

Foreword

Maryann and Al Friedman have had a perfect collaboration—that is, their marriage—for many years, and it is in that spirit that the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, and the Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, have collaborated on this exhibition and catalogue, *A Focused Collection: The Hudson River School*. This exciting and important period in nineteenth-century American art has long been the Friedmans' passion, and the result is a collection that gives a superb overview of these artists who, to such a great degree, discovered and defined the great American landscape and our conception of ourselves. It is a privilege for our two museums to show our visitors the paintings collected by our alumni, Mrs. Friedman, who graduated from Vassar in 1955, and Mr. Friedman, who graduated from Cornell in 1952.

The undersigned want, first, to thank the collectors for their expertise and generosity, which have made this project possible. We also want to thank Andrew Weislogel, assistant curator and master teacher at the Johnson Museum, who has been responsible for this catalogue; his hard work and careful scholarship have resulted in an exemplary publication.

At the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, we are grateful to registrar Joann Potter and assistant registrar Karen Casey Hines, preparator Bruce Bundock, administrative assistant Francine Brown, and Jennifer Cole, administrative manager of the Friends of the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, for their efforts in staging the exhibition at Vassar.

At the Johnson Museum, we are grateful to Dr. Weislogel, and also to registrar Matthew Conway for his seamless handling of the shipping and insurance arrangements, photographer Julie Magura for her excellent images, Elizabeth Emrich, exhibitions assistant, for her help with myriad details, and Wil Millard, George Cannon, and David Ryan, the Museum's gifted installation team. Special thanks are due to Andrea Potochniak, publications coordinator, for her flair and energy in designing this catalogue and seeing it through the press.

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