



**NEWS RELEASE:**

January 8, 2009

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**It Takes a Community to Mend Our Broken Art**

Hermitage Museum & Gardens to Hold Fourth Annual Conservation Exhibition

Norfolk, VA - The conservation program [\*Mend Our Broken Art\*](#) (*MOBA*) began with a great need: to fund the maintenance and care of the Hermitage Museum's permanent collection. This need has incited a community's interest in preserving and making accessible to the public objects that have not been exhibited. Marking the fourth annual installation, *MOBA* gives guests the opportunity to become involved in the conservation process from beginning to end. *MOBA* will be on display in the changing galleries of the Hermitage Museum beginning February 13<sup>th</sup> through March 27<sup>th</sup> with a public opening reception to be held Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

This year, *MOBA* will highlight the Hermitage Museum's extensive and rare collection of works by Raymond Duncan, brother of iconic dancer Isadora Duncan. An eclectic artist who shared his fervor for dance and art with his family and those around him, Raymond focused his life on establishing schools of art throughout Europe. Taking on diverse ventures, from raising sheep, weaving fabric and rugs, printing textiles and books, to writing plays and manifestos, Raymond and his wife Penelope lived a life centered around artistic production, teaching, and living free from modern industry and war.

With the recognition and funds raised by this annual exhibition, more than twenty works have been conserved over the course of the program's three year history, giving never-before-seen works a chance to be exhibited and appreciated. "Adoption" of works is welcomed at any amount - offering children, adults, community groups, and local organizations alike the opportunity to participate. With every contribution, the donor remains informed of the conservation progress through completion; directly and personally watching their contributions at work. *MOBA* gives the community an opportunity to combine their resources to ensure the future cultural heritage of works restored by the program.

For more information on *Mend Our Broken Art* contact Kristin Law, Curator of Collections, at (757) 423-2052 x 204 or [kl@thfm.org](mailto:kl@thfm.org). A complete list of works available for adoption and respective conservation needs is available upon request.

*The Hermitage offers 45-minute guided tours, on the hour, of fifteen galleries filled with the Sloane family world-wide art collection, furniture, and history in this Norfolk historic home. The Visual Arts School houses classrooms, a complete ceramics studio, and darkroom photography facilities. Open daily 10-5, Sundays 1-5-closed Wednesdays. Free for Museum Members, children under 6, and Active Duty military. Admission: \$5 for Adults, \$2 for ages 6-18, and \$3 for students. For more information on the museum and membership offerings call 757-423-2052 or visit [www.thfm.org](http://www.thfm.org).*

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For high resolution images of sample works contact Matt Serino, Marketing Manager, at (757) 423-2052 x 208 or [ms@thfm.org](mailto:ms@thfm.org).