

Staff, "Tang receives expansive gift from prominent NYC art collectors," *The Saratogian*, 24 February 2021.

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An exterior view of the Tang Teaching Museum at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs. Tim Hursley.

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College received a gift of 24 contemporary artworks from the collection of Michael O. and Sirje Helder Gold.

The gift includes works created in the 1990s and 2000s by a diverse group of leading and emerging artists, including Louise Bourgeois, Sean Duffy, Naomi Fisher, Iva Gueorguieva, Michelle Grabner, Carol Hepper, Steve Roden, Jonathan Seliger, Glen Seator, George Stoll, Beverly Semmes, and Barbara Takenaga.

The Golds are prominent art collectors who have lived in New York City and Los Angeles, and are known for championing the work of younger artists. Many of the paintings, photographs, and sculptures included in their gift are by artists from the West Coast and represent the Tang's first acquisition from their oeuvre. Other works were created by artists who have been featured in exhibitions across the Tang's 20-year exhibition history.

The gift will introduce many of these artists to new audiences, and the additions to the Tang's growing collection will provide valuable opportunities for research and study by students and scholars from a variety of disciplines.

"This expansive gift adds a wonderful note of hope and optimism to our twentieth anniversary year, and I sincerely thank Michael and Sirje for their generosity and trust in the Tang," said Ian Berry, Dayton Director of the Tang Teaching Museum. "We are honored to welcome all of the artists into our collection, both those who are new to the Tang as well as some of our closest friends.

"The wide scope of artistic perspectives and practices represented in this gift will deepen our resources and expand possibilities for the inventive interdisciplinary learning and teaching at the core of our mission."

"Sirje and I happily join the Tang in celebrating the Museum's 20th anniversary. Over the years, we have donated work to many museums. Though the experience is always bittersweet, as Shakespeare said, 'Parting is such sweet sorrow,' we know that at the Tang there will be a rebirth and a rejuvenation as new audiences of students, faculty, scholars, and visitors will be stimulated and inspired by the artists and the work we have gifted. We would like to thank Ian Berry, Dayton Director; Elizabeth Karp, Senior Museum Registrar; and Kara Jefts, Collections Registrar, for their concern, competence and humanity during this process of 'sweet sorrow.'"

Highlights from the gift include:

Beverly Semmes, *Untitled*, 1993, velvet upholstery fabric. This work is part of a series of big dress pieces that Semmes made in the 1990s. Semmes was featured in a 2014 solo exhibition at the Tang, *Opener 27: Beverly Semmes – FRP*, which included sculpture and works on paper. Her work has also been included in group shows at the Tang, including *About Sculpture*, 2005; *One Work*, 2014; *Other Side: Art, Object, Self*, 2017; and *Never Done: 100 Years of Women in Politics and Beyond*, 2020.