

**TEFAF MUSEUM RESTORATION FUND AND AMGUEDDFA CYMRU -
NATIONAL MUSEUM WALES TO RESTORE PRICELESS MANET**national
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Édouard Manet (1832-1883), *Portrait de Monsieur Jules Dejoux*, 1879. Oil on canvas. 81 x 66 cm (31 7/8 x 26 in.). © Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales.

(Amsterdam, The Netherlands; New York, NY) August 25, 2021 – The European Fine Art Foundation (TEFAF) is pleased to announce Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales, is to receive €20,000, as the second recipient of this year's **TEFAF Museum Restoration Fund**, an annual grant created in support of the international art community's vital work to preserve artistic and cultural heritage.

With TEFAF's funding, National Museum Wales will restore Édouard Manet's (1832-1883) *Portrait de Monsieur Jules Dejoux*, 1879, a piece the museum attained in 2019 after more than ninety years in the same private family collection. Jules Dejoux (1815-1894) was not only Manet's older

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cousin, but also an important figure in the artists life. He was a successful lawyer, appointed to the Imperial Court in France in 1849. After the death of the artist's father in 1862, Dejoux was appointed as chief counsellor and guide to Manet and his brothers and Manet relied on him in key ways throughout his life. During the siege of Paris in 1870 the artist sent valuables to his cousin for safekeeping. Dejoux was also appointed by Manet as his executor and was part of the committee that organized the 1884 exhibition following Manet's death, alongside Emile Zola, painters such as Fantin-Latour and dealers like Durand-Ruel and Georges Petit. This portrait was included in that exhibition.

This oil on canvas work, originally owned by Dejoux, has remained in a relatively untouched condition, which is rare for a work of this period. The project will involve an exciting technical examination and conservation, leading to an improved understanding of the portrait, its presentation, and legibility as an artwork. Funding from TEFAF will additionally support historical research conducted by National Museum Wales to place *Portrait de Monsieur Jules Dejoux* into its proper art historical context, particularly as it relates to the other three Manet works in the museum's collection: *Effect of Snow at Petit Montrouge* (1870-71), *Argenteuil, Boat* (1874), and *The Rabbit* (1881).

"This prestigious award from The European Fine Art Foundation (TEFAF) will enable National Museum Wales to restore and then re-introduce Manet's *Portrait of Monsieur Jules Dejoux* to the public after more than 90 years. As a registered charity, we are extremely grateful to TEFAF for their support and would also like to thank the Friends of the Museum and The Finnis Scott Foundation for their contributions." Said David Anderson, Director General Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales. "Amgueddfa Cymru houses one of the world's great collections of 19th- and early 20th-century French art, thanks to the generous bequests

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of the sisters Gwendoline and Margaret Davies. Manet's portrait of Jules Dejouy will be very much at home here."

"The painting is currently under a veil of surface dirt and discoloured varnish. Removing these will likely recover the subtlety in the painting and also re saturate the image to recover a sense of depth." Said Adam Webster, Chief Conservator Art, Natural Sciences & Presentive Conservations at National Museum Wales, "Another important aspect of this project is the technical examination using ultraviolet light, raking light, infrared reflectography and x-radiography. These should give fresh insights into Manet's working methods, for example in compositional changes and the painting process. Examination of pigments and layer structure with microscopy will also contribute to this and contribute to the body of knowledge existing on Manet's technique."

"Partnering with National Museum Wales on this project of discovery, scholarship, and conservation is a privilege and a pleasure," said Ashok Roy, former Director of Science and Collections at the National Gallery in London and TEFAF Museum Restoration Fund Committee Member. "The TEFAF Museum Restoration Fund is honored to help preserve this important, and up until now, little-known picture by a cherished artist for generations to come."



Face detail of Édouard Manet's *Portrait de Monsieur Jules Dejouy*, 1879. The technical examination, using infra-red reflectography and x-radiography, will explore the materials and techniques employed by the artist.



Hand detail of Édouard Manet's *Portrait de Monsieur Jules Dejouy*, 1879. The project will examine cracks in the paint around the hand and cravat, which could indicate changes in the composition.

ABOUT THE TEFAF MUSEUM RESTORATION FUND

The TEFAF Museum Restoration Fund was established in 2012 in order to support and promote the professional restoration and related scholarly research of significant museum artworks. Championing art in all its forms, applications for its grants are open to museums from all over the world and artworks from any age. Each year, a maximum of € 50,000 will be allocated to projects. The Committee of independent experts usually selects two winners to receive each a maximum of € 25,000 to support their restoration project.

The second winner of this year's TEFAF Museum Restoration Fund is The Beirut Glass Project, a collaboration between the British Museum and the American University of Beirut. The TEFAF Museum Restoration Fund will celebrate its 10-year anniversary in Maastricht in 2022. Since the founding of the fund, almost 20 museum projects have been supported. Please find more information on past projects on TEFAF Stories.

TEFAF Talks by Financial Times

Eight ancient glass vessels which were severely damaged in the Beirut port explosion in Lebanon and a Manet painting in one of the best impressionist collections outside of France. These are winners of the TEFAF Museum Restoration Fund 2021. Curators and restorers will go into a live conversation to discuss the challenging projects, the restoration ahead during TEFAF Online 2021, on September 10, from 7-8 pm CET. Participants on the dialogue are Nadine Panayot Haroun (Archaeological Museum, American University of Beirut) James Fraser (The British Museum) and Adam Webster (National Museum of Wales) and will be moderated by Jan Dalley (Financial Times). Register for TEFAF Online at www.tefaf.com

NOTE TO EDITORS**ABOUT TEFAF**

TEFAF, established in 1988, Maastricht, The Netherlands, stands for The European Fine Art Foundation. It is a not-for-profit organization that champions expertise, scholarship, and variety in the global art community and is highly respected for its meticulous vetting standards. TEFAF annual fairs take place in Maastricht and New York. Proven by the exhibitors selected for its fairs, TEFAF acts as an expert guide for both private and institutional collectors, and inspires lovers and buyers of art worldwide. TEFAF is governed by a Board of Trustees (BoT), consisting of 20 members from the art and antiques community. The majority of the BoT are TEFAF exhibitors, and it is guided by an Executive Committee (EC), composed of seven members appointed by the BoT.

ABOUT AMGUEDDFA CYMRU - NATIONAL MUSEUM WALES

Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales is a family of seven museums and a collections centre, which are all free to enter thanks to the support of the Welsh Government. Together, it is home to the nation’s art, history, heritage and science collections, which will continue to grow so that they can be used and enjoyed by both present and future generations.

One of its museums, St Fagans National Museum of History which explores the history and culture of Wales, won Art Fund Museum of the Year 2019.

As a registered charity, Amgueddfa Cymru is grateful for all support. The events and exhibitions programme is supported by players of the People’s Postcode Lottery.

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