
Report To:	Education and Communities Committee	Date:	7 May 2013
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/52/13/AW
Contact Officer:	Alana Ward, Libraries Museum And Archives 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 two paintings from the McLean Museum and Art Gallery (the James Watt Trust). Both works form part of the Caird Collection.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The requests come from the National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh and Perth and Kinross Council. The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art is planning a major exhibition of the works of J.D. Fergusson to be held at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art Two, Edinburgh, from November 2013 until June 2014 with the possibility of a potential tour to one UK venue from July to October 2014.

Perth and Kinross Council are also planning an exhibition of Fergusson's work entitled *J.D. Fergusson, Picture of a Celt* to be held in the Fergusson Gallery, Perth from 7 December 2013 to 15 June 2014.

- 2.2 The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art wishes to borrow the oil painting *Cassis* by J.D. Fergusson for the first exhibition and Perth and Kinross Council wishes to borrow *The Bridge at Shiehallion* by J.D. Fergusson for the second display.
- 2.3 Both borrowers will be responsible for the collection and return of the work and will arrange all transport, insurance and handling. All venues have strict security arrangements and suitable environmental conditions in place. The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art is covered by Government Indemnity Insurance.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the Committee considers the request outlined above for the loans of two paintings; to The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art from November 2013 to June, 2014 and possibly to another venue from July to October, 2014 and also to Perth and Kinross Council from December to June, 2014 subject to matters of transport, security and insurance being arranged to the satisfaction of the Libraries Manager.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 J.D. Fergusson, is celebrated as one of the four Scottish Colourists, along with F.C.B. Cadell, G.L. Hunter and S.J. Peploe. They are amongst the most admired of early twentieth-century British artists. He was born in Leith and was mainly self taught. He visited Paris around 1897 and painted in France with S.J. Peploe, moving to Paris in 1907. More than any of his Scottish contemporaries, Fergusson assimilated and developed the latest developments in French painting. The Edinburgh exhibition will be the first major retrospective of Fergusson's work to be mounted in 50 years.

The exhibition at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art carries on from the highly successful and well attended exhibitions of the works of F.C.B. Cadell and S.J. Peploe at the Dean Gallery and the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art Two in Edinburgh, part of the National Galleries of Scotland.

- 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 further promote the quality and extent of the holdings of paintings by the J.D. Fergusson in the collection and encourage visits to the institution.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Finance: There are no Financial implications.
- 6.2 Personnel: There are no Personnel implications.
- 6.3 Legal: The works are 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.
- 6.5 Repopulation: There are no Repopulation implications.



Cassis by J.D. Fergusson 1977.797



The Bridge and Shiehallion by J.D. Fergusson 1977.798