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Left: Ernest Ange Duez, *Woman in Grey on Board Ship, Gazing at the Sea* (detail), 1873. Oil on canvas. SBMA Museum purchase with funds provided by the Suzette and Eugene Davidson Fund.

Art Marks the Spot in Mystery Hunt at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art SBMA Women's Board Hosts Mystery in Masterpieces Fundraising Event on April 18, 2015

March 1, 2014 - Diabolical clues and clever wordplay is the order of the evening as the Women's Board of the Santa Barbara Museum of Art (SBMA) presents Mystery in Masterpieces on **Saturday, April 18, 2015, from 6 to 9 pm** in the Museum galleries. Once again, the Women's Board brings in Clue Master Jamie Fleming and his inspired blend of treasure hunting and art appreciation to challenge the guests at this lively fundraiser to benefit the Museum.

Intriguing clues and Museum maps lead guests through the galleries as they compete to win fabulous prizes by finding the most answers in the shortest amount of time. After indulging in an array of artfully presented appetizers and drinks, energy is always high as teams and individuals vie with each other to be the first to correctly identify the artwork described by the challenging—and often mind-bending—clues.

Clue Master Jamie Fleming has a natural talent for fantasy and fun, having spent 20 years as an executive for Disney and Universal Studios. With this being Fleming's tenth Mystery Hunt for the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, he is accustomed to the many hours spent looking at the 20 paintings included in the hunt to create possible clues. Guests are given a clue sheet and map to help them find their way through the Clue Master's hints.

This year, Mystery in Masterpieces offers a special treat, with guests able to deeply engage with works from an extraordinary exhibition *Botticelli, Titian and Beyond: Masterpieces of Italian Paintings from Glasgow Museums.* Larry Feinberg, SBMA Robert and Mercedes Eichholz Director and CEO, is especially excited about the opportunity to bring such important and beautiful works of art to Santa Barbara for the community to enjoy.

"Mystery in Masterpieces is always fun, because it brings out the competitive spirit in full force. This year will be even more special, as guests will have the opportunity to hunt for clues in paintings by some of the greatest names in Italian art," said Women's Board President Carolyn Williams.

Lucky winners not only enjoy art for the evening, but also get to take it home in the form of original oil paintings generously donated by Ralph Waterhouse, Wyllis Heaton, and Steve Curry.

Founded in 1951, the Women's Board promotes community awareness and interest in the Museum. Over the years the Women's Board has contributed significantly to the Museum's educational programs and activities as well as underwritten numerous exhibitions and purchased more than 60 works of art for the permanent collection. The Board is a lead sponsor of the 2015 exhibition *Botticelli, Titian and Beyond: Masterpieces of Italian Painting from Glasgow Museums*, which includes masterworks never before seen in the United States. The Women's Board has also been a sponsor of numerous other exhibitions in recent years including *Labour and Wait*, *Delacroix and the Matter of Finish*, and *John Divola: As Far as I Could Get*.

Tickets for this lively event are \$200 each. Purchase tickets online at <u>www.sbmawb.org</u>. Black tie optional

For more information regarding the Santa Barbara Museum of Art Women's Board or this event, please contact Karen Kawaguchi at 805.884.6428 or <u>kkawaguchi@sbma.net</u>, or visit www.sbmawb.org.

The Santa Barbara Museum of Art is a privately funded not-for-profit institution that presents internationally recognized collections and exhibitions and a broad array of cultural and educational activities as well as travel opportunities around the world.