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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GOUDSTIKKER HEIR SUES CALIFORNIA MUSEUM TO RECOVER TWO
IMPORTANT PAINTINGS LOOTED BY THE NAZIS**

New York, New York
May 2, 2007

Marei von Saher, the sole living heir of the noted Jewish art dealer, Jacques Goudstikker (1897-1940), announced today a major development in her ongoing efforts to recover his legacy. Ms. Von Saher filed a lawsuit yesterday in the United States District Court for the Central District of California against the Norton Simon Museum in Pasadena, California to recover two iconic life-size paintings, *Adam and Eve* by Lucas Cranach the Elder. The Cranachs, which are well-known throughout the world, were among the most important artworks in Goudstikker's collection, which contained more than 1,300 works, mostly Dutch and Flemish Old Master paintings, and was looted by the Nazis following their invasion of The Netherlands in 1940. This is reportedly the first lawsuit filed against a California museum for the recovery of artworks looted during the Holocaust. The works were acquired for the Norton Simon Museum in or about 1971.

Last year, after a decade-long fight, Ms. Von Saher succeeded in recovering from the Dutch Government an important group of Old Master paintings that, together with the Cranachs, were looted by Reichsmarschall Hermann Goering from Goudstikker's gallery. Ms. Von Saher and the Norton Simon Museum have been in discussions for several years to try to work out an amicable resolution of her claim. Ms. Von Saher has stated that she would have preferred to reach a settlement with the Museum rather than engage in litigation, but now that efforts to resolve the dispute have failed, Ms. Von Saher said that she had no choice but to commence this lawsuit.

Ms. Von Saher is confident that, in the end, these magnificent paintings that were wrongfully taken from her father-in-law, Jacques Goudstikker, by the most notorious criminals in history, will be returned. She and her children, Charlene and Chantal, Jacques' grandchildren, are completely committed to their continuing mission to restore Jacques' legacy and their heritage.

The Norton Simon Art Foundation filed a countersuit yesterday seeking a declaratory judgment that it has title to the Cranachs and issued a Statement regarding the matter. Ms. Von Saher said that her attorneys will address Norton Simon's allegations in court, but wanted to note that she disagrees with much of what is in the Statement, including the demonstrably wrong assertions that the Cranachs were owned by the Stroganoffs and that her claim was settled in 1952.

Extensive efforts have been underway for some time by Ms. Von Saher to reclaim looted Goudstikker artworks located in Europe, the United States and other countries. As a result, a number of artworks have been voluntarily restituted by governments, museums, private collections, dealers and auction houses in Austria, England, Germany, Israel and the United States. Some notable examples include a drawing by Edgar Degas, restituted by the Israel Museum in Jerusalem and a still life by the Dutch seventeenth-century master, Rachel Ruysch, which was returned to the family by the Gemälde Galerie in Dresden, Germany after only a few days of discussions. Until now, except for her long struggle in the Netherlands, Ms. Von Saher has not had to resort to litigation to recover any of the looted artworks. To date, in addition to the paintings returned by the Dutch Government, there have been more than 30 other returns, and more are expected.

Ms. Von Saher prefers to continue her historic search and recovery efforts without litigation. She is saddened that she was not able to reach an out of court resolution but is prepared to pursue her family's claim and recover these great works.

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