FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MAGRITTE INSPIRES “SURREALISTICALLY CHIC” GALA
Co-hosted by the Woman’s Board and Board of Trustees of the Art Institute of Chicago

The Woman’s Board and the Board of Trustees of the Art Institute of Chicago are coming together to host a “Surrealistically Chic” Gala on Friday, June 20, 2014, celebrating the opening of the highly anticipated exhibition, Magritte: Mystery of the Ordinary, 1926–1938. Considered by many to be the city’s social event of the season, the Gala will provide guests with a private preview of the Magritte exhibition that will open to the public on June 24 and run through October 13, 2014.

René Magritte (1898–1967), the Belgian surrealist who continues to capture the world’s imagination with his popular, provocative and often playful approach to his art, is the inspiration for an event that promises to evoke a Surrealist’s dream. Guests will have their “heads in Magritte’s clouds” courtesy of HMR Designs and Creative Director Bill Heffernan. Equally dazzling will be the inventive menu created by renowned Chef Tony Mantuano and his team at Bon Appetit Catering. Weather permitting, cocktails and Surrealist “surprises” will be served under the summer sky in Pritzker Garden before and after dinner.

“This Gala is our signature annual museum event,” said Douglas Druick, President and Eloise W. Martin Director of the Art Institute. “It is a wonderful opportunity for our valued and respected community of civic leaders and philanthropists to come together to celebrate the museum and all that this institution has achieved. Their support has been vital in helping to make the Art Institute one of the city’s premier cultural gems and a respected leader among art museums worldwide.”

The partnership between the Woman’s Board and the Board of Trustees to present this Gala is a longstanding tradition dating back decades. As co-hosts, the Woman’s Board and the Board of Trustees share the same objective: to raise critical funds in support of the museum’s mission and art education programs.
The Gala begins at 6:30 p.m. on June 20 with a private viewing of the Magritte show in the museum’s Regenstein Hall, followed by dinner in Griffin Court in the Modern Wing. Guests will be able to view the exhibition throughout the evening.

For tickets and further information, contact Gina Scalise at 312.553.2000 or gscalise@pjhchicago.com, or visit the event website at www.pjhchicago.com/artinstitute.

2014 ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO ANNUAL GALA – SURREALISTICALLY CHIC

WHO: The Woman’s Board and Board of Trustees of the Art Institute of Chicago come together to celebrate the vitality, scholarship, and achievements that make the institution one of the world’s leading art museums.

Gala Chair – Catherine Busch
Gala Host Committee – Nancy Carrington and Arie Steven Crown, Kenneth C. Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. King Harris, Mr. and Mrs. John Harris, Timothy P. Maloney, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel M. Mencoff, Alexandra C. and John D. Nichols, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Pritzker, Mr. and Mrs. J. Christopher Reyes, Patrick G. and Shirley Welsh Ryan, Cari and Michael J. Sacks, Brenda Shapiro

WHAT: Annual Gala, coinciding with the Chicago opening of Magritte: Mystery of the Ordinary, 1926–1938

WHERE: The Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan Ave.

WHEN: Friday, June 20 – 6:30 p.m.

WHY: To raise critical funds in support of the museum’s mission and art education programs.

DRESS: Surrealist Chic

CONTACT: Gina Scalise at 312.553.2000 or gscalise@pjhchicago.com, or visit the event website at www.pjhchicago.com/artinstitute.

Funding for the Art Institute of Chicago presentation of Magritte: Mystery of the Ordinary, 1926–1938 is generously provided by Helen and Sam Zell, and the Auxiliary Board of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Lead Affiliate Sponsor.

Additional support provided by Sylvia Neil and Daniel Fischel, and the Prince Charitable Trusts.

Annual support for Art Institute exhibitions is provided by the Exhibitions Trust: Goldman Sachs, Kenneth and Anne Griffin, Thomas and Margot Pritzker, the Earl and Brenda Shapiro Foundation, and the Woman’s Board of the Art Institute of Chicago. This exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

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