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PRESS RELEASE (for immediate release)

***Washington Crossing the Delaware* leaves MMAM**

WINONA, MN (April 22 2022) - Minnesota Marine Art Museum

One of two authentic surviving versions of Emanuel Leutze's (1851) *Washington Crossing the Delaware* will be offered by Christie's at its 20th-century evening sale in May 2022 in New York. The painting is privately owned and was loaned to the Minnesota Marine Art Museum (MMAM) from March 2015 to March 2022 for exhibition purposes only. The painting was not intended to be permanently added to the MMAM's collection, despite it being reported otherwise in a [2015 article](#) that was published in the Minneapolis Star Tribune. No proceeds from the sale or any related transactions will benefit the museum.

According to a Christie's spokesperson, "per agreement with the consignor, this work is being sold as 'Property from a Prominent Private Collection.'" MMAM does not know the intent for the sale of the artwork.

Emanuel Leutze's 1851 painting, *Washington Crossing the Delaware*, was exhibited in the MMAM's Manoogian Gallery, along with a number of historical works of art, including works created by Leutze's students Worthington Whittredge and Albert Bierstadt. Some works in this exhibition are owned by MMAM and others are on loan to the museum.

"We enjoyed exhibiting this iconic, historic, and popular painting," said Scott Pollock, MMAM's Executive Director. "It paired well with many other artists we have and have had on display, including historical works of art by Pablo Picasso, Marc Chagall, Claude Monet, Georgia O'Keeffe, Mary Cassatt, John James Audubon, and James Hope."

As a destination museum with a deep commitment to serving its community, MMAM has emerged as a unique art museum that is not only describing what marine art is, but pushing the boundaries of what marine art can be. "We are beginning to interrogate who has defined what great art inspired by water is, and will be, and we will be using the next

decade to diversify our collections and exhibitions, working with a number of public art museums committed to doing this work," says Pollock.

While there is no debate that *Washington Crossing the Delaware* has had a significant impact on American culture, appearing on U.S. postage stamps, the back of the New Jersey State quarter, and in countless textbooks, and now clearly demonstrated by the value the work has in the private market, MMAM is committed to collaborating with educational organizations, public museums, and private collectors to present expansive narratives on marine art and exhibit equally internationally recognized artworks in its galleries.

On May 18, International Museum Day, the Minnesota Marine Art Museum will announce its ambitious gallery plans for the next three years, and use this moment to diversify the museum's collecting strategies and expand its exhibiting partners.

About MMAM:

The Minnesota Marine Art Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit art museum that engages visitors in meaningful visual art experiences through education and exhibitions that explore the ongoing and historic human relationship with water. Located in Winona, Minnesota, a short distance from Minneapolis, Minnesota and Chicago, Illinois, the purpose-built museum is located on the banks of the Mississippi River and boasts six galleries, an educational and events space, and a destination retail shop on its seven acre riverside campus. It is through this surprising diversity that MMAM is not only describing what marine art is, but pushing the boundaries of what marine art can be.