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SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT APPOINTS NEW TRUSTEES TO THE BOARD OF THE NATIONAL GALLERIES OF SCOTLAND

Fiona Hyslop, the Minister for Europe, External Affairs and Culture today announced the appointment of three new members – Lesley Knox, Nicky Wilson and Professor Ian Howard – to the Board of Trustees of the National Galleries of Scotland.

Speaking of the appointments, Ben Thomson, Chairman of the Trustees said, “We welcome Leslie, Ian and Nicky to the board and look forward to their contributions at this exciting time for the Gallery particularly with the reopening of the Portrait Gallery next year.”

Lesley Knox

Lesley Knox was brought up in Edinburgh and as well as a career in business has, for a number of years, been involved with organisations concerned with fine arts, culture and heritage. She was a Governor of the Museum of London for 9 years and prior to that for 5 years Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Federation of British Artists. She is currently Chairman of DDL, the charitable company formed to build a new design centre in Dundee to provide, in partnership with the V & A museum, a showcase for the best in international design. She has also been a Member of the Steering Group being carried by George Reid for the National Trust for Scotland.

She is Chairman of the Alliance Trust Plc, a Director of Hays plc and a Director of Grosvenor Group Limited.

Nicky Wilson

Founder and Director of Jupiter Artland Foundation. This is a private collection open to the public containing work by many of today’s leading sculptors including Anthony Gormley, Anish Kapoor and Ian Hamilton Finlay. Jupiter Artland is a charitable foundation and central to it is the provision of educational resources to local children. Nicky was previously Co-Director and Founder of Beautiful Bump skincare products and also worked at WCRS Advertising Agency and LSDC Ayer Advertising and managed accounts including the launch of Orange. She previously won the prestigious year long British School of Rome Sculpture Scholarship, trained at Chelsea School of Art MA (Sculpture) and Camberwell College of Fine Art. She is also a Fruitmarket Gallery board member.

Professor Ian Howard

Professor Ian Howard, MA (Hons) RSA Dr hc is Principal of Edinburgh College of Art. He was formerly Dean of Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, University of Dundee and prior to that, a Professor in the School of Fine Art there. He was a leading force behind the internationally significant Dundee Contemporary Arts.

He has been a member of the Faculty of Fine Art at the British School in Rome, a visiting professor at many art and design institutions worldwide and in 2007 was given an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Edinburgh and also elected Treasurer of the Royal Scottish Academy. He is a painter and printmaker of international standing and winner of the Chicago Prize 2000.

These appointments will be for four years and will run from October 01, 2010 to September 30, 2014.

All these posts are part-time, attract no remuneration and have a time commitment of ten days per year.

None of the appointees hold any other Scottish Ministerial appointments.

These Ministerial public appointments were made in accordance with the Commissioner for Public Appointments in Scotland's Code of Practice.

All appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for appointees' political activity within the last 5 years (if there is any to be declared) to be made public. None of the appointees declared any political activity in the last 5 years.

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