
Report To:	Education and Communities Committee	Date:	4 September 2012
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/29/12/AW
Contact Officer:	Alana Ward, Libraries and Museum Manager	Contact No:	01475 712347
Subject:	Request for loan of a painting from McLean Museum and Art Gallery		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee that there has been a request for the loan of a painting from the McLean Museum and Art Gallery (the James Watt Trust). The work forms part of the Caird Collection.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The request comes from the National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh. The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art is planning a major exhibition of the Works of S. J. Peploe to be held at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art Two, Edinburgh, from 3 November, 2012 until 23 June, 2013.
- 2.2 The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art wishes to borrow the oil painting '*Still Life*' by S.J. Peploe for this exhibition.
- 2.3 The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art will be responsible for the collection and return of the work and will arrange all transport, insurance and handling. The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art Two has strict security arrangements in place and the work will be covered by Government Indemnity.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the Committee considers the request outlined above for the loan of one painting to the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art from October 2012 until July 2013 plus a potential tour to one UK venue from July until September 2013 subject to matters of transport, security and insurance being arranged to the satisfaction of the Libraries, Museum and Archives Manager.

Albert Henderson
Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 S.J. Peploe is celebrated as one of the four Scottish Colourists, along with J.D. Fergusson, G.L. Hunter and F.C.B. Cadell. They are amongst the most admired of early twentieth-century British artists. Peploe was born in Edinburgh where he lived for most of his life. He studied in Edinburgh and Paris and frequently returned to paint in France, sometime working alongside Fergusson and Cadell. He is known for his skill in painting still lifes, of which the McLean's work is an excellent example. The work was loaned to a retrospective of Peploe's work in The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art on 1985, since when there has been a dramatic revival of interest in the artist's achievements.
- 4.2 The McLean Museum regularly lends works of art from its collection to exhibitions organised by suitable bodies. The high quality of the collection has resulted in the McLean loaning works internationally to Japan, Canada and France as well as contributing significant pieces to major shows in Edinburgh, Dublin and London. These shows increase the profile of the institution and Inverclyde Council as lenders and thereby increase the reputation of the Museum's holdings. Lending works from the Museum's collection encourages reciprocity when the McLean applies to borrow items from the collections of other organisations for special displays.

5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 It is proposed that the loan of this work to the exhibition by the McLean Museum will promote the quality and extent of the holdings of paintings by the Scottish Colourists in the collection and encourage visits to the institution. A loan of one of the McLean's works by Cadell was recently made to a similar retrospective show in the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art in Edinburgh and the exhibition attracted over 33,000 visitors.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Finance: There are no Financial implications.

Financial Implications – One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments

Financial Implications – Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments

- 6.2 Personnel: The preparation for the loan of the work will be carried out by staff of the McLean Museum.
- 6.3 Legal: The work is part of the Caird Collection. Under the terms of the James McLean Trust the collection shall be, so far as is practicable, kept together as a single collection and retained within the Watt Institution. As, however, the main object of the bequest was the promotion of art in the town of Greenock, advice from the legal section indicates that approval for a loan of a Caird Collection work for a limited time frame is permissible within the terms of the Trust as this advertises the Collection to a wider public.

6.4 Equalities: There are no Equalities implications.

