Kehinde Wiley acquisition caps off a roster of new works at The Mint Museum by culturally diverse artists

For Immediate Release

Charlotte, North Carolina (March 8, 2022) — The Mint Museum is proud to announce major additions to its collection, including internationally renowned artist Kehinde Wiley’s *Philip the Fair*. Wiley, a California native, is best known for painting President Barack Obama’s portrait. *Philip the Fair* is an example of Wiley’s majestic representation of urban Black men recast in place of those populating European old-master paintings, and asking the question ‘who gets represented?’ *Philip the Fair* references a 15th-century stained-glass image of Philip the IV of France who was known as Philip the Fair.

“The Mint Museum continues to grow and refine its collection through purchases and gifts with stellar examples from artists that represent a diverse array of backgrounds and experiences,” says Todd Herman, president and CEO at the Mint. “We are grateful to our generous donors, and especially to the artists, for allowing us to share these beautiful and inspirational works with our audience.”

Other exceptional works entering the collection, include Willie Cole’s *Silex*, currently on view in the Mint’s *Continuing Conversations* exhibition, and Elizabeth Talford Scott’s quilted and appliqued mixed-media piece *Untitled (Shield)*, part of the Mint’s Craft + Design Collection, both of which transcend time with stories tied to race and cultural experiences.

Expanding the museum’s collection by artists from outside the United States are works by Japanese designer Yohji Yamamoto, Indian fashion designer Anamika Khanna, Canadian artist Simone Saunders, British photographer Sam Taylor-Johnson, Dutch artist Iris van Herpen, Belgium artist Berlinde de Bruyckere, and Spanish artist Nacho Carbonell.

In addition are notable works by Charlotte-based artists, including Nellie Ashford, MyLoan Dinh, de’Angelo Dia, and Julio Gonzales, that reflect cultural heritage, ancestry, and community.

“We are particularly proud of the diversity represented in our acquisitions over the last couple of years. Not only are the makers of all profiles — international, regional, men, women, nonbinary, young, late career — but the media spans the gamut,” says Jen Sudul Edwards, chief curator and curator of contemporary art. “These new acquisitions reinforce The Mint Museum’s commitment to all forms and all makers as long as the work is thoughtful, ambitious, and excellent.”

The acquisition of *Philip the Fair* is made possible by the generous support of the Mint Museum Auxiliary, the Katherine and Thomas Belk Acquisition Fund, and Kellie and Len Botkin.
**Ticket Information**

Admission to The Mint Museum is free for members and children ages 4 and younger; $15 for adults; $10 for seniors ages 65 and older; $10 for college students with ID; and $6 for youth ages 5-17.

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**The Mint Museum**

Established in 1936 as North Carolina's first art museum, The Mint Museum is a leading, innovative cultural institution and museum of international art and design. With two locations — Mint Museum Randolph in the heart of Eastover and Mint Museum Uptown at Levine Center for the Arts — the Mint boasts one of the largest collections in the Southeast and is committed to engaging and inspiring members of the global community.

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