



For immediate release

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LEADING MEDIEVAL SCHOLAR TO LECTURE AT BNG

Hamilton, Bermuda October 4, 2006 - Dr. Jeffrey F. Hamburger, one of America's leading medieval art scholars, will be the guest lecturer in the first of a new season of the **PartnerRe Art Lecture Series** at the **Bermuda National Gallery** on **Tuesday, October 10** (5:30 p.m. Reception for a 6 p.m. Lecture).

Dr. Hamburger, who is the Professor of the History of Art and Architecture at the Arthur M. Sackler Museum, Harvard University and a Fellow of the Medieval Academy of America, will deliver a lecture entitled: "The Medieval Work of Art: Wherein the Work? Wherein the Art?"

The lecture is designed to be an introduction to medieval art and illustrated manuscripts and discusses whether they should be seen as crafts or arts. Focusing on what, in the Middle Ages, were considered the archetypal works of art - the Temple, Tabernacle and Ark of the Covenant - and using examples in various media such as manuscript illumination, stained glass, mosaics and metalwork, Dr. Hamburger will look at some of the ways in which medieval images structure what they themselves frame as the viewer's experience. In so doing, it offers a new framework for understanding medieval art in general.

Dr. Hamburger, has been a full professor at Harvard since 2000, having previously lectured at the University of Toronto's, Department of History of Art and at the Oberlin College, as the Irving E. Houck (Associate) Professor in the Humanities. He held a visiting professorship at the Erasmus Seminar, University of Notre Dame, on "Image,

Text and Context,” in June 2005. He is presently the Professor of the History of Art and Architecture at Harvard’s Arthur M. Sackler Museum, which houses some of the world’s finest collections of ancient, Islamic, Asian, and later Indian art.

The author of numerous books and articles on medieval art, Dr. Hamburger’s most recent work is *Tributes in Honour of James H. Marrow: Studies in Late Medieval and Renaissance Painting and Manuscript Illumination*, co-edited with Anne Korteweg (Turnhout: Brepols, 2006).

Previous works have included *The Visual and the Visionary: Art and Female Spirituality in Late Medieval Germany* (New York: Zone Books, 1998), which won the College Art Association, Charles Rufus Morey Prize and the Sixteenth-Century Studies Conference, Roland H. Bainton Book Prize in Art & Music, 1999.

His 1996 book, *Nuns as Artists: The Visual Culture of a Medieval Convent* (Berkeley-Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1996) won the American Philosophical Society, Jacques Barzun Prize in Cultural History, 1998; and the International Congress of Medieval Studies, Otto Gründler Prize, 1999. *The Rothschild Canticles: Art and Mysticism in Flanders and the Rhineland circa 1300* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1990) won the Medieval Academy of America’s John Nicholas Brown Prize in 1994.

Laura T. Gorham, Director of the BNG, said: “We are truly honoured to have someone of Dr. Hamburger’s academic calibre visit Bermuda. We hope anyone interested in art history, and medieval art in particular, will take this rare opportunity to hear first hand from one of the subject’s most respected scholars.

We are once again, extremely grateful for the continued sponsorship and support of PartnerRe. This is now the 5th season they have sponsored the art lecture series and the fact that we are able to attract lecturers of Dr. Hamburger’s standing to the Island is a measure of how valuable that support is.”

“PartnerRe is pleased to support the Bermuda National Gallery’s mission to promote, benefit and advance the visual arts in Bermuda,” said Jaime Masters, Corporate Communications Associate at PartnerRe. “Education and the Arts are important to both PartnerRe and the Bermuda community and the PartnerRe Art Lecture Series shows that art, education, and community form a winning combination.”

**Thursday’s lecture begins with a reception at 5.30 p.m.
Tickets for the lecture are \$20 and \$10 for BNG members.**

For more details about this and other BNG events, visit www.bng.bm

For more about the Sackler Museum, visit: www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sackler/

NOTE TO EDITORS

About the Bermuda National Gallery

The Bermuda National Gallery (BNG) is Bermuda's art museum. Established in 1992 by the Bermuda Fine Art Trust Act of 1982, The Bermuda National Gallery was created with a mission to promote, benefit and advance the visual art in Bermuda through creating a collection of significant artworks both from Bermuda and worldwide, and a facility in which to care for, research and interpret these works for the public. The BNG's goals are excellence, education and bringing the community together to share in the finest accomplishments via an interwoven programme of exhibitions, permanent collections, educational programming and cultural entertainment. The BNG is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Monday to Saturday. Admission is free.

About PartnerRe

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