

STATEMENT
11 JULY 2019

STATEMENT FROM THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA REGARDING SUBHASH KAPOOR

Statement from Nick Mitzevich, Director of the National Gallery of Australia:

“We are aware of charges filed in New York against eight people including Subhash Kapoor and have been assisting the New York District Attorney over the last six months and will continue to do so as required.

Unquestionably provenance is one of our key priorities and our collecting practices have quite appropriately changed over the last few years. There is no intention to buy Asian antiquities until we are 100 per cent certain that we have the necessary governance protocols in place. The National Gallery is committed to the ethical collecting of cultural material.”

Background:

We continue to do significant work on investigating works in the national collection that have gaps in our provenance records and recently we commissioned Justice Susan Crennan to conduct a further review of provenance.

This demonstrates the National Gallery of Australia’s continued commitment to resolving these issues as a highest priority.

We are in communication with the appropriate authorities in Australia, India and the United States.

There are complex issues around clarifying chains of ownership of some works of art in the national collection. We are systematically working to gain clarity around these matters.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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