

*British Paintings
Watercolours & Drawings*

DUDLEY HARDY
1865 - 1922

Sarah Bernhardt

Oil on panel
12 x 9 3/4 inches; 305 x 245 mm
Signed lower left
Painted circa 1890

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Corrections & clarifications

- Hong Kong and Arizona gallery De Sarthe Fine Art sold David LaChapelle's *Cathedral*, 2007, for \$180,000 at Art Stage Singapore, and not \$100,000 as stated in our February issue (p62)
- The Getty kouros is, in fact, currently on display (March, p9). According to a reader its label says, "6th century BC or 20th century"
- The mayor of Amsterdam has joined the building team of the Stedelijk's extension, but not the museum's board as stated (p18)
- Our report on the Palm Beach fair in the same issue (p66) was printed under the heading "California". This should, of course, have been "Florida"
- The Sharjah Biennial preview should have referred to it as a "festival" in the subheading not a "fair" (p86)

California
Armenian restitution claims grow

Getty case may be tip of the iceberg

CALIFORNIA. Legal cases relating to objects looted during the Armenian massacres (of 1915 to 1918 and 1920 to 1923) are on the rise, according to an expert panel speaking at Loyola Law School last month.

The most notable is the ongoing case brought against the Getty Museum last year by the California-based Armenian Apostolic Church. The church is suing the museum for the return of seven pages torn from a medieval Armenian Bible almost a century ago. The Getty says it bought the pages legally. "These fragments have become a powerful symbol of a heritage that has to be reclaimed, and has prompted Armenian people to reconsider that heritage," said Heghnar Watenpaugh, an art scholar at the University of California, Davis, who was on the panel.

Los Angeles is home to the second largest community of Armenians outside of the Armenian Republic. It is estimated that 1.5m Armenians died during forced deportations and executions by the forces of the Ottoman Empire. Armenians and many others consider the Ottoman's actions to be genocide, although the government of modern day Turkey rejects this description.

The rise in Armenian claims follows the model of Holocaust restitution claims, said fellow panellist, Michael Bazzyler, a law professor at Chapman University School of Law. "With the legal precedent established by the successes of the Holocaust restitution litigation in the US, the legal landscape for filing a suit...has never been



Armenian refugees in Syria, 1915

more favourable," he said.

Last month, a case was bought against the US Federal Reserve Bank by the nonprofit Center for Armenian Remembrance, which is suing over the US acquisition of more than \$8.3m-worth of Armenian gold allegedly looted by the Ottoman government in 1915. The centre says that the Turkish government deposited the assets in Germany's Reichsbank, and that the US and other Allied powers took them as reparations after the first world war.

Bazzyler says that litigation

opens the doors for cases against museums for holding looted art. The Walters museum in Baltimore has 11 Armenian manuscripts including a gospel by T'oros Roslin—the same producer of the pages involved in the Getty case—which has notable gaps in its provenance between 1915 and 1929.

The Getty case looks likely to be settled out of court. A spokeswoman for the J. Paul Getty Trust said: "We are in discussions and both sides are eager for an amicable resolution." ■

Charlotte Burns

Law makes photographing Florida farms a crime

FLORIDA. It will soon be a crime for artists to photograph farms in Florida. A new law, effective from 1 July, states that "a person who photographs, video records, or otherwise produces images...at or of a farm...without the written consent of the owner...commits a felony of the first degree." The maximum term of imprisonment for a first-degree felony is 30 years, said Eugene Volokh, a law professor at the University of California, Los Angeles. American photographers have documented the country's rural landscape over the decades, including Dorothea Lange whose work for the Farm Security Administration chronicled the plight of labourers during the Great Depression. ■ **C.B.**

Los Angeles
Support for Israeli art

West Coast projects

LOS ANGELES. The non-profit Artis organisation, which actively promotes the work of contemporary Israeli artists across the world, is expanding to Los Angeles. The decision comes on the heels of an announcement in February that the New York- and Tel Aviv-based body was the recipient of a three-year, \$150,000 grant. Plans for the seven-year-old organisation include extending its artist and curatorial grant programmes, creating a regional event series and establishing residency opportunities for Israeli artists. West Coast endeavours include collaborating on the forthcoming Santa Barbara Museum of Art exhibition of Israel-born photographer Ori Gersht (20 May-4 September). Artis hopes to further develop its already substantial philanthropic network in the city, which includes the likes of former Skirball museum director, Nancy Berman, and Sonia Cummings of the Cummings Foundation. ■

Marisa Mazria Katz



Gersht's Speck 03, 2010

Avigdor Arikha
Works from the Estate



Self-Portrait in Violet Shirt, 1997, oil on canvas, 48 x 38 cm / 19 1/8 x 15 in.

30 March - 7 May 2011
catalogue with an essay by
Martin Gayford

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ADRIAN SASSOON

Exhibiting at SOFA New York 2011
Park Avenue Armory
13 - 17th April
Booth 208

Michael Eden

A. Rebaours Black and White Bowls, 2010
Made from nylon material with unique mineral soft coating
Height: 15.5cm each



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