/ukpga_20060032_en.pdf

National Lottery Bill Receives Royal Assent

The National Lottery Bill received Royal Assent on 11 July. The main provisions of the Act are:

- The setting up of a new distributor, the Big Lottery Fund, to take on the functions of the National Lottery Charities Board (also known as the Community Fund), the New Opportunities Fund and the Millennium Commission.
- To give the Secretary of State and devolved administrations - power to give directions to the Big Lottery Fund as to the exercise of its functions.
- To enable all Lottery distributors to consult and to take into account of the views of members of the public in making distribution decisions.
- To require all Lottery distributors to include, in their annual reports, their policy and practice in relation to how they have dealt with the principle that Lottery funding should not be allowed to become a substitute for funding that would normally fall to mainstream Government spending.
- To reform the current provisions for the allocation of interest arising from the investment of undistributed funds.

The new act can be read at: www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2006/20060023.htm

International Issues

Survey of Provenance Research in American Museums

A recent survey of American museums has found that many have not completed significant research to determine whether works in their collections were looted during the Nazi era, despite a 1999 American Association of Museums agreement to make such work a priority.

The survey of 332 museums was conducted by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, a New York-based organisation created to help restore property to Holocaust survivors and their families. Of the 214 museums that responded to the survey, slightly more than half said that they were actively conducting provenance work. The remaining 100 museums either said they were not doing such work or did not provide enough information to determine the status of research.

The museums that responded to the survey collectively listed 140,000 works that fall within the period in question, considerably more than the 18,000 works that are listed on the Nazi-Era Provenance Internet Portal (www.nepip.org).

52% of the museums that said that they were conducting provenance research had completed work on less than half the relevant items in their collections, and most research was being conducted on paintings and sculpture. The survey also found that only 10% of museums conducting provenance research employ or have ever employed a full-time researcher.

In the last eight years 22 works have been returned to owners or their heirs, and another 6 cases are pending in the United States. The survey can be read at: www.claimscon.org

Getty Museum Publishes Finances Online

The J. Paul Getty Trust has published detailed financial and governance information on its website. The material includes the Getty's Form 990 statements, which non-profit organisations are required to file to the Internal Revenue Service. The website will also publish the museum's code of ethics and policies on conflict of interest, employment and discrimination. www.getty.edu/about/governance/finance.html

Getty Museum to Return Ancient Sculptures to Greece

The J. Paul Getty Museum has agreed to return two artworks, a Thasian relief and Boeotian stele, to Greece, following claims that they were illegally removed from the country.

"The decision to return the two ancient artefacts to Greece was based on a thorough internal investigation carried out by the Getty Museum, which concluded that it would be right to return the works," the Hellenic Republic Ministry of Culture and the J. Paul Getty Trust said in a joint statement. Negotiations continue on the return of other works. The statement can be read at: www.getty.edu/news/press/center/statement06_getty_greekcultureministry.html

Entry Fees in the News in New York

The New York Times reports that the Neue Galerie has cancelled a special \$50 opportunity to view the newly acquired portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer by Gustav Klimt, less than a week after announcing it, saying that it had been misunderstood by the public.

The \$50 ticket was to be offered each Wednesday from 12:00-16:00, when members can visit the museum free but it is not open to the public, as a way for visitors to avoid crowds. Museum members will still be welcome free on Wednesdays. The usual admission fee to the Neue Galerie is \$15 for adults.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art has announced that it is raising its "recommended admission" for adults from \$15 to \$20 on 1 August 2006. The admission fee is not mandatory, but is paid by a majority of visitors. A spokesman for the Museum said lower attendance after 9/11 and increased insurance costs have led to budget deficits and that the museum has only been able to break even this year.

www.metmuseum.org/visitor/message.asp entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,23569-2277615.html
select.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F30816FA3D5B0C7A8DDDAE0894DE404482

Culture 2000, Call for Proposals

The European Commission has announced a call for proposals for the Culture 2000 Programme, The specifications for 2006 give priorities for the programme, eligibility criteria, financial procedures and conditions for submitting an application. Further details at:

ec.europa.eu/culture/eac/how_particip2000/pract_info/appel_2006_en.html

Grand Duke Jean Museum of Modern Art Opened in Luxembourg

The Grand Duke Jean Museum of Modern Art, designed by I M Pei, has opened in Luxembourg, 17 years after it was first proposed. The inaugural show, "Eldorado", displays post-1980 works of art from the Museum's collection by some 100 international artists, including Andy Warhol, Bruce Nauman, Julian Schnabel and Daniel Buren. The museum will participate in events to celebrate Luxembourg being Cultural Capital of Europe in 2007. www.mudam.lu

Singapore Museum Announced

The Singapore government has announced plans to build new museum exploring the relationship between science and art, as part of an integrated resort designed to increase business travel and tourism to the city. The \$3.2 billion project, to be developed by the Las Vegas Sands Corporation, is designed by Moshe Safdie, whose projects include the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa and the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem. The Singapore Tourism Authority, which managed the competition to select a design, says the project will be completed by 2009. Unsuccessful bids included a proposal by Harrah's designed by Daniel Libeskind, which was to include an outpost of the Pompidou Centre. www.theartnewspaper.com/article01.asp?id=385

Europa Nostra Awards: Call for Entries 2006

Nominations are invited for this year's Europa Nostra Awards, the European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage for outstanding achievement in the fields of the conservation of: Architectural heritage; Landscapes; Works of art; Archaeological sites, for study in the field of cultural heritage conservation and for dedicated service to heritage conservation. Prizes of €10 000 each will be awarded to the winners.

Closing date for applications: for the study category 1st September 2006, for other categories 15 September 2006. For more information visit www.europanostra.org/lang_en/index.html

Forthcoming Meetings

HR Forum

Friday 8 September, 11am, Tower of London

Advocacy Committee

Thursday 14 September, 11am, IWM

Learning and Access Committee

Thurs 28 September, 2.30pm, National Portrait Gallery

Marketing Group

Monday 23 October, 2pm, National Gallery

If you have any comments on the NMDC Newsletter or would like to contribute to a future edition, please email Zoë Nasatyr at nmdcnews@iwm.org.uk.

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