



PRESS RELEASE

from

THE FRICK COLLECTION

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Fellowship Program to Continue Permanently in Honor of Anne L. Poulet with an Endowment Grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

For the last decade, a flourishing fellowship program at The Frick Collection has offered unparalleled curatorial training for doctoral students. Unique in the United States and considered a model initiative by many institutions, the program has also contributed vitally to the intellectual life and offerings of the Frick by supporting the fresh research, lectures and talks, and critically acclaimed exhibitions and publications produced by its participants. The predoctoral fellowship was established in 2002 with a generous five-year grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation that was renewed in 2007. The success of this core program inspired The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to award the Frick a \$2,000,000 challenge grant in support of an endowment to ensure its permanence. The Frick's Board of Trustees has responded by contributing matching funds in recognition of retiring Director Anne L. Poulet, after whom the program will be named beginning in 2012. Comments Poulet, "The Andrew W. Mellon Curatorial Fellowship Program has proved to be one the Frick's most successful and important efforts of the last decade, contributing significantly to the institution while also fostering for the museum and academic communities at large a promising new generation of art historians and colleagues. We could not be more pleased with the caliber of our Fellows and are reassured by the knowledge that this initiative will continue permanently. I am touched by the Board's decision to name the endowed Fellowship in my honor and am deeply grateful to The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for their support of the fellowship since 2002 and for their recent grant which ensures the program's continuation."

ABOUT THE FELLOWSHIP

As it has been known since 2002, the Andrew W. Mellon Curatorial Fellowship benefits both the Frick and the aspiring scholars selected to participate. As a group of young rotating art historians, the Fellows contribute a new vitality and a wide range of expertise in various fields. Their work has enhanced the institution's understanding of its collection, accorded a fresh perspective to aspects of its holdings, and enriched significantly its mission as a museum and research center. The Fellows, in turn, have been given a supportive and stimulating work environment and the opportunity for direct, daily experience in a world-class museum.

As of 2013, ten Fellows will have completed their residencies at the Collection. Nearly all have gone on to leading positions in curatorial and academic fields. Among the past Fellows is Xavier F. Salomon (2004–6), who, after becoming Chief Curator of London's Dulwich Picture Gallery, was recently appointed Curator of European Paintings at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Charlotte Vignon (2007–9) is now the Frick's first Associate Curator of Decorative Arts. Pablo Pérez d'Ors (2008–10) has just been appointed Assistant Curator at the Museo de Arte de Ponce, Puerto Rico. Four others (Yvonne Elet, Holly Flora, Kristel Smentek, and Christina Neilson) are Associate or Assistant Professors at esteemed colleges and universities in the United States.

ACCLAIMED DOSSIER EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLICATIONS AND THE ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

Undoubtedly a highlight of the Fellows' experience at the Frick is the opportunity to organize, under the direction of a senior curator, small, focused installations in the form of dossier exhibitions (usually ten objects or less) or reinstallations of parts of the permanent collection. These shows can revolve around works by major artists or outstanding decorative objects featured in the Collection, or may focus on a single masterpiece from the Frick or on loan from another museum. Andrew W. Mellon Curatorial Fellows have coordinated acclaimed dossier exhibitions on topics as varied as Velázquez's portrait of Philip IV (2010), sixteenth-century Maiolica (2009), Parmigianino's *Antea* (2008), French mounted porcelains (2007), a pair of panels by Cimabue (2006), and Veronese's allegorical paintings (2006). In the summer of 2011, Andrew W. Mellon Curatorial Fellow Susannah Rutherglen presented, with Metropolitan Museum of Art Conservator Charlotte Hale, *In a New Light: Bellini's St. Francis in the Desert*. This widely praised project placed the iconic Frick painting in the sky-lit Oval Room for a rare viewing opportunity outside of its traditional location in the mansion's Living Hall. Furthermore, through

the creation of an accompanying Multimedia Room, Rutherglen and Hale revealed the results of an unprecedented technical and scholarly examination of the work.

Additionally, Fellows co-organize and co-preside over the Symposium on the History of Art, an annual two-day program held in conjunction with the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. This prestigious event brings together students from fifteen graduate departments throughout the Northeast to deliver papers based on original research.

IMMERSION IN THE LIFE OF THE MUSEUM

Equally valuable and enriching is the way in which this Fellowship program integrates the doctoral participants into all aspects of curatorial work. They assist with research on major exhibitions and publications, answer inquiries from scholars from other institutions, augment curatorial files in their areas of expertise, participate with the curators and designers on the display of works in temporary exhibitions, and contribute to staff and teacher training. They accompany curators and conservators on gallery inspection tours and observe and discuss ongoing conservation projects with the Frick's conservator as well as with outside consultants and specialists. Fellows also present lectures, gallery talks, and seminars for the public and special groups. Immersion in the daily life of a museum through all these opportunities is what makes the Frick's Fellowship program unique in this country, while preparing the next generation of curators and scholars.

BASIC INFORMATION

General Information Phone: 212.288.0700

Web site: www.frick.org

E-mail: info@frick.org

Where: 1 East 70th Street, near Fifth Avenue.

Hours: open six days a week: 10am to 6pm on Tuesdays through Saturdays; 11am to 5pm on Sundays. Closed Mondays, New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. Limited hours (11am to 5pm) on Lincoln's Birthday, Election Day, and Veterans Day.

Admission: \$18; senior citizens \$15; students \$10; "pay as you wish" on Sundays from 11am to 1pm

PLEASE NOTE TO YOUR READERS: Children under ten are not admitted to the Collection.

Subway: #6 local (on Lexington Avenue) to 68th Street station; **Bus:** M1, M2, M3, and M4 southbound on Fifth Avenue to 72nd Street and northbound on Madison Avenue to 70th Street

Tour Information: included in the price of admission is an Acoustiguide Audio Tour of the permanent collection. The tour is offered in six languages: English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish.

Museum Shop: the shop is open the same days as the Museum, closing fifteen minutes before the institution.

Group Visits: Please call 212.288.0700 for details and to make reservations.

Public Programs: A calendar of events is published regularly and is available upon request.

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For further press information, please contact Heidi Rosenau, Head of Media Relations & Marketing or Alexis Light, Manager of Media Relations & Marketing

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