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PRESS RELEASE (for immediate release)

Chagall Among Works Unveiled at Minnesota Marine Art Museum

Winona, MN (September 23, 2018) - Minnesota Marine Art Museum

The Minnesota Marine Art Museum (MMAM) in Winona, MN, unveiled four new works to be added to the museum's collections at a fundraiser event on Sunday evening, September 23rd. Each piece represents a different style and era, ranging from an 18th century portrait to a contemporary commissioned work, all fitting into the museum's mission to highlight great art inspired by water.

The showstopper for the event, attended by museum supporters and volunteers, was Marc Chagall's painting *Flower Arrangement Near the Seaside* (c. 1959-1966). This piece features a brilliant moon reflected in the water surrounded by a passionately colored red Mediterranean landscape. Love, a common theme for Chagall, is embodied by a couple embracing in a floating boat. A flower arrangement, mimicking a theater curtain, is drawn aside to reveal the scene. Chagall's candescent painting will be on immediate display in the MMAM's Stephen and Barbara Slaggie Family Gallery of European Art.

Two of the new works will be a part the upcoming exhibition *This is New York*, opening October 2, that will feature interpretations of the famous urban landscape throughout the city's history. *View of Central Park* (1932), a graphite drawing by artist Charles Sheeler, depicts the view from the window of the office of Abby Aldrich Rockefeller, a founder of the Museum of Modern Art, for whom the drawing was made. The other New York scene is a contemporary work commissioned specifically for *This is New York*. Artist Len Tantillo's *East River Waterfront, c. 1662* (2018) conjures the lower east side of Manhattan as it was during the Dutch colonial period. Rounding out the group of new paintings is a 1782 portrait of British naval commander Admiral George Brydges Rodney, by famed English landscape and portrait artist Thomas Gainsborough.

According to MMAM Curator of Collections and Exhibitions Jon Swanson, the museum "welcomes a painting by Marc Chagall. Not only is it beautiful, colorful, and filled with many of the themes and motifs he repeats throughout his long career, Chagall's influence on and inspiration for many other artists in the collection cannot be understated."

The Minnesota Marine Art Museum is a 501(c)3 nonprofit arts organization owned by its members. The Museum's mission is to engage visitors in meaningful visual arts experiences through education and exhibitions that explore the ongoing and historic human relationship with water.