Isisege. Hip Belt.

object type: MIP Belt (1519ege)		acc. no: 1999. 10.05			
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Cat No.	Description	Price S.A. Rand (Incl. 14% VAT)	£ Value
25 26	Gerard Bhengu, Bushfire Maud Sumner, Still-life with flowers	Sold 78,000	£6,850
27 28 29	Erik Laubscher, <i>Still-life</i> Erik Laubscher, <i>Nature morte</i> Pemba, <i>Man wearing green jacket</i>	55,000 75,000 Sold	£4,800 £6,600
30 31 32	Pemba, Temptation Pemba, World War II: cross and ruins Pemba, 'Nomalnide'	185,000 68,000 65,000	£16,250 £6,000 £5,700
33 34	Pemba, Hairdressing in dappled light Pemba, 'Nhosa man' Pemba, A country road	50,000 85,000 Sold	£4,400 £7,500
35 36 37	Pemba, <i>Xhosa-speaking woman</i> Pemba, <i>Xhosa mother' & two children</i>	25,000 Sold Sold	£2,200
38 39 40	Gladys Mgudlandlu, Rocky outcrop Gladys Mgudlandlu, Houses Gladys Mgudlandlu, Two blue birds Voith Districts Work and Domesics 1986	85,000 95,000	£7,500 £8,300 £2,500
41 42 43	N. Nguni walking stick, mother/child N. Nguni walking stick, male figure	230,000 115,000 130,000	£20,000 £10,000 £11,500
44 45 46a	Tsonga stick, urbanised black man Tsonga walking stick, baboon figure Late nineteenth-century belt	137,000 15,000	£12,000 £1,300 £1,000
b c d	First half of twentieth-century belt Late nineteenth-century belt Late nineteenth-century belt	12,000 35,000 28,000	£3,000 £2,450 £2,200
c	Late nineteenth-century belt Late nineteenth-century belt	25,000 7,000	£2,200 £600

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GJMC: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

GJMC: COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

METROPOLITAN SPORT, ART, CULTURE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

METROPOLITAN ARTS & CULTURE DEVELOPMENT & FACILITIES

Strategic Thrust: Communications & Marketing Nature of Report: Proposal for Implementation

DONATION OF WORKS OF ART

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To acknowledge a donation of works of art to the Johannesburg Art Gallery.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting held on 13 August 1999, the Art Gallery Committee recommended that the following works of art be accepted into the Gallery's permanent collection:

Donor: Anglo American Johannesburg Centenary Trust

Artist/Community	Title/Object	Medium
Pemba, George	World War Two: cross and ruins	Oil
Tsonga/Northern Nguni	Staff, surmounted by a recently urbanised black male	Wood, poker work
Tsonga/Northern Nguni	Staff, male figure	Wood, poker work
Tsonga/Northern Nguni	Staff, mother and child	Wood, poker work
Zulu	Hip belt (isigege)	Beads, thread

George Milwa Mnyaluza Pemba (born 1912, Port Elizabeth) is one of South Africa's great pioneer painters. He obtained a teacher's diploma at Lovedale Training College in the Eastern Cape in 1931. In 1937 he received a bursary and studied under Professor A W Moore at Rhodes University, Grahamstown. He was awarded a second bursary in 1941. In 1978 he taught art to children at the SA Institute of Race Relations. Pemba's work was first displayed on the Port Elizabeth Annual Exhibition in 1928. His two portraits received enthusiastic public acclaim. He was 16 years old at the time and considered by the press to be something of a prodigy. From 1945 he participated in a number of group and solo exhibitions. According to the artist, he painted *World War Two: cross and ruins*, as an elegy to the Second World War, almost a decade after its conclusion. During his lifetime Pemba has received a number of awards for his work as well as commissions. He is represented in important collections including the Johannesburg Art Gallery.

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The Tsonga/Northern Nguni staffs offer significantly different characteristics that give insight into possible stylistic similarities found in other carved objects in the Gallery's collection. They also offer a rare variation compared with those in the Brenthurst collection. The staff depicting a recently urbanised black male figure represents the dress code of the colonial past. This staff records a specific time in our history, relevant for understanding influences on traditional objects of material culture. The head ring motif on the male figure staff distinguishes the staff as describing or belonging to a married Northern Nguni man. Similarly, the staff depicting a woman with a baby on her back describes a Nguni woman by the hairstyle. These are important features that are relevant records in the preservation of a vanishing culture.

The *isigege* is of particular interest in the Zulu corpus of beaded hip belts. Similar belts made of *ubendle* leaf and *isikonko* grass were worn by post-pubescent unmarried girls in the time of Shaka. It is a rare item in both the way it has been made as well as the colour combination of the beads and motif.

FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial/legal implications.

CONCLUSION

These works of art would be valuable additions to the Gallery's collection.

IT IS RECOMMENDED

That the donations detailed in the item be accepted into the Gallery's permanent collection and that the thanks of the Greater Johannesburg Metropolitan Council be conveyed to the donor.

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(METROPOLITAN SPORT, ART, CULTURE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT) (METROPOLITAN ARTS & CULTURE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT) (CHIEF CURATOR: ART GALLERY)

(R Keene)

(Ext 6857)

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FACSIMILE

TO

Johannesburg Art Gallery

FROM

M Stevenson

ATTENTION :

Rochelle Keene

DATE

17 August 1999

FAX NO.

011 720 6000

NO. OF PAGES:

1

Dear Rochelle

Please find herewith my best prices for the items you expressed an interest in. I hope we can come to some arrangement

<u>Cat. #</u>	Artist	Title	List Price (Incl.)	Discount	Total
31	Pemba	World War II	68,000	20%	54,000
42	N Nguni stick	Mother and child	230,000	15%	195,500
43	N Nguni stick	Male	115,000	15%	97,750
44	Tsonga stick	Male figure	130,000	5%	123,500
45	Tsonga stick	Baboon	137,000	15%	116,450
46c		Beaded hip belt	35,000	20%	28,000

If you are able to purchase a group, we will offer a further 5%.

Sincerely

Dr Michael Stevenson