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FOR LIMITED RELEASE
July 19, 2016

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PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF SALE 2418, JUNE 9, 2016:
AMERICAN ART

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Todd Weyman, Swann Galleries' Vice President and Director of Prints & Drawings said, "We are enjoying seeing the market for this annual sale grow, with almost 20% of the sold lots exceeding their high estimates, and competitive bidding for top lots including works by Sanford Robinson Gifford, Steve Wheeler, Miguel Covarrubias and other artists from a wide range of schools and genres."

The sale was headlined by an intense bidding battle over the phone for the previously unrecorded Gifford painting, *Study of the Parthenon*, 1869. The study – which relates to a painting of the same subject, *Ruins of the Parthenon*, held in the collection of the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. – sold for \$269,000.

Works by Brooklyn native Guy C. Wiggins performed well, as did works by fellow New Yorker Paul Cadmus, which saw fierce live online bidding. Miguel Covarrubias' *At Leroy's*, which went on to be illustrated in his book *Negro Drawings*, shows the artist's take on the Harlem Renaissance, harkening back to a period of intense creativity in the city. *At Leroy's* sold for \$60,000.

Abstract works were also popular among collectors in this sale, with Robert Barrell's first piece to come to auction, the oil painting *Cat and Bird*, soaring over its pre-sale estimate to \$23,750. Fellow Indian Space Painter Steve Wheeler's bright *The Halogens II* also eclipsed its high estimate at \$65,000.

Records were set by Elsie Driggs's *Figures Fighting (The Mob)*, which came in at \$11,250, more than five times the previous auction record for the artist, and Gabor Peterdi's *Pacific IJ-VII-89*, oil on canvas, 1989, which set a new record for the artist at auction at \$8,450.

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