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To Secure Museum's Future:

BERKSHIRE MUSEUM TO OFFER 13 WORKS AT AUCTION

PITTSFIELD, MA (April 10, 2018) – Thirteen of 39 works approved for sale will be offered at May auctions by Sotheby's, the Berkshire Museum announced today. The sale of Norman Rockwell's *Shuffleton's Barbershop* will be completed with a nonprofit American museum which has agreed to place it on prominent display in its collection and loan the painting to the Norman Rockwell Museum for a period of up to two years.

“We are moving forward to secure the future of the Berkshire Museum. We had identified for deaccession and sale 40 works of the museum's 40,000, protecting the vast majority of the museum's collection,” said Elizabeth McGraw, President of the Museum's Board of Trustees. “We now hope we can raise what the museum needs by offering for sale fewer than half of the works originally anticipated. That's good for the museum and the community we serve.”

On Thursday, April 5, Justice David Lowy of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court approved the joint proposal of the Museum and the Office of the Attorney General (AGO) authorizing the sale of works to generate the \$55 million the museum needs to create a sustainable endowment (\$40 million) and fund needed renovations and repairs to the Museum's more than 100-year-old building. With the sale of *Shuffleton's Barbershop*, and assessments of the value of other works, the Museum hopes sales at auction of 13 other works will raise the needed funds.

At the May auctions, the Museum will be offering these works:

Artist	Title	Auction, date
William Bouguereau	<i>L'Agneau Nouveau-Né</i>	European Art, May 22, 2018
William Bouguereau	<i>Les deux soeurs (La</i>	European Art, May 22, 2018

	<i>Bourrique</i>	
Alexander Calder	<i>Double Arc and Sphere</i>	Contemporary Art Evening, May 16, 2018
Frederic Edwin Church	<i>Valley of Santa Isabel, New Granada</i>	American Art, May 23, 2018
Charles François Daubigny	<i>Paysans allant aux champs (Le Matin)</i>	European Art, May 22, 2018
Adriaen Isenbrant	<i>The Flight into Egypt</i>	Master Paintings, May 22, 2018
Adriaen Isenbrant	<i>The Temptation of Adam and Eve</i>	Master Paintings, May 22, 2018
John La Farge	<i>Magnolia</i>	American Art, May 23, 2018
Henry Moore	<i>Three Seated Women</i>	Impressionist & Modern Art Evening, May 14, 2018
Alberto Pasini	<i>Faubourg de Constantinople</i>	European Art, May 22, 2018
Rembrandt Peale	<i>George Washington</i>	American Art, May 23, 2018
Francis Picabia	<i>Force Comique</i>	Impressionist & Modern Art Evening, May 14, 2018
Norman Rockwell	<i>Blacksmith's Boy – Heel and Toe</i>	American Art, May 23, 2018

The Museum notified the AGO of the identity of the 13 works selected for auction.

The Museum hopes to retain the other 26 works approved for sale, which include Albert Bierstadt's *Giant Redwood Trees of California*, Alexander Calder's *Dancing Torpedo Shape*, and Thomas Moran's *The Last Arrow*.

In addition, in an effort to help keep works sold by the Berkshire Museum in the public domain, Sotheby's and the Museum will offer extended payment terms to public institutions who will do so. While Sotheby's standard payment schedule is 30 days, installments over six months or longer will be available to interested public institutions. *

“We recognize the strong feelings of those opposed to any sale. We worked hard, particularly in the case of *Shuffleton's Barbershop*, to address their concerns and keep the painting in public view and even in the Berkshires for a time. We are hopeful

that the sale of these other 13 works will allow us to hold the remaining works that had been approved for deaccession,” said McGraw.

McGraw said the Museum’s Board of Trustees carefully reviewed all of the 39 works that had been approved for sale, working to protect those works of higher value to fulfilling the museum’s mission of “Bringing people together for experiences that spark creativity and innovative thinking by making inspiring educational connections among art, history, and natural science.”

Further details on the auction will be provided by Sotheby’s.

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*Public institutions that wish to learn more about participating in the auctions should contact Nina del Rio, Head of Sotheby’s Museum Services at nina.delrio@sothebys.com or + 1 212 894 1505.