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NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART TRUSTEES ELECT JOHN C. FONTAINE AS NEW CHAIRMAN AND APPOINT MITCHELL P. RALES AS NEW TRUSTEE; CHAIRMAN ROBERT F. ERBURU BECOMES TRUSTEE EMERITUS

Washington, DC—Following a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the National Gallery of Art on September 29, 2006, Victoria P. Sant, president of the Gallery, announced that John C. Fontaine, chairman of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, was elected chairman of the board. Retiring chairman Robert F. Erburu was awarded the National Gallery of Art Medal for Distinguished Service and becomes trustee emeritus. At the same meeting, philanthropist Mitchell P. Rales of Washington, DC, was elected as a new trustee to succeed Erburu.

Sant expressed her "gratefulness on behalf of the entire Board of Trustees for Robert Erburu's contributions to the Gallery for thirteen years." Erburu became chairman in 2000 and has been a member of the board since 1993. From 1985 to 1993 he was a member of the Trustee's Council, an advisory group to the Trustees. Erburu, retired chairman and chief executive officer, The Times Mirror Company, Los Angeles, has donated his time and expertise to a number of institutions, including the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens; The J. Paul Getty Trust; The Brookings Institution; The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation; and other charitable foundations. He and his wife Lois are members of Patron Circle of the National Gallery of Art and reside in Los Angeles.

John C. Fontaine

John (Jack) C. Fontaine has been chairman of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation since 1994 and a member of its board since 1975. The Kress Foundation devotes its resources to advancing the history, conservation, and enjoyment of European art, architecture, and archaeology from antiquity to the 19th century. The Foundation is also associated with The Kress Collection of more than 3,000 works of European art that were assembled by Samuel H. Kress and the Kress Foundation between 1927 and 1961 and donated to more than 90 museums in the United States, Puerto Rico, and France. Of the 3,000 works the Kress Foundation gave 1,800 to the National Gallery of Art. The Kress Foundation has also funded many Gallery acquisitions and initiatives in conservation and fellowships at the Gallery's Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts.

Fontaine has been a member of the Gallery's Board of Trustees since 2003. He was a member of the Gallery's Trustees' Council, an advisory group to the Board of Trustees, from 1984 to 2000 and from 2002 to present. He and his wife Betty, who reside in New York City, have supported such Gallery initiatives as the 50th Anniversary Gift Committee, the New Century Fund, and The Circle. They are collectors of American, Asian, and Latin American art and decorative objects.

John Fontaine, a graduate of the University of Michigan and Harvard Law School, was president of Knight Ridder, a major newspaper company, and a member of its board of directors. Following his retirement from Knight Ridder, he rejoined the New York law firm of Hughes Hubbard & Reed, where he had been managing partner and represented major companies in significant transactions, as well as advising them on governance and strategy.

Mitchell P. Rales

Mitchell P. Rales, a major donor to the National Gallery of Art, joined the Trustees' Council in 2001. He has been a member of the Collectors Committee since 1999 and the Legacy Circle since 2002. He has lent works of art to Gallery exhibitions **Willem de Kooning: Tracing the Figure** in 2002 and **Mark Rothko** in 1998 and was a long-

term lender of *Rothko's No. 9 (White and Black on Wine)* (1958).

Rales is founder and director of The Glenstone Foundation, which provided and pledged the funds for the Gallery's purchase of Ellsworth Kelly's *Color Panels for a Large Wall* (1978) and gave a partial and promised donation of Rachel Whiteread's sculpture *Ghost* (1990), both of which are on view in the Gallery's East Building. The Glenstone Foundation also provided the funds for the purchase of Jean Fautrier's painting, *Body and Soul* (1957) and, together with the Gallery's Patrons' Permanent Fund, made possible the purchase of Pablo Picasso's bronze, *Head of a Woman (Fernande)* (model 1909, cast before 1932).

Born in 1956, Rales has devoted a substantial amount of his time and energy to cultural and educational institutions in the greater Washington area. Most notable is the generosity of The Glenstone Foundation as a major contributor to Washington's Seed Public Charter School, of which Rales is a director. He is also the founder, director, and chairman of the executive committee of Danaher Corporation, a Fortune 500 company headquartered in Washington, DC.

A graduate of Miami University, Rales serves on the board of The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. He was formerly the chairman of the Capital Campaign for the Hospital for Sick Children, Fight for Children, and the Capital Campaign for Norwood School, as well as a member of the Advisory Council of Miami University, where he received an honorary doctorate in 2005.

Board of Trustees

The current members of the Board of Trustees of the National Gallery of Art are The Chief Justice of the United States John G. Roberts, Jr.; the Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice; the Secretary of the Treasury Henry M. Paulson, Jr.; the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution Lawrence M. Small; Victoria P. Sant; John C. Fontaine; Sharon Percy Rockefeller; John Wilmerding; and Mitchell P. Rales. Sant is president of the National Gallery of Art and Fontaine is chairman of the Board of Trustees. Earl A. Powell III is director of the National Gallery of Art.

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General Information

The National Gallery of Art and its Sculpture Garden are at all times free to the public. They are located on the National Mall between 3rd and 9th Streets along Constitution Avenue NW and are open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Gallery is closed on December 25 and January 1. With the exception of the atrium and library, the galleries in the East Building will be closing gradually beginning in July 2013 and will remain closed for approximately three years for Master Facilities Plan and renovations. For specific updates on gallery closings, visit www.nga.gov/renovation (<http://www.nga.gov/renovation>) .

For information call (202) 737-4215 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (202) 842-6176, or visit the Gallery's website at www.nga.gov. Follow the Gallery on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NationalGalleryofArt and on Twitter at twitter.com/ngadc.

Visitors will be asked to present all carried items for inspection upon entering. Checkrooms are free of charge and located at each entrance. Luggage and other oversized bags must be presented at the 4th Street entrances to the East or West Building to permit x-ray screening and must be deposited in the checkrooms at those entrances. For the safety of visitors and the works of art, nothing may be carried into the Gallery on a visitor's back. Any bag or other items that cannot be carried reasonably and safely in some other manner must be left in the checkrooms. Items larger than 17 by 26 inches cannot be accepted by the Gallery or its checkrooms.

For additional press information please call or send inquiries to:

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