

Department for Culture, Media and Sport

July 2007

## **WALLACE COLLECTION – reappointment of Trustees**

The Prime Minister has reappointed Dr Richard Dorment and Sir Timothy Clifford as Trustees of the Wallace Collection for a further four years, from 15 July and 8 August 2007, respectively.

### **Biographical details**

Dr Dorment is the art critic for *The Daily Telegraph*, and a frequent contributor to *The Times Literary Supplement* and *The New York Review of Books*. He has been a guest curator of exhibitions including "Alfred Gilbert – Sculptor and Goldsmith" at the Royal Academy in 1985-86, and "James McNeill Whistler at the Tate Gallery, Musée d'Orsay and National Gallery of Art in Washington DC. He was a member of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art from 1996-2002, and of the Advisory Committee of the Government Art Collection from 1996-2005. He has been a Trustee of the Watts Gallery since 1996.

Sir Timothy Clifford was the Director General of the National Galleries of Scotland from 2001-2006, having been its Director from 1984-2001. In 2005 he received the Garrett Award for outstanding achievement in the encouragement of business support for the arts. He began his career in the Department of Paintings at Manchester City Art Galleries, moving in 1972 to the Department of Ceramics at the Victoria & Albert Museum, and in 1976 to the Dept of Prints and Drawings at the British Museum. In 1978 he returned to Manchester City Art Galleries as its Director until 1984. He is Vice-President of the Turner Society, a member of the Advisory Council of the Friends of the Courtauld Institute, and a Trustee of the Attingham Summer School and of The American Friends of the National Galleries of Scotland. He is a Liveryman of the Goldsmiths Company. He was President of The National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies (NADFAS) from 1996-2006.

### **Background**

The Wallace Collection is both a national museum and one of the finest collections of art assembled by one family. It was bequeathed to the nation by Lady Wallace in 1897, and opened to the public just over three years later on 22 June 1900. Among its treasures are one of the best collections of French 18<sup>th</sup>-century pictures, porcelain and furniture in the world; a remarkable array of 17<sup>th</sup> century paintings; and an armoury.

Trustees are not remunerated, and are appointed by the Prime Minister on the advice of DCMS Ministers. 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 political activity (if any declared) to be made public. Sir Timothy and Dr Dorment have declared that they undertook no political activity in the last five years.