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WASHINGTON WINTER SHOW 2017: "THE ART OF STYLE" 2017 Show will feature portraits of Coco Chanel by Marion Pike

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, the Board of the Washington Winter Show announced the 2017 Show, "The Art of Style," featuring the loan exhibit, Coco Chanel: A New Portrait by Marion Pike, Paris 1967-71, which includes a collection of Marion Pike's portraits of Coco Chanel, as well as fashions by the iconic designer. The Show will take place January 13-15, 2017, with the annual Preview Night reception on Thursday, January 12 at American University's Katzen Arts Center in Washington, D.C.

"We are thrilled to announce this year's theme, "The Art of Style," and exciting loan exhibit," said 2017 Show Co-Chairs Susan Dowhower and Liz Holleman Brown. As Coco Chanel once said, "Fashion changes, but style endures." "The Art of Style" celebrates the timeless elegance and sophistication of good design, whether it's the classic Chanel suit, the graceful carving of a Chippendale chair or the complex beauty of a Monet canvas."

The loan exhibit marks the first time this collection of portraits and couture fashions will be displayed in North America, with prior exhibitions in London and Milan. Curated by Amy de la Haye, London College of Fashion, the exhibition features five portraits of legendary designer Coco Chanel, painted by the California artist Marion Pike, following a meeting between the two extraordinarily talented, creative women at Chanel's Paris atelier in 1967. The meeting sparked an immediate friendship between the women captured in the series of at least 13 expressive, color-saturated portraits of the fashion icon. This exhibition explores the profound friendship between Pike and Chanel, as well as the creative influences upon the two women's work. In addition to the large-scale portraits, the exhibit features haute-couture pieces styled by Coco Chanel for Marion and her daughter, Jeffie Pike Durham, who generously loaned all of the pieces for the collection.

Once again, proceeds will benefit the Washington Winter Show's charity partners: THEARC, Bishop John T. Walker School, and the Founders Board of St. John's Community Services.

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