

Phoenix Art Museum

News Release

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Phoenix Art Museum exhibits treasured works by European masters from renowned international collection

Selections from The Schorr Collection *showcases rare works by artists including Antony Van Dyck and Bartolomeo Manfredi*

PHOENIX (March 21, 2017) – Phoenix Art Museum is the latest recipient of a generous long-term loan from the Schorr Collection, one of the most important collections of Old Master and 19th-century paintings in the world. Beginning April 26, *Selections from The Schorr Collection* will be on view and will feature works by Antony Van Dyck, Bartolomeo Manfredi, and Gerrit van Honthorst, among others. The Schorr Collection was founded by David and Hannah Lewis, a London-based couple dedicated to making their collection of masterpieces accessible to communities around the world. This will be the second time Phoenix Art Museum has received a long-term loan from the Schorr Collection.

“We are delighted to welcome new works from the Schorr Collection to Phoenix Art Museum,” said Amada Cruz, the Sybil Harrington and CEO of Phoenix Art Museum. “The collection is unparalleled in its breadth and selection, and we are grateful to the Lewis family for their commitment to making great art accessible to audiences all over the world. We look forward to sharing their generosity with our visitors, allowing our entire community to enjoy these historic treasures.”

With their first acquisition in 1967, the Lewises began collecting art for the purpose of finding pieces to hang on the walls of their home in London. That initial purchase sparked a passion that would consume their lives for decades to come, and forever transform the galleries of museums all over the world. The Schorr Collection now numbers more than 500 works, ranging from 15th-century devotional images to 19th-century French impressionist landscapes and pieces by 20th-century Modern Masters. With a range of works from some of the most-recognized names in European painting, including Peter Paul Rubens, Tintoretto, El Greco, J.M.W. Turner, Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres, Eugene Delacroix, Lucas Cranach the Elder, Camille Pissarro, and Alfred Sisley, the collection is one of the most comprehensive of its kind, and one of the largest private collections in the UK.

The selection coming to Phoenix Art Museum highlights the collection’s strengths in 17th-century Italian and Dutch painting as well as some smaller pieces by artists no less canonical. This significant group will include a full-length 17th-century portrait by Antony van Dyck from his Genoa period and the *Death of Seneca* by Gerrit van Honthorst. There will also be two woodcuts by Albrecht Durer, as well as three of Francisco Goya’s most celebrated series: *Los Caprichos*, *Disasters of War*, and *Los Proverbios* (19th century). Other works on paper include pieces by Käthe Kollwitz, Mary Cassatt, and Alberto Giacometti.

Beyond their thoughtful efforts invested in collecting, the Lewis family has dedicated themselves to the task of sharing their art with museum-goers in the United States, the United Kingdom, and beyond. They have lent works on a short- and long-term basis to museums and institutions in England, such as the Palace of Westminster in London and the Walker Gallery in Liverpool, and in farther-reaching destinations such as Tel Aviv and across the United States. By sharing these works, David and Hannah Lewis have ignited a passion and appreciation for these rare works in visitors far beyond their native England.

SPECIAL EVENT – Community Lecture by David Lewis on April 26, 2017

Phoenix Art Museum will partner with Valley of the Sun Jewish Community Center (VOSJCC) to host a community presentation by David and Hannah Lewis, founders of the internationally-renowned Schorr Collection. Mr. Lewis will speak on his role as co-founder of the Commission for Looted Art in Europe, which seeks to restore objects of art looted by the Nazis from 1933-1945 to their rightful owners or their descendants. Mrs. Lewis, who was born in Poland in 1937, will also speak on her experiences as a survivor of the Holocaust. The couple will also share their unique perspectives on London’s

Jewish community in 2017. The event will be hosted at the VOSJCC, located at 12701 N. Scottsdale Road in Scottsdale, on April 26, beginning at 7:30 pm. Tickets to the community lecture and discussion are offered at \$10 to the general public, and \$5 for members of Phoenix Art Museum or the VOSJCC. Tickets are available at <http://bit.ly/LewisAtVOSJCC>. Please call 602.257.1880 for more details.

About the Exhibition

Selections from The Schorr Collection will be on view beginning April 26 in the Harnett and Ullman Galleries. This exhibition is organized by Phoenix Art Museum and features works drawn exclusively from the Schorr Collection. Its premiere is made possible through the generous support of Friends of European Art.

Admission is free for Museum Members; past and present members of the Military; Maricopa Community College students, staff, and faculty (with ID); and youth aged 5 and under. Entrance to the exhibition is included in general admission for the general public. During voluntary-donation, free-access times, the exhibition is offered free to the general public. Free-access times include Wednesdays from 3pm-9pm, the First Fridays of every month from 6-10pm, and the second weekend of each month (Second Saturdays from 10am – 5pm and Second Sundays from noon – 5pm). For a full breakdown of general admission prices and hours, see <http://bit.ly/VisitPhxArt>.

To request interviews and high-resolution photography, contact Phoenix Art Museum's Marketing and Communications Office, at 602.257.2105 or email margaree.bigler@phxart.org.

About the Schorr Collection

The Schorr Collection is a privately held collection and one of the largest of its kind of recent formation in the UK. While individual pieces have been loaned to many public institutions in the UK and abroad, the Schorr Collection is a *museé imaginaire*, or “museum without walls,” rather than a permanent display. Over half the collection is on long-term loan to museums and public bodies in the UK and abroad. In 2011, a two-volume catalog written by Christopher Wright was published in conjunction with an exhibition of 60 works from the collection at the Walker Gallery in Liverpool. *The Schorr Collection: Catalogue of Old Master and Nineteenth-Century Paintings* is the first time the collection has been seen in its entirety.

About Phoenix Art Museum

Phoenix Art Museum has provided access to visual arts and educational programs in Arizona for more than 50 years and is the largest art museum in the Southwestern United States. Critically acclaimed national and international exhibitions are shown alongside the Museum's permanent collection of more than 18,000 works of American, Asian, European, Latin American, Western American, modern and contemporary art, and fashion design. The Museum also presents festivals, a comprehensive film program, live performances and educational programs designed to enlighten, entertain and stimulate visitors of all ages. Visitors also enjoy vibrant photography exhibitions through the Museum's landmark partnership with the Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona. To learn more about Phoenix Art Museum, visit PhxArt.org, or call the 24-hour recorded information line at (602) 257-1222.

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