



Gilles Neret-Minet
Étude Neret-Minet Tessier & Sarrou
Commissaires-Priseurs
8, Rue Saint-Marc
75002 Paris FRANCE

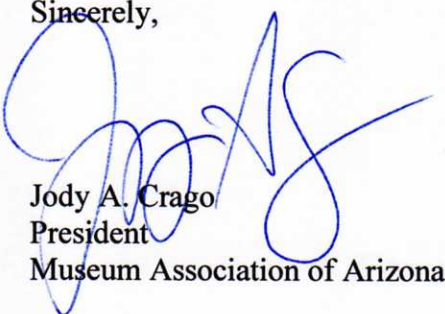
Dear M Neret-Minet,

I am writing on behalf of the Museum Association of Arizona, a state-wide organization representing more than 400 individual museums and historical associations, to urge you to stop the sale of the Hopi and other Pueblo sacred materials. We stand together with our colleague, Dr. Robert Breunig of the Museum of Northern Arizona, along with countless others across the world, and ask that you to return the katsina friends to their true owners, the communities and ceremonial organizations from which they came in Arizona and New Mexico.

As museum professionals, we understand the importance of preserving and sharing great art, but these materials are not objects and do not belong in a gallery, museum or private collection. No museum would consider claiming ownership of Native American sacred materials of this type, nor would we ignore the beliefs and deep feelings of our fellow citizens. Art does not exist in a vacuum, but only has value in as much as it honors and respects its makers and their values.

We ask that you respect not only the art you see in these sacred materials, but the human beings whose lives have been disrupted by the display and proposed sale of their katsina friends. Please, do not auction these materials, but work with those of us who live and work with these communities to find a way to bring them home.

Sincerely,



Jody A. Crago
President
Museum Association of Arizona