



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Scott Slaven

(323) 697-2971

sslaven@psmuseum.org

PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM ANNOUNCES ART AUCTION '21

Online event to be hosted by Sotheby's April 9-16, 2021

PALM SPRINGS, CA (February 10, 2021) — Palm Springs Art Museum is pleased to announce Art Auction '21, a biennial signature fundraising event. Hosted by Sotheby's, the exclusively online auction will open for bidding on Sothebys.com at 10:00 a.m. (EST)/7:00 a.m. (PST) on Friday, April 9 and close at 8:00 a.m. (EST)/11:00 a.m. (PST) on Friday, April 16, 2021. Proceeds from the event will provide vital funding for the museum's exhibitions and educational programs, and support the care of the over 12,000 artworks in the permanent collection.

With artwork selected by Louis Grachos, the museum's JoAnn McGrath Executive Director and CEO, and Rochelle Steiner, the organization's Chief Curator & Director of Public Programs and Education, Art Auction '21 presents over 40 pieces by emerging and established artists, with values ranging from \$5,000 to \$100,000. Highlights of the auction include art by Jeffrey Gibson, Lita Albuquerque, Alison Saar, and Nick Cave. Local Coachella Valley area artists featured include Phillip K. Smith III, Andrea Zittel, Blake Baxter, Jim Isermann, and Sara Genn. The complete selection of works will be announced in March.

"The museum's temporary closure as a result of the pandemic has caused an extraordinary financial strain on the organization," says Grachos. "The funds raised through event sponsorship and purchase of donated artworks will provide needed operational support for the museum's three architecturally significant sites—*Frey House II*, the Architecture and Design Center, and the main museum. The proceeds will also ensure that Palm Springs Art Museum remains the city's leading cultural institution and a world-class destination long after the pandemic subsides."

"We are exceptionally grateful that so many artists are supporting Palm Springs Art Museum by donating works to this year's auction," says Steiner. "It has been heartening to see such support for the museum, especially at this challenging time, through wonderful art works. We encourage anyone looking to build their collection to consider these works."

Regarding Sotheby's role in hosting the auction, the organization's Vice Chairman and Head of Advisory Services Nina Del Rio noted, "We are thrilled to be partnering with Palm Springs Art Museum in support of their fundraising initiatives and the care of such a vital California collection. Sotheby's has a

longstanding commitment to supporting art museums and institutions, and we have partnered with numerous non-profit organizations and foundations for charity sales over the years. At a time when museum attendance and in-person gatherings remain constrained by the pandemic, we hope Sotheby's digital platform will help the museum achieve their fundraising goal and spotlight the institution and its mission."

Led by co-chairs Clayton Baldwin and Keith Markovitz, the Art Auction '21 committee includes museum trustees, collectors, and gallerists with deep connections to the Palm Springs community.

For more information about Palm Springs Art Museum exhibitions, programs, and events, please visit psmuseum.org or call (760) 322-4800.

###

About Palm Springs Art Museum

Palm Springs Art Museum is the largest cultural institution in the Coachella Valley and includes three locations in Palm Springs and Palm Desert. The flagship building, located in downtown Palm Springs, features compelling art exhibitions, a vast permanent collection, and the Annenberg Theater, all in a 150,000-square-foot, architecturally significant building. The Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion, features exhibitions and programming that explore the rich topics of architecture and design. In Palm Desert, Palm Springs Art Museum's four-acre Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden is open to the public from sunrise to sunset, seven days a week.