Andrew L. Schoelkopf Appointed President of the Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA)

Co-founder of Menconi + Schoelkopf Will Lead the Foremost Nonprofit Membership Organization for American Art Dealers

New York – March 2, 2018 – The Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) today announced the appointment of Andrew L. Schoelkopf, co-founder and partner at the New York City gallery Menconi + Schoelkopf, as the organization’s new president. Having served a total of seven years on the ADAA Board of Directors, the ADAA Foundation Board, and The Art Show Committee, Schoelkopf will oversee the nation’s leading nonprofit organization of art dealers, encompassing nearly 180 members from 29 cities across the U.S. Founded in 1962, the ADAA is a leader in establishing best practices for the field and advancing scholarship and connoisseurship. Schoelkopf was officially recognized at the organization’s semi-annual meeting this morning, and his appointment is effective today.

Schoelkopf succeeds Adam Sheffer, Partner and Sales Director at Cheim & Read, who has served as ADAA’s president since 2015. Under Sheffer’s leadership, the ADAA began a strategic planning and restructuring process to ensure the vitality of the organization and better serve its members. It has also welcomed many outstanding new members to the organization and to its governance—continuing to expand the range of specializations and perspectives represented by the ADAA—and has strengthened its visibility and advocacy for galleries on key issues impacting the field.

“It has been an incredible privilege to serve as ADAA President and to advance the Association’s mission in the field and in the greater cultural community,” said Sheffer. “Having worked closely with Andrew over the past seven years, I am confident that his tremendous commitment, experience, and vision for the ADAA will continue to strengthen our role in the arts ecology.”

“One of the most gratifying aspects of my service to the ADAA is my deepening understanding of its unique contributions to the field,” said Schoelkopf. “As part of both the ADAA and ADAA Foundation Boards, and as a member of the Art Show Committee, I have been able to witness first-hand the organization’s achievements and the importance of its role in advancing the field. I am honored to be able to continue this work with the ADAA.”

Schoelkopf added, “I am honored to serve as ADAA President, coming full circle from my first day working in the art world at the founding Art Show in 1989. Membership in the ADAA was then, and remains today, an important symbol of a gallery’s accomplishment, connoisseurship, and high standards. Having served in various roles...”
at the ADAA for the past seven years, I am more convinced than ever of the collective power and impact of our membership. I look forward to working with Maureen, the Board of Directors, and the entire membership to continue strengthening the ADAA’s critical leadership, resources, and advocacy for the field.”

Andrew Schoelkopf brings over 30 years of art world experience to his new role, having served in leadership positions at the ADAA since 2011. In 2001, with his partner Susan Menconi, he co-founded Menconi + Schoelkopf, which specializes in American paintings, drawings, and sculpture of the 19th and 20th centuries, and has emerged as an important leader in the field. Since 2014, Schoelkopf has served on the ADAA Board of Directors and was a member of The Art Show Committee from 2011 to 2015. He has also served since 2015 on the board of the ADAA Foundation, which distributes grants to museums, archives, and arts organizations around the country to advance art historical research and exhibition development. He began his career in 1989 as director of his family’s business, the ADAA member Robert Schoelkopf Gallery, and his first day on the job was at the founding edition of ADAA’s The Art Show in 1989.

Prior to opening Menconi + Schoelkopf, Schoelkopf served as President of Internet Auctions at Christie’s auction house, following a series of progressive leadership positions at the company. He joined Christie’s as a specialist in American paintings, and became Director of the American Paintings Department in 1995, leading several of the firm’s most successful auctions in the field.

Schoelkopf is Board Chair and a member of the development, finance, and executive committees of the Chordoma Foundation, an international nonprofit that seeks a cure for chordoma, which is a rare cancer that grows in the bones of the skull and spine. He is a member of Denison University’s Regional Board of Advisors and previously served on the board of the National Advisory Council of the Reynolda House Museum of American Art in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

About the ADAA
The Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) is a nonprofit membership organization that supports the economic and cultural contributions of the nation's leading fine art galleries. The ADAA includes nearly 180 members from 29 cities in the U.S., representing hundreds of established and emerging artists internationally. ADAA members have extensive expertise across primary and secondary markets, and established reputations for upholding best practices in the field. The ADAA serves as a resource and advocate, raising awareness of dealers’ critical roles in the international art market and the cultural community.

The ADAA is dedicated to promoting a holistic understanding of the art market’s participants and activities, and is a leader on issues pertaining to connoisseurship, scholarship, ethical practice, and public policy. The ADAA’s position is further enhanced by its Appraisal Service, which has valued works of art for donation, estate,
gift tax, and insurance for over 50 years and represents a depth of art historical and market knowledge. Further, the ADAA Foundation, supported by donations from ADAA members, distributes grants to arts organizations to foster appreciation of art and art history in both public and private spheres.

ADAA activity culminates annually in The Art Show, held at the historic Park Avenue Armory in support of Henry Street Settlement. The fair features the highest-quality works from the start of the 19th century to the present and cultivates an intimate and engaged viewing experience. Now in its 30th year, The Art Show has become synonymous with connoisseurship and market expertise, emphasizing one-to-one connections between visitor, expert, and artwork. The 2018 edition runs through Sunday, March 4, 2018, and the full exhibitors list is available here.

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