

Heffel to Offer Major French Impressionist Painting by Gustave Caillebotte

- A major **French Impressionist** painting by **Gustave Caillebotte** will be offered at Heffel's upcoming live auction in a dedicated session
- Canada's art market leader will offer more than **200 masterworks** at a live auction in Toronto on November 23, expected to achieve **\$22M to \$32M**



TORONTO, November 10, 2016 — <u>Heffel Fine Art Auction House</u>, Canada's longstanding art market leader, is delighted to share news of an important consignment for its upcoming fall 2016 live auction. Gustave Caillebotte's stunning <u>Iris bleus</u>, jardin du Petit Gennevilliers</u> will hit the auction block from a Canadian private collection, where it has been for half a century. The canvas will be offered alongside more than 200 important artworks on November 23, 2016, at the historic Design Exchange in Toronto. Featured in its own dedicated live auction session and catalogue, the work is conservatively estimated at \$600,000 to \$800,000 CAD.

Gustave Caillebotte holds a significant place in the history of French Impressionism. As an artist, his impressive catalogue of works includes scenes of urban workmen, Paris streets and his country home in Petit Gennevilliers. His home was surrounded by flower gardens, vegetable plots, greenhouses and residences on-site for his gardening staff. This outstanding 1892 oil on canvas on offer was inspired by Caillebotte's love of horticulture and represents an important period in his artistic career.

"A French Impressionist painting by one of the masters is extremely rare to the international art market," said David Heffel, President of Heffel Fine Art Auction House. "We are thrilled to round out our very exciting fall auction with this outstanding example from an important early art movement."

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A talented painter with many hobbies and interests, Caillebotte was also widely known for his generous support of the Impressionist movement in 19th century France, and more specifically of Claude Monet and Camille Pissarro. He was a driving force behind many important Impressionist exhibitions and donated a group of works to the French state, which now make up a portion of Musée d'Orsay's breathtaking Impressionist collection.

There has been a recent rise in admiration for Caillebotte around the world, thanks in part to two exhibitions of his works, one at the Musée des impressionnismes Giverny and Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza in Madrid and the other at the National Gallery of Art in Washington and the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth, Texas. Works by Caillebotte have also fetched exceptional results at auction, including the 2015 sale of *Bateaux au mouillage sur la Seine à Argenteuil*, also painted in 1892, for \$6,746,000 USD. The current record-holder is *Le Pont d'Argenteuil et la Seine*, an oil on canvas that sold for \$18,002,500 USD.

Fall 2016 Live Auction Schedule

To give interested buyers from across Canada an opportunity to view this masterpiece, the live auction collection will be previewed in Vancouver, Montreal and Toronto leading up to the live auction.

The four-session live auction will take place on Wednesday, November 23 at Design Exchange (The Historic Trading Floor, 234 Bay Street, Toronto):

- 4:30 p.m. EST—Post-War & Contemporary Art
- Gustave Caillebotte: Iris bleus, jardin du Petit Gennevilliers to follow
- 7:00 p.m. EST—Fine Canadian Art
- The Peter & Joanne Brown Collection to follow

For details on the previews and live auction, and to access the online catalogues, please visit <u>www.heffel.com</u>.

About Heffel Fine Art Auction House

Heffel has sold more Canadian art than any other auctioneer worldwide, approaching half a billion dollars in art sales since 1978. With offices in Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, Ottawa and Calgary, Heffel has the most experienced team of fine art specialists in Canada and provides superior client service to both sellers and buyers internationally.

For additional information, to schedule an interview or media viewing, or for high-resolution images, please contact:

Rebecca Rykiss Director of Public Relations, Heffel Fine Art Auction House 416-961-6505 <u>rebecca@heffel.com</u>