

Tang Teaching Museum Receives \$1 Million Grant from Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund

*Grant Creates Endowment to Expand Museum's Interdisciplinary
Programming and Community Engagement Initiatives*

Tang Exhibition, I was a double, to be presented at Illumination Fund

*New Work by Turner Prize-Nominee Ciara Phillips
Will be Created for Exhibition
February 13 – June 5, 2015*

Saratoga Springs, N.Y. (February 12, 2015) – The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College has received a \$1 million challenge grant from the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund. The one-to-one matching grant will help build the institution's endowment and support expansion of the Tang's programming serving Skidmore students, faculty, the Saratoga Springs community, and visitors to the New York Capital Region.

The Tang's interdisciplinary approach, which has become a model for university art museums across the nation, will be strengthened by the Tisch Illumination Fund grant. A hallmark of the Museum's programming is the combining of visual and performing arts with other fields—from economics to astrophysics to organic chemistry—to create exhibitions, events, and performances that explore new ideas and perspectives. The Tang's outreach and education programming includes artist-led workshops and seminars, object-based learning for community groups and public schools, student-curated exhibitions, and open houses for the Skidmore community and beyond. This matching grant will help to endow the key position of the Assistant Director for Engagement and fund programming to reach new audiences, including school-age students and adults in traditionally underserved areas.

"Our mission as a teaching museum is central to everything we do at the Tang," said Ian Berry, the Museum's Dayton Director. "We are grateful to the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund for their continued support and for their recognition of our work fostering meaningful exchange and dialogue in our community, and new ways of learning for our audiences here in Saratoga and beyond."

In addition to the matching grant, the Illumination Fund will host a New York City showcase of works from *I was a double*, curated by the Tang's Ian Berry and composer David Lang. First presented at the Tang Teaching Museum from July 5, 2014 through January 4 of this year, the exhibition explores musical interpretations of artworks and the intersection of music and the fine arts more broadly. For this version of the exhibition, Turner Prize-nominee Ciara Phillips will create a new work based on her recent exhibition at London's Tate Modern.

I was a double will be on view at the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund February 13 – June 5, 2015, and will be open to the public by appointment during public open hours. Reservations may be requested through Emelyn Arias at earias@lmtif.org.

I was a double

Curated by Ian Berry and David Lang

Presented at the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund, 156 West 56th Street, NYC

Public Open Hours:

- Thursday, February 19: noon – 5 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 25: noon – 5 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 22: noon – 5 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 6: noon – 5 p.m.

“We are proud to expand our support of the Tang Teaching Museum, an institution that continues to pioneer new ways of integrating the fine arts with a diversity of disciplines, creating deeply meaningful experiences for the communities it serves—whether through on-campus scholarship or access and education initiatives that serve public schools and build audiences well beyond the region,” said Laurie M. Tisch, President of the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund.

The Illumination Fund has been a supporter of the Tang Teaching Museum since 2008, when the Fund provided a \$1.2 million gift as part of a matching challenge that enabled Skidmore faculty to expand the use of Museum resources in their coursework, and support programs with visiting artists and scholars from across the globe.

The Tang Teaching Museum was founded in 2000 and marks its 15th anniversary in 2015 with a series of exhibitions and programs to be announced in the coming months. *Nicholas Krushenick: Electric Soup*, a survey exploring the artist’s influential legacy, is currently on view through August 16, 2015.

About the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund

The Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund is a New York City-based foundation that strives to improve access and opportunity for all New Yorkers. Founded in 2007 by philanthropist Laurie M. Tisch, the Illumination Fund plays an active role in supporting innovative approaches to education, the arts, healthy food and civic service in order to illuminate strategies that transform our urban landscape. For more information about the Illumination Fund, visit: <http://www.lmtilluminationfund.org/>.

Visiting the Tang Teaching Museum

The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., is open noon – 5 p.m., Tuesday – Sunday, with extended hours through 9 p.m. on Thursdays during the academic year, and is closed on Mondays and major holidays. The Tang hosts some 40,000 visitors annually, ranging from local students who visit through school programs to museum-goers from around the globe. For more information call 518-580-8080 or visit www.skidmore.edu/tang.

###

For media in the capital region, please contact:

Michael Janairo

Assistant Director for Engagement, Tang Teaching Museum

518-580-5542

mjanairo@skidmore.edu

For media outside the capital region, please contact:

Maria Kucinski

Resnicow + Associates

212-671-5173

mkucinski@resnicow.com

Isabel Sinistore

Resnicow + Associates

212-671-5175

isinistore@resnicow.com