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NEWS RELEASE

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**The Muscarelle Museum of Art at William & Mary Launches
Virtual Muscarelle and an Online Exhibition in Honor of 100 Years of Women**

Williamsburg, Va. (Sept. 6, 2018) – The Muscarelle Museum of Art at William & Mary is proud to present the virtual exhibition **“Women with Vision: Masterworks from the Permanent Collection”** in honor of the **100 Years of Women** celebration at William & Mary. **“Women with Vision,”** originally presented in the Muscarelle galleries in spring of 2018, featured paintings, drawings, works on paper and sculptures ranging across four centuries, from 1655 to 2017, by more than thirty women artists. A digital continuation of **“Women with Vision,”** recreated for **Virtual Muscarelle**, launches the Museum’s digital initiatives project found at virtual.muscarelle.org.

A panoramic virtual tour allows the user to explore the original exhibition and view their favorite pieces alongside curatorial research. The virtual exhibition also provides a catalogue of works from the original exhibition and additional artists from the Museum’s permanent collection expressly chosen to further honor the contribution women have made in the arts. Learn more about women in the arts in our **“Beyond the Exhibition”** section, which features information on the **100 Years of Women** commemoration at William & Mary. For optimal viewing experience, we suggest using Google Chrome, Safari, or Opera web browsers.

“Women with Vision,” presents the opportunity to see pieces by historically important artists such as Marguerite Gérard, Julia Margaret Cameron, Rosa Bonheur, Suzanne Valadon, and Mary Cassatt. Twentieth-century leaders include Alice Neel, Louise Nevelson, Miriam Schapiro, Cindy Sherman, and Kiki Smith. Also represented are cutting-edge contemporary artists such as Tania Brassesco, Carole A. Feuerman, Kay Jackson, Alison Saar, and Kara Walker. Notable recent acquisitions include Barbara Holtz’s allegorical painting **“Prospects,”** Sue Johnson’s art historical

reinterpretations, Maria Larsson's inventive digital collage, and Doreen Reid Nakamarra's Dreamtime story.

"We are so happy to have the opportunity to show our diverse and growing collection of women artists in celebration of the official 100th anniversary of the first female undergraduate students admitted to William & Mary," Muscarelle Director Aaron De Groft said. "We are also pleased to announce **Virtual Muscarelle**, a new initiative in conjunction with **Muscarelle on the Move**.

'Women with Vision' is our first exhibition to go online and is expanded beyond what was seen in the Museum." Curator of Digital Initiatives Adriano Marinazzo describes **Virtual Muscarelle** as "the digital lab of the Museum, where new technologies meet art and academic research."

Many of the artists in this exhibition faced prejudice and social barriers as they worked to receive recognition for their accomplishments. We are honored to showcase the remarkable achievements by these artists as we commemorate the twenty-four pioneering women who enrolled at the College as "firsts" in 1918. William & Mary's **100 Years of Women** celebrates the anniversary of the first women admitted as undergraduate students at the College during the fall semester of 1918.

About the Muscarelle Museum of Art

Opened in 1983, the Muscarelle Museum of Art increasingly attracts national and international recognition for its meaningful, experimental, and scholarly exhibitions. Recently such exhibitions include loans from the Medici Collections, landscape paintings from the Uffizi, Golden Age Dutch landscapes from Dulwich Picture Gallery, Michelangelo drawings from the Casa Buonarroti, and Caravaggio paintings from Italian collections. In 2015, the Muscarelle organized the major exhibition "Leonardo: The Idea of Beauty." More recently, the Muscarelle hosted the largest and most important international loan exhibition of Botticelli's works in this country, "Botticelli and the Search for the Divine: Florentine Painting from the Medici to the Bonfires of the Vanities." Known for our blockbuster Old Master exhibitions, the Museum also presents diverse media

from various historical time periods, as well as a commitment to modern and cutting-edge contemporary art, Asian art, Native American art, and photography.

Muscarelle on the Move

The Muscarelle Museum of Art is entering the next phase of its future. The galleries are temporarily closed as we develop The Martha Wren Briggs Center for the Visual Arts, a multi-million dollar, state-of-the-art facility that will increase the footprint of the Muscarelle Museum of Art to allow for greater access and exhibition of the permanent collection. The additional space will allow us to feature visiting masterpieces and traveling exhibitions alongside comparative works from the collection and create greater area for storage, lectures, events, and programming.

The interim period called **“Muscarelle on the Move”** is when Museum staff will work to prepare for the opening of The Martha Wren Briggs Center for the Visual Arts and the Muscarelle Museum of Art. This new facility is expected to open in 2021. **“Muscarelle on the Move”** also encompasses lectures and programming at satellite locations and our online presence known as **Virtual Muscarelle**. Please check Muscarelle.org for updates and annex information.