



l to r: Janet McDonald Hobby, Melissa Kepke Grobmyer, Cecily Earhart Horton, Kelly Ulcak, and Tabitha Caldwell Doby.

MKG Art Management LLC Expands on 10th Anniversary

August 2008

Melissa Kepke Grobmyer and **Cecily Earhart Horton**, longtime partners in Houston's premier art advising and appraising firm, proudly announce their **10 year anniversary**. This ten year achievement also marks the expansion of the company with two new partners, **Janet McDonald Hobby** and **Tabitha Caldwell Doby**.

Janet McDonald Hobby joined MKG as Partner in early 2008.

Janet comes to MKG after making a significant impact in the non-profit sector in Houston. Janet chaired the Menil Collections' twentieth anniversary gala, which raised over two million dollars, and the Glassell School's VIVID art auction and 25th birthday, which raised a record amount for the event. Janet was instrumental in Houston Habitat for Humanity's Angel Lane Project in collaboration with Oprah Winfrey which built 65 new homes for Hurricane Katrina evacuees.

Always an avid collector of Modern and contemporary art, Janet chaired the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts' Visual Art Committee. Under her leadership the committee commissioned two significant public artworks for Houston – *Wall Drawing* by Sol LeWitt and *In Minds*, a cast bronze two-part sculpture, by Tony Cragg. Shortly thereafter, Janet consulted with a private equity firm in commissioning a large-scale, public water sculpture by Jene Highstein to anchor the development of a 17- acre urban mixed-use campus.

Janet brings MKG her experience in research, artist/institution collaboration, logistics, and site-specific installations. Janet is on the Board of Trustees at St. John's School and has served as a board committee

member at The Museum of Fine Arts' Glassell School and at The Menil Collection. After joining MKG she immediately immersed her talents in our most important corporate projects.

Tabitha Caldwell Doby became Partner at MKG in Spring 2008.

With a Master's degree in Exhibition Planning and Design from The Philadelphia College of Art and Design, Tabitha worked in such venues as the Library of Congress, The Barnes Foundation, The Philadelphia Arts Alliance, and The Academy of Natural Sciences before joining MKG in 2004. Tabitha has filled multiple important roles at MKG such as Director of Rotating Exhibitions, Art Consultant, and Fine Art Appraiser.

Tabitha became MKG's Director of Appraisals in 2007 and is widely recognized as one of Houston's premier and most expert fine art appraisers. She has appraised collections as varied as the Torch Collection of early Texas Art, collections at The University of Texas at Austin, paintings at Holocaust Museum Houston, and other major collections of Modern and Contemporary Art. Tabitha is currently managing ongoing projects for many private art collections in Houston, Austin, Santa Fe and New York City.

MKG Art Management's **tenth anniversary** celebration will take place in October by invitation only.

For more information contact Melissa Grobmyer at 713-526-4146 or mkg@mkgart.com.

MKG Art Management, LLC, offers expert advice to private, corporate, and institutional clients. Client services include art acquisition and divestment, accredited art appraisals, art collection management, art leases, curatorial services, art education programs, and publication management and editing.