Every two years the Couse Foundation hosts its biennial gala with funds going toward the mission of the foundation, which includes the Couse-Sharp Historic Site in Taos, New Mexico, that is set to be home of the Lunder Research Center focused on the Taos Society of Artists. With the cancellation of the 2021 gala due to the pandemic, the Couse Foundation has joined forces with Hindman to offer its 20th anniversary Fundraiser Auction as part of the auction house’s Western Paintings & Sculpture sale on May 6.

“The Couse Foundation’s future advancements will be an incredible asset to professionals in a variety of disciplines, including those in the auction and appraisal communities,” says Hindman’s director of Western art Katherine Hlavin. “Their dedication to documenting the Taos Society of Artists through this rare comprehensive archive and their willingness to share resources and data with the individuals in these fields will be essential in garnering the market attention this influential group of American artists deserves.”

Through the partnership, the auction catalog will include dedicated space for the Foundation Auction where the Couse Foundation can share its story with a national audience. There will be 25 lots hitting the market, and the full hammer price of each will go directly to further the organization’s mission and vision. All of the works included in this portion of the sale have been generously donated from galleries, collectors and artists themselves. Davison Packard Koenig, executive director and curator at the Couse-Sharp Historic Site, says, “We had wanted to do 20 works for 20 years as part of the 20th anniversary, and we...
exceeded that thanks to the donors who have put pieces into the auction.”

The selection of works is wide, with contemporary pieces donated by artists Sherrie McGraw and David Leffel, to historic items hitting the block such as the 1973 piece High Desert Series, Azul (est. $2/4,000) by William Lumpkins, donated by Addison Rowe Gallery, and a Gustave Baumann woodcut titled Hillside Woods II (est. $5/7,000) from Zaplin Lampert Gallery. Howard Norton Cook’s Little Grandmother (est. $3/5,000), gifted by Chimayo Trading Del Norte in Ranchos de Taos, is another standout. There also will be works from Fremont Ellis, Peter Hurd, John Marin, Harry Jackson, Gene Kloss, Andrew Dasburg and George Hallmark among the items available.

“I was really pleased that we were able to get this caliber of art and be a real representative breadth of the art that we appreciate and tells the story of the West,” says Koenig, “and Taos in particular.”

Bidding for Hindman’s Western Paintings & Sculpture sale will begin at 10 a.m. at its Denver showroom with bidders able to participate live through Hindman’s Digital Bid Room, by phone or absentee.

The Couse Foundation 20th Anniversary Fundraiser Auction
May 6, 2021, 10 a.m.
Hindman, 2737 Larimer Street, Suite C, Denver, CO 80205
(303) 825-1855, www.hindmanauctions.com