

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM

Theft of Thirteen Artworks from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum March 18, 1990

Boston, March 17, 2010 • March 18, 2010 marks the 20th year that frames hang empty at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum as a reminder of the theft of thirteen works of art taken from its galleries. The frames hang empty today as an homage to the missing artworks and as a placeholder for their return. On this, the 20th year since the theft, the Gardner Museum, in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the US Attorney's Office, remains as committed as ever to the return of these stolen artworks – to the museum and to an awaiting public where they belong.

A complete list of the stolen artworks with images, a fact sheet on the theft, and a fact sheet on the stolen artworks, is available online via: www.gardnermuseum.org/information/theft.asp.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Statement Regarding the Theft

The Gardner Museum continues to actively investigate any and all leads related to the theft. This ongoing investigation is conducted by the museum's Director of Security in cooperation with the FBI and the US Attorney's Office. The focus of the investigation today is on the return of the artworks. The museum continues to issue the call to the holders of the works to conserve them in recommended temperatures and humidity levels. The Gardner Museum is offering a reward of \$5 million for information leading to the recovery of these works in good condition and, with the FBI and US Attorney, can ensure complete confidentiality.

Anyone with information about the theft, the location of the stolen artworks, or the investigation may contact the museum's *Director of Security* Anthony Amore directly at 617-278-5114 or theft@gardnermuseum.org. The museum can ensure complete confidentiality.

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EDITORS NOTES

***All-New* VIDEO B-ROLL • INTERVIEW WITH ANTHONY AMORE** • For the first time, the Gardner Museum is making available to the media video B-Roll footage of *Director of Security* Anthony Amore talking about the theft. Interview and B-Roll footage of the museum is available in mini-DV and DVD formats and the audio as an MP3. Use of this B-Roll for publicity purposes relating to the 20th anniversary of the Gardner Museum theft is for one-time-use only. Available footage also includes general Museum images of the galleries, collection, and interior courtyard to convey the unique atmosphere of the Gardner as a work of art itself. Please contact the Museum's press office for additional information, images, and copies of this video.

VIDEO • “THE GARDNER THEFT: TWENTY YEARS LATER” • On March 4th, Gardner Museum *Director of Security* Anthony Amore presented a lecture on the Gardner Museum theft with host Tom Ashbrook of National Public Radio's *On Point*. A complete video of the lecture is available to view and draw from online, both via the Gardner Museum's theft page, at at: www.gardnermuseum.org/information/theft.asp and directly, via the Gardner Museum's Vimeo page, at: www.vimeo.com/10204187.

PRESS STATEMENT • A copy of this statement, an image/caption sheet, and fact sheet on the theft and the stolen artworks is available via the Museum's online press area at: www.gardnermuseum.org/information/press.asp and via the Museum's theft page at: www.gardnermuseum.org/information/theft.asp

MEDIA CONTACTS

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Matt Montgomery Director of Marketing 617.278.5184 work mmontgomery@isgm.org • **Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI):** For access to Geoff Kelly, lead agent on the Gardner Museum theft at the FBI, please contact: **Gail Marcinkiewicz** Media Officer Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) 617.223.6110 work 617.223.6099 fax Gail.Marcinkiewicz@ic.fbi.gov.

• **Office of the US Attorney:** For access to Assistant US Attorney Brian Kelly and/or US Attorney Carmen Ortiz, please contact: **Christina Sterling** Media Relations Office of the US Attorney 617.748.3350 main 617.748.3356 work christina.sterling@usdoj.gov