“Highlights of the Collection” showcases impressive breadth of collection, runs through October 14

SHOREVIEW, MINN.— January 23, 2023 — Following its sold-out opening success, the Cafesjian Art Trust (The CAT) will unveil a grand new art exhibition this summer, Highlights of the Cafesjian Art Trust Collection, an exciting opportunity for the public to experience new works exploring the depth and breadth of The CAT’s more than 3,000 piece collection. Paintings, glass sculptures, prints and more will showcase the appreciation of collector Gerard Cafesjian for a variety of artworks, styles and media.

Running from June 1 to October 14, 2023 in the main gallery, Highlights will feature works that Cafesjian amassed over his lifetime. Artists like Sam Gilliam, Jennifer Bartlett, Libenský/Brychtová, Lynn Chadwick, William Morris, René Lalique and more give people a glimpse into the love and passion that Cafesjian had for art. From the abstract to the decorative, there is something in this show for everyone.

Executive director of The CAT, Andy Schlauch, curated the diverse exhibition. “Through this offering, we are thrilled to demonstrate just how widely Cafesjian cast his collecting net. Gerry's passion for art in many forms stitches this entire show together and sets the stage for exhibits to come,” says Schlauch. Visitors to the Highlights show can expect to see studio glass beyond Chihuly including European artists, seascapes and landscapes from the late 19th to the early 20th Century, paintings and prints from the late 20th Century, and decorative works including Murano glass, Lalique and Kosta Boda.

The free CAT Museum is a place where, for the first time, scholars, art lovers, students and the general public are able to study and enjoy a previously private world-class collection of contemporary and modern art, including a large collection of studio art glass. The approximately 3000 pieces that make up the permanent collection of the CAT include studio glass by international artists, with works by Dale Chihuly, Mary Ann 'Toots' Zynsky, Stanislav Libenský and Jaroslava Brychtová, and Modern and Contemporary artwork by Arshile Gorky, Victor Vasarely, Georges Braque and many other world-renowned artists.

The museum, designed by Mohagan Hansen, includes a stunning lobby installation of Cafesjian Chandelier, 1994, by Dale Chihuly; 5000 square feet of exhibition space; a special room adjacent to the exhibition space for the installation of Pergola Ceiling, 1999, by Dale Chihuly; a library and reading room; a catering and events space; modernized offices for the museum staff and a sensory-friendly quiet room.

The museum is open Thursday-Saturday and open for group tours by reservation. Visitors can reserve a space on guided public tours at 10:00 am, 1:00 pm, and 3:00 pm each day. Tours may be scheduled online at cafesjianarttrust.org or by calling 612.359.8991.

The Cafesjian Art Trust Museum (The CAT) is a museum and educational center displaying the private collection of art lover and philanthropist Gerard Cafesjian. The CAT, supported by a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) foundation established in 2016, is located at 4600 Churchill Street, Shoreview, Minn. For more, visit cafesjianarttrust.org.

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