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THE CORCORAN'S 1869 SOCIETY PRESENTS ARTINI 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. – This spring, the Corcoran Gallery of Art's 1869 Society presents ARTINI 2011, a month-long special event to benefit the Corcoran's dynamic exhibition programming. Throughout the month of March, the city's most creative mixologists from 12 restaurants and lounges will compete to make the most artistic martini inspired by pieces from the Corcoran Collection. The public is invited to sample "artinis" at the participating Washington venues throughout the month of March and vote for their favorite on the website of ARTINI press partner *Washingtonian* at www.washingtonian.com/artini. On Saturday, April 2, the winning venue will be announced at the culminating event at the Corcoran.

Throughout the month of March, venues will host special "Feature Nights," allowing Washingtonians to sample the exclusive artinis while raising funds for the Corcoran; each venue will donate 20 percent of their Feature Night sales to the Corcoran. Participating restaurants include AGAINN DC, Art and Soul, Café



Atlántico, Church & State, Farmers & Fishers, Mei N Yu, Potenza, POV at the W Hotel, PS 7's Restaurant, SEI Restaurant & Lounge, The Gibson, and Tabard Inn.

Artinis will be inspired by works of art from across the Corcoran Collection. As an example, the Gibson's Jonathan Harris will create an artini inspired by Albert Bierstadt's *The Last of the Buffalo* and Owen Thomson of

Café Atlántico took inspiration from Frederic Remington's bronze *Off the Range (Coming Through the Rye)* for his commissioned cocktail.

On Saturday, April 2 the Corcoran will host ARTINI 2011 from **8:30 p.m. until midnight.** The event will offer each artini hand-poured by the guest mixologists, a beer and wine bar, hors d'oeuvres and desserts, dancing to music from DJ Neekola, and the opportunity to view the Corcoran Collection, including the artistic inspiration for each "artini." Tickets for the event cost \$85 for 1869 Society Members and \$100 for Non-1869 Society Members. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit www.corcoran.org/artini.



THE ART OF CRAFT COCKTAILS

For the first time ever, ARTINI will honor a "Critics' Choice" selection in addition to D.C.'s favorite "artini." A panel of esteemed judges—including notable chefs, mixologists, food and spirits writers, and Corcoran curators—will enjoy a private tasting from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. on April 2 in order to select the Critics' Choice winner. Purchase a VIP ticket to ARTINI and spend an intimate hour sampling artinis with the judges while learning craft cocktail tips from the mixologists. Each VIP guest will also receive a luxury gift bag with the recipes for all 12 of the competing artinis. VIP tickets for the event cost \$125 for 1869 Society Members and \$150 for Non-1869 Society Members. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit www.corcoran.org/artini.

All proceeds from ARTINI will support future exhibitions at the Corcoran Gallery of Art. ARTINI cochairs are Matthew Donohue and Barbara Merola. ARTINI is sponsored by *Washingtonian*, 42 Below Vodka, Bacardi

Rock Coconut, Chambord Vodka, Cointreau, El Jimador, Gentleman Jack, Herradura, Mount Gay Rum, Remy Martin VSOP, Tuaca, ZU Vodka, Peroni, Pilsner Urquell, and Main Event Caterers.

GET INSPIRED ON AN ARTINI TOUR

Learn more about the artistic inspiration behind each of the artinis! Stop by the Gallery for a docent-led tour and get an up-close look at the works that inspired ARTINI's participating mixologists. Tours are available every Saturday in March at 3 p.m. Please visit www.corcoran.org/artini to pre-register for an ARTINI tour.

ABOUT THE 1869 SOCIETY

The 1869 Society is a dynamic young professionals group in Washington, D.C. The group provides exclusive networking and socializing opportunities with other up-and-coming art patrons ages 25 to 42. Members of the 1869 Society have access to private exhibition previews and receptions at the museum, invitations to and discounts on 1869 Society events, unlimited free admission to temporary and permanent exhibitions, guest passes, discounts at the Corcoran Café and the Corcoran Shop, and reduced fees for Continuing Education classes at the Corcoran College of Art + Design. To learn more about special interest societies at the Corcoran, visit www.corcoran.org/membership.

ABOUT THE CORCORAN

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, a privately funded institution, was founded in 1869 as Washington's first and largest nonfederal museum of art. It is known internationally for its distinguished collection of historical and modern American art as well as contemporary art, photography, European painting, sculpture, and the decorative arts. Founded in 1890, the Corcoran College of Art + Design is Washington's only four-year college of art and design offering BFA degrees in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Fine Art Photography, Graphic Design, Interior Design, and Photojournalism; a BA in Art Studies; a five-year Bachelor of Fine Arts/Master of Arts in Teaching (BFA/MAT); an AFA in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design, and Photography; and MA degrees in Art and the Book, Art Education, Exhibition Design, Interior Design, Master of Arts in Teaching, and New Media Photojournalism. The College's Continuing Education program offers part-time credit and non-credit classes for children and adults and draws more than 2,500 participants each year. For more information about the Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design, visit www.corcoran.org.

Photography by Tony Brown.