



INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS - NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

1 East 78th Street

New York, NY 10075-0178

TEL: 212/992-5800 • FAX: 212/992-5807

For Immediate Release:

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

N-463, 2007-08

Contact: John Beckman

212. 998.6848

john.beckman@nyu.edu

PHILIPPE DE MONTEBELLO TO JOIN FACULTY OF NYU'S INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS

Long-Time Director of Metropolitan Museum of Art Will Also Act as Special Advisor for NYU's Abu Dhabi Campus

New York University today announces the appointment of Philippe de Montebello – one of the most prominent, admired, and respected figures in the world of art and museums – as the first Fiske Kimball Professor in the History and Culture of Museums at NYU's renowned Institute of Fine Arts. His appointment will be effective as of January 2009, or upon the arrival of his successor as director of The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The announcement will be made at a black-tie dinner tonight celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Institute of Fine Arts (IFA) to honor real estate developer, patron, and philanthropist Sheldon H. Solow, an emeritus trustee of the IFA.

Mariët Westermann, director of the IFA and vice chancellor for NYU Abu Dhabi, said, "There is no voice more recognizable, more cogent, or more powerful in the world of art and museums than that of Philippe de Montebello. His extraordinary leadership of the Metropolitan Museum of Art – one of the world's greatest museums – contributed incalculably to New York's stature as an international capital of art, culture, and ideas, and in so doing he has vastly improved the public's respect for, understanding of, and love of art. We at the Institute have known him as an outstanding neighbor, alumnus, and colleague, and so we are very pleased that he will bring his wisdom, his experience, his vitality, his insight, and his vision to NYU and the Institute of Fine Arts."

Mr. de Montebello said: "I am thrilled to be rejoining the IFA as a member of its distinguished faculty. In this new phase of my career, I will move from a life of action in the art field to one of reflection—and, of course, pedagogy. My courses and seminars will be about ideas, not museum management or practice, but through them I hope to inspire new generations of gifted graduate students in art history to look favorably on opportunities in the museum world of the future."

-more-

75
YEARS

