

Toledo Museum Announces Review of Items Received From Suspect Dealer

By TOM MASHBERG

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The Toledo Museum of Art has announced that it is reviewing the legality of 64 Indian artifacts it obtained from Subhash Kapoor, a former Madison Avenue art dealer who is accused by United States officials of operating one of the largest antiquities smuggling rings uncovered on American soil.

On its website the museum posted photographs of the items it is reviewing, part of its effort to determine their provenance.

So far, the museum said, one item, a bronze statue of the Hindu deity Ganesh, purchased in 2006 for \$245,000, resembles a statue stolen from a temple in the village of Sripuranthan, in the state of Tamil Nadu, in the early 2000s.

Another bronze statue stolen from the same temple, a Dancing Shiva, was purchased from Mr. Kapoor in 2008 by the National Gallery of Australia for \$5 million. The Australian museum conceded earlier this year that the Shiva was likely looted by confederates of Mr. Kapoor and has agreed to return it to India.

The Toledo museum said that it bought eight items from Mr. Kapoor and that, in addition, he had donated 56 small terra cotta items to the museum.

Mr. Kapoor was arrested in Germany in 2011 and is in jail in India

awaiting trial. American officials say that over several decades he smuggled and sold illicit items surpassing \$100 million in value. The Manhattan District Attorney's Office has been prosecuting his former business associates.