

Lady's choice First lady Supriya Jindal takes seriously her role in selecting Louisiana art to be displayed in the Governor's Mansion by Robin Miller, Arts Writer



Bill Feig / The Advocate

First lady Supriya Jindal talks about Hunt Slonem's painting, which hangs in the Louisiana Governor's Mansion's drawing room. Slonem based the painting on Gustav Klimt's 'Tree of Life,' filling the tree with words that are symbolic of Gov. Bobby Jindal's administration. Supriya Jindal has chosen to hang many paintings by Louisiana artists in the mansion.

James Michalopoulos' New Orleans Vieux Carre scene hangs directly across from Hunt Slonem's massive painting especially created for the Jindal administration.

Slonem used Gustav Klimt's "Tree of Life" as a basis for this piece. Two angel-like images stand in front of the tree, which is filled with words.

"The words are symbolic of Bobby," Jindal said.

Another of Slonem's paintings, "Migration," can be found in the dining room. This is a massive piece that covers the better part of an entire wall.

Though Slonem lives in New York, he is definitely a Louisiana artist, having studied at Tulane University and now owning plantation homes in Jeanerette and Batchelor. He spends several days each month at both homes, and his work is included in Louisiana museum collections.

