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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### BREAKTHROUGHS ON MAJOR HOLOCAUST CLAIM

#### Famed Dutch Art Dealer's Descendants Announce Significant Recoveries and Major Ongoing Effort to Reclaim Legacy

New York, NY (March 14, 2005) -- Descendants of the noted Jewish art dealer, Jacques Goudstikker (1897-1940), announced today major developments in their ongoing efforts to recover his legacy. Goudstikker's collection, which contained more than 1300 works of art, mostly Dutch and Flemish Old Master paintings, was looted by the Nazis following their invasion of The Netherlands in 1940. Today's statement from the family follows this morning's announcement by the Israel Museum, Jerusalem, of the return to the family of an important drawing by Edgar Degas. The restitution is described in detail in the Museum's Press Release (copy attached). Another major restitution was made last summer when the Staatsgalerie Stuttgart, one of Germany's largest museums, paid an undisclosed sum to compensate the family for yet another looted work, a still life by the renowned Belgian expressionist painter, James Ensor.

The family is delighted that two of the world's major museums have now amicably resolved claims asserted by Marei von Saher, Goudstikker's sole living heir, and also noted that there have recently been other voluntary restitutions by dealers, auction houses and private collectors in Austria, England, Germany, The Netherlands, Switzerland, and the United States. These include the return of two important paintings by Anthony van Dyck and Aert de Gelder from private collections in Germany.

"The Degas is our tenth restitution and it has great meaning for us because it demonstrates that the world's leading museums are honoring our claim. There are more than 1000 stolen artworks spread all over the globe, and we feel it is time to let the public know what we are doing," Charlene von Saher, the granddaughter of Jacques Goudstikker, stated today in New York. "We have the best researchers and the best lawyers on our side, and I look forward to the day when my grandfather's legacy will be completely restored."

The Goudstikker family is represented by international art lawyers Lawrence M. Kaye and Howard N. Spiegler of Herrick, Feinstein LLP. "We are presently pursuing claims in more than ten countries and it is exciting for my firm's Art Law Group to assist our client in this extraordinary international endeavor," said Lawrence M. Kaye from his office in Manhattan today. "We know that other museums, including many in the U.S., are working on ways to address the issue of Nazi-looted art. We hope that they, like the Israel Museum and the Staatsgalerie Stuttgart, will do their part to help correct the terrible wrongs that the Goudstikker family suffered at the hands of the Nazis."

A research project to identify and locate the hundreds of missing paintings has been established by the German art recovery specialist Clemens Toussaint: "We are employing a growing number of art historians who work in archives throughout Europe and the U.S. This is perhaps the most comprehensive research project ever to track down a single-owner art collection stolen by the Nazis, and it is our goal to find every single work," commented Mr. Toussaint from an undisclosed archive in Europe today.

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For selected digital photographs of recently restituted artworks from the former Goudstikker collection, please contact:

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