

**Minneapolis Institute of Arts
Accessions Proposal**

Curator: Joe D. Horse Capture

Department: Africa and the Americas

Date: November 9, 2010

1. Description and Summary of Object or Group of Objects:

Loan Number: L2010.180

Artist/Maker: Rick Bartow, Wiyot and Yurok, b. 1946

Title/Object: Mythic Hawk (Egypt)

Date: 1999

Medium: acrylic on panel

Dimensions: 24" x 24" (60.96 x 60.96 cm)

Signed, marked or inscribed:

Country of manufacture: USA

Vendor/Donor:

For gifts check this box if a Deed of Gift has been completed.

Credit Line: Gift of Bill Avery

Present Location: MIA

Price/Value:

2. Artist, Style, and explanation of the proposed object:

Rick Bartow was born in 1946 and is a Native American artist from the Wiyot and Yurok tribes of Northern California. He served 13 months in Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star for his service. He attended Western Oregon University and received a degree in art education. Bartow traces his artistic influence to Marc Chagall and Francis Bacon. His interest is in depicting human and animal forms through painting and sculpture. His work is also inspired by his military service in Vietnam, with some reference to his Native American heritage. He often depicts work transformational scenes, such as this work, a figure with a hawk head. According to the artist, the hawk has made an appearance at important times in his life. They appeared to him a few days before his uncle passed away, and are often in the area when he works on his artwork.

3. Condition:

Good. Condition report on file in the Registration Department.

4. Provenance:

The owner purchased "Mythic Hawk" for \$1500 on January 21, 2000 from the Froelick Adelhart Gallery (Now Froelick) in Portland, Oregon.

5. Related Objects:

Crow Hop, 1994, Eiteljorg Museum, Indianapolis, IN; *Salmon Mask*, 1987, Heard Museum, Phoenix, AZ; *Hawk and Crows*, 1992, Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR; *Old Time Picture I*, 1999, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA; *Going as Coyote*, 1991, Hallie Ford Museum of Art, Willamette University, Salem, OR

6. Complements the existing collection:

The MIA has a small collection of Native American contemporary art: Arthur Amiotte, *Prince Albert*, 1989, accession number 90.78; Arthur Amiotte, *1913 Spring/Summer 1913- Giving Away His Suit*, 1990, accession number 91.97; Martin Red Bear, *Akicita Wasté (Good Soldier)*, 1991, accession number 91.96; Francis J. Yellow, *Anthropology: We're Not Your Indians Anymore*, 1995, accession number 97.114a-c; Juane Quick-To-See Smith, *Sources of Strength*, 1990, accession number 92.64; Juane Quick-To-See Smith, *Survival Series: Humor, Nature/Medicine, Tribe/Community, Wisdom/Knowledge*, 1996, accession numbers 2008.66.1-4. The work under consideration would be a great addition to our growing contemporary Native American art collection. Furthermore, it is an important work because it represents contemporary Native American art from the West Coast, an area that is currently not reflected in our collection.

7. Plans for exhibiting:

This painting will be incorporated into the annual rotation of the Native American art gallery. There is an ongoing effort to include more contemporary works in the galleries.

8. Why do you recommend the object?

Bartow is a highly respected artist and his work is in many private and public collections in the country. This work, *Mythic Hawk*, is a great example of Bartow's work. The central figure, which has a bird head, was painted on a red background. The painting style he used on this work shows both movement and instability of the main figure. His Native American roots are reflected in his work, and he is an artist that we need to add to our collection.

9. Comparable market prices:

Signature and Date