

## Art Dealers Association of America Statement on New Tariffs on Art from China

**New York – August 19, 2019** – The Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) made the following statement regarding last week’s announcement by the United States Trade Representative (USTR) that art from China will be subject to new U.S. tariffs:

Art dealers in the United States are small and mid-sized businesses that operate within the global art market. Many of them specialize in Chinese art, and there are many more that work with living Chinese artists. For these reasons, the imposition of tariffs on art from China will have a detrimental impact on many American art dealers. With the tariffs in place, it will be virtually impossible for these businesses to price artwork competitively within the global art market. In addition, galleries are frequently the main vehicles for artists to sell their works, so we are concerned for the even greater number of artists whose livelihoods will be affected by the new tariffs. Regrettably, the tariffs will also stifle the greater cultural exchange that galleries foster.

During the USTR’s review of proposed tariffs in 2018, and its more recent review in 2019, the ADAA formally shared these same concerns with the USTR and requested that the following be removed from consideration for tariff application: paintings and drawings; collages and similar decorative plaques; original engravings, prints, and lithographs; and original sculptures and statuary, in any material. The Association also engaged its membership across the country to formally share with the USTR their perspectives about the detrimental impact to their individual businesses and the artists they represent. We are grateful to the ADAA membership and other supporters and collaborators who have joined with us to alert the USTR, as well as the cultural community at large, about the damaging effects of these new tariffs.

### About the ADAA

The Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) is a nonprofit membership organization that supports the economic and cultural contributions of the nation’s leading fine art galleries. The ADAA includes nearly 180 members from 30 cities in the U.S., representing hundreds of established and emerging artists internationally. ADAA members have extensive expertise across primary and secondary markets and established reputations for upholding the best practices in the field. The ADAA serves as a resource and advocate, raising awareness of dealers’ critical roles in the international art market and the cultural community.

The ADAA is a leader on issues pertaining to connoisseurship, scholarship, ethical practice, and public policy. The ADAA’s position is further enhanced by its Appraisal Service, which has valued works of art for donation, estate, gift tax, and insurance for over 50 years, and represents a depth of art historical and market knowledge. The ADAA Foundation, supported by donations from ADAA members, promotes a broad

205 Lexington Avenue  
Suite #901  
New York, NY 10016  
telephone: (212) 488-5550  
fax: (646) 688-6809  
e-mail: [adaa@artdealers.org](mailto:adaa@artdealers.org)  
website: [www.artdealers.org](http://www.artdealers.org)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andrew Schoelkopf  
*President*

Justine Birbil  
*Vice President*

Anthony Meier  
*Vice President*

Frances Beatty  
*Secretary*

John Van Doren  
*Treasurer*

Matt Bangser  
Stefania Bortolami  
Susan Dunne  
Christopher Eykyn  
Susan Inglett  
Andrew Kreps  
Wendy Olsoff  
Sukanya Rajaratnam  
Andrew Witkin  
Lauren Wittels

### EX-OFFICIO

*Past Presidents*  
William R. Acquavella  
James N. Goodman  
Richard Solomon  
Roland J. Augustine  
Lucy Mitchell-Innes  
Dorsey Waxter  
Adam Sheffer

### ADMINISTRATION

Maureen Bray  
*Executive Director*

Jo Backer Laird  
*Counsel*

range of activity in the arts and culture community by distributing grants to museums, archives, and arts organizations. Recent grantees include the Knoxville Museum of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College Chicago, the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, and the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian. [www.artdealers.org](http://www.artdealers.org)

**Press Contact:**

Barbara Escobar  
Resnicow and Associates  
+1.212.671.5174  
[bescobar@resnicow.com](mailto:bescobar@resnicow.com)

205 Lexington Avenue  
Suite #901  
New York, NY 10016  
*telephone:* (212) 488-5550  
*fax:* (646) 688-6809  
*e-mail:* [adaa@artdealers.org](mailto:adaa@artdealers.org)  
*website:* [www.artdealers.org](http://www.artdealers.org)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Andrew Schoelkopf  
*President*

Justine Birbil  
*Vice President*

Anthony Meier  
*Vice President*

Frances Beatty  
*Secretary*

John Van Doren  
*Treasurer*

Matt Bangser  
Stefania Bortolami  
Susan Dunne  
Christopher Eykyn  
Susan Inglett  
Andrew Kreps  
Wendy Olsoff  
Sukanya Rajaratnam  
Andrew Witkin  
Lauren Wittels

**EX-OFFICIO**

*Past Presidents*  
William R. Acquavella  
James N. Goodman  
Richard Solomon  
Roland J. Augustine  
Lucy Mitchell-Innes  
Dorsey Waxter  
Adam Sheffer

**ADMINISTRATION**

Maureen Bray  
*Executive Director*

Jo Backer Laird  
*Counsel*