

ISABELLA  
STEWART GARDNER  
MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum's Board of Trustees extends \$10 million reward for return of 13 works of stolen art**



*Johannes Vermeer, The Concert, about 1665, oil on canvas*

BOSTON (January 2018) - The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum's Board of Trustees voted to extend its \$10 million reward for information that leads directly to the successful return of 13 works of art stolen from the Museum in 1990.

"This reward demonstrates the commitment of the Museum and its Board of Trustees to the recovery of these important works," said Steve Kidder, President of the Gardner Museum's Board. "We are the only buyer for these works, and they belong in their rightful home."

In 1997, the Museum increased its reward offer from \$1 million to \$5 million, making it the largest private reward in the world at that time. Last May, the Board agreed to increase the reward again to \$10 million with a deadline of Dec. 31, 2017. The strategy generated some very good leads that continue to be pursued.

"One good piece of information might just lead us to a recovery. We are looking for quality, not quantity — and facts, not theories," said Anthony Amore, the Museum's Director of Security. "We hope anyone with knowledge that might further our work will come forward."

The reward is fully backed by the Museum and its Board of Trustees. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Museum directly, and complete confidentiality is guaranteed.

In the early morning hours of March 18, 1990, a pair of thieves disguised as Boston police officers entered the Gardner Museum and left with 13 works of art including Vermeer's painting, *The Concert*, Rembrandt's *Christ in the Storm on the Sea of Galilee* and *A Lady and Gentleman in Black*, Manet's *Chez Tortoni*, and Edgar Degas' *Leaving the Paddock*.

It remains the largest art heist in history with more than \$500 million of artwork taken from the Museum. *The Concert*, one of only 36 paintings by Vermeer, and Rembrandt's *Christ in the Storm on the Sea of Galilee*, his only known seascape, are considered amongst the most valuable stolen objects in the world.

“Typically stolen masterpieces are either recovered soon after a theft or a generation later,” Amore said. “We remain optimistic that these works will ultimately be recovered.”

The Museum will release its first ever book about the theft called, “Stolen” in March 2018. It is designed to be a pictorial essay and guide of the 13 missing works of art.

**Anyone with information should contact Anthony Amore by calling (617) 278-5114 or emailing [theft@gardnermuseum.org](mailto:theft@gardnermuseum.org).**

For more information please visit [gardnermuseum.org/resources/theft](http://gardnermuseum.org/resources/theft)

For images of missing works, please [click here](#).

---

*The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum - a magical creation of one woman's daring vision - invites you to awaken your senses and be transported. Modeled after a Venetian palazzo, unforgettable galleries surround a luminous courtyard and are home to masters such as Rembrandt, Raphael, Titian, Michelangelo, Whistler, and Sargent. The Renzo Piano wing provides a platform for contemporary artists, musicians, and scholars, and serves as an innovative venue where creativity is celebrated in all of its forms.*

---

*Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum • 25 Evans Way Boston MA 02215 • Hours: Open Daily from 11a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursdays until 9 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. • Admission: Adults \$15; Seniors \$12; Students \$5; Free for members, children under 18, everyone on his/her birthday, and all named “Isabella” • \$2 off admission with a same-day Museum of Fine Arts, Boston ticket • For information 617 566 1401 • Box Office 617 278 5156 • [www.gardnermuseum.org](http://www.gardnermuseum.org)*

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Kathy Sharpless  
Director of Marketing and Communications  
617-278-5185; 617-584-6151  
[ksharpless@isgm.org](mailto:ksharpless@isgm.org)