



MERIDIAN
ART PARTNERS

Meridian Art Partners Announces Launch of New Emerging Markets Art Fund

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Meridian Art Partners, LLC (MAP), is pleased to announce the launch of its inaugural art investment fund, the **Meridian Emerging Art Markets Fund**. The Fund focuses on contemporary art from emerging art markets throughout the world, including but not limited to, Africa, Asia, India, Latin America, the Middle East and Russia. The Fund also will include a small allocation of established Western contemporary art.

The Fund is a **5-7 year closed-end limited partnership** open to accredited investors worldwide through two entities: one based in the U.S. (Delaware) and the other in the British Virgin Islands. MAP is on pace to raise **\$100 million** by the end of 2008 with a first closing scheduled at the end of the second quarter. **The minimum investment level is \$250,000.**

MAP was founded in early 2007 by **Andrew F. Littlejohn** and **Pamela A. M. Johnson**, both formerly of **Phillips de Pury & Company** in New York. Mr. Littlejohn and Ms. Johnson joined forces with the vision of creating innovative art investment vehicles for sophisticated investors worldwide. The company is headquartered in New York and maintains a Singapore office in partnership with **Calamander Group**.

While investment in art is not an entirely new concept, MAP has structured a company and a Fund that they believe will capitalize on current and future art market opportunities and that will support emerging art markets and their constituent artists.

Given the current economic environment and the strength of the emerging market economies, together with the continued globalization of the art business, MAP is confident that its investment strategy will appeal to investors seeking to diversify their portfolios. Mr. Littlejohn asserts that ***“with the worldwide equity markets in disarray amid speculation of a U.S. recession and the real estate bubbles in the U.S. and UK all but burst, art has demonstrated its strength as an attractive alternative asset class to which sophisticated investors are increasingly turning their attention. As an asset class in a structured portfolio setting, art has demonstrated relatively low volatility historically, with substantial upside (yet limited downside) potential. In every economic downturn over the past half-century, art has proved itself uncorrelated with the equity markets, outperforming the S&P 500 consistently. Against this background, the market for contemporary art has been extremely buoyant over the past decade, gaining in strength and stability as it attracts the attention of serious collectors. Given the substantial worldwide interest this market has now generated, and considering the positive signals for continued further growth, there exist numerous opportunities for MAP’s unique investment approach to create significant value for investors”.***

MAP has assembled a world class team of art, economic, legal and fund management experts that includes:

Jeremy Eckstein (Chief Investment Strategist), London-based statistician and art market expert who formerly served as International Head of Research at Sotheby’s, where he advised on the British Rail Pension Fund (the first successful art investment fund); **Roman Scott** (General Partner and Investment Committee Member), Founder of Singapore-based Calamander Group, a fund management and investment advisory company focused on alternative investments for High Net Worth Individuals; **Amy Smith-Stewart** (Investment Committee Member), Founder of Smith-Stewart Gallery in Manhattan and formerly Curator at P.S. 1 Contemporary Art Center/ MoMA; **Pierre Valentin** (Senior Advisor), art lawyer and Head of the Art and Cultural Assets Group at international law firm, Withers, LLP; **Sunny Yoon** (Senior Advisor), President and CEO of Kim Eng Securities USA Inc. based in New York; **Renato Danese** (Advisor-Buyer, established Western markets), Founder and President of Danese Gallery in Manhattan; **Dr. Anthony Downey** (Advisor-Buyer, Africa & the Middle East) London-based art critic, curator and Programme Director of the M.A. in Contemporary Art at Sotheby’s Institute of Art, London; **Janet Oh** (Advisor-Buyer, Northeast Asia), Founder and President of Janet Oh Gallery in Seoul, South Korea; **Dr. Iain Robertson** (Advisor-Buyer, China and Southeast Asia) London-based Asian art market expert and Deputy Academic Director and Head of Art Business Studies at Sotheby’s Institute of Art, London; and, **Ana Sokoloff** (Advisor-Buyer, Latin America), Founding Partner of sokoloff + associates llc and former Head of Latin American Paintings at Christie’s.

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