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Friday, 07 December 2012 00:05 KATE SWEENEY

## NEW DIRECTOR AT FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM IN CAMBRIDGE

The University of Cambridge has appointed Tim Knox to succeed Timothy Potts as director at the Fitzwilliam Museum. Tim Knox is currently Director of the Sir John Soane's Museum in London and will assume his new role in April 2013.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, said: "Tim Knox has a tremendous reputation as a museum director, who has shown at the Soane Museum a sensitivity to the legacy of the founder coupled with a creative vision. I am delighted that he will bring these abilities to bear at the Fitzwilliam."

The Fitzwilliam Museum has enjoyed record breaking visitor numbers in recent years, with exhibitions including Vermeer's Women and The Search for Immortality: Tomb Treasures of Han China drawing tens of thousands of extra visits to these and the permanent collections.

The Museum building was opened to the public in 1848 and since then the Fitzwilliam has continued to grow. Today the Museum has one of the finest collections of paintings, drawings and prints in Britain, with well-known works by Rubens, Poussin, Titian, Veronese, Constable, Monet and Picasso, to name but a few. It is also known for its remarkable collections from the ancient world, with artefacts from Egypt, Greece, Rome, Cyprus and the Near East. Throughout the Museum there are significant collections of East Asian art, Chinese, Japanese and Korean; breath-taking illuminated manuscripts and outstanding collections of pottery, porcelain, glass, sculpture and coins.

Professor Martin Daunton, Chair of the Fitzwilliam Museum Syndicate, said: "The Fitzwilliam Museum is looking ahead to its bicentenary in 2016, and I am confident that Tim Knox will take us forward into our third century with respect for the past and enthusiasm for the future. The Fitzwilliam Museum is one of the world's greatest university museums that works with the other major collections in Cambridge and with the academic departments to make a significant contribution to the wider region. We look forward to working with Tim Knox."

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