



## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **FRICK ART & HISTORICAL CENTER PRESENTS *THE MOST PERFECT CARS:* A ROLLS-ROYCE INSTALLATION AT THE CAR AND CARRIAGE MUSEUM**

**THREE AUTOMOBILES DESIGNED BY THE LUXURY MANUFACTURER  
ARE ON VIEW AT THE CAR AND CARRIAGE MUSEUM  
OCTOBER 22, 2011–MARCH 4, 2012**

PITTSBURGH, PA, October 5, 2011— As part of the museum-wide *Fabergé at the Frick* celebration, beginning October 23, 2011, a special themed display at the Car and Carriage Museum featuring three Rolls-Royce automobiles will highlight the early history of this prestigious British automaker. The display includes two cars from the Frick's collection: a 1914 *Silver Ghost* owned by Henry Clay Frick and a 1923 *Silver Ghost Salamanca Town Car*. They will be complemented by a stunning 1929 *Phantom II* on loan from a private collection. The Rolls-Royce installation at the Car and Carriage Museum is designed to be part of the sitewide celebration of luxury manufacturers coinciding with *Fabergé: The Hodges Family Collection* at The Frick Art Museum, and will remain on view through March 4, 2012. The installation will Admission to the Car and Carriage Museum is free.

Few automobile marques exemplify perfection like Rolls-Royce. The partnership formed in 1904 by Charles S. Rolls (1877–1910) and Sir Henry Royce (1863–1933) grew into an internationally esteemed producer of luxury vehicles. Under the demanding guidance of Henry Royce, the company earned a reputation for cars that spared no expense to offer the best in design, materials

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and technology. These exceptional vehicles often received custom bodies, lavish interiors and other extravagant additions as they became popular with wealthy clientele the world over. The Rolls-Royce developed into a status symbol that boldly announced the rank and taste of its owner. Henry Clay Frick purchased several Rolls-Royces through the company's authorized New York agent, Robert W. Schuette. One of those cars, a 1914 *Silver Ghost* with an American-made body and other additions to suit the taste of Mr. Frick, remains in the collection today.

The Frick is also home to a unique 1923 *Silver Ghost Salamanca Town Car*. Remarkably original, this one-family-owned vehicle was produced by Rolls-Royce's short-lived American subsidiary, Rolls-Royce of America, Inc., which operated in Springfield, Massachusetts from 1920 to 1934. In addition to the Frick's two vehicles, a stunning 1929 *Phantom II* on loan from a private collection will illustrate the incredible vehicles Rolls-Royce produced in the pivotal years before the Second World War. The Phantom II also has a unique provenance, having been purchased by Dorothy W. Paget (1905–1960), an eccentric figure in British auto and horse racing whose success at the track earned her the nickname “Queen of the Turf.”

Fittingly, 2011 marks the centennial of the iconic Rolls-Royce mascot, the *Spirit of Ecstasy*. Designed by British artist Charles Sykes (1875–1950), the *Spirit* (also known as the “Silver Lady” and “Flying Lady”) was initially available as an option and became a standard feature in the early 1920s. The figure has seen several changes over the years, but has remained one of the most well-known and elegant ornaments in automotive history.

## **HOURS AND ADMISSION**

**Regular Site Hours:** Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**October 23, 2011–January 15, 2012:** Clayton and the site are open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. On Thursdays, the site, including The Café at the Frick, is open until 9 p.m. Dinner seatings are available at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Although reservations are recommended, walk-ins are welcome, space permitting.

**November 24, December 24 and 25, January 1:** The entire site is closed.

**November 25, 26 and 27:** Clayton and the site are open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

**Admission** to the Car and Carriage Museum is free.

### **FABERGEATTHEFRICK.ORG**

A special website provides information about the exhibition *Fabergé: The Hodges Family Collection* and related museum-wide offerings. Here, visitors can read the behind-the-scenes blog to learn more about the objects, the exhibition, the history of Fabergé, and activities at the Frick. FabergeAtTheFrick.org also provides basic information regarding visiting, programs, scheduling tours, and booking events.

### **ABOUT THE FRICK ART & HISTORICAL CENTER**

The Frick Art & Historical Center is a museum of the Gilded Age located on over five acres of beautifully landscaped gardens in Pittsburgh's East End. Comprising several historic buildings that house its multiple collections, the museum is the legacy of Helen Clay Frick, daughter of Henry Clay Frick, one of America's greatest industrialists and art collectors. Committed to the preservation, presentation and interpretation of fine and decorative arts and historically significant artifacts, the Frick is one of Pittsburgh's most important cultural and educational assets.

The Frick Art Museum houses a collection of Italian Renaissance and 18<sup>th</sup>-century European art. Special exhibitions are presented on a regular basis, many of which are organized by the Frick's curatorial staff.

Clayton, the restored Frick family home, opened to the public as a fully restored historic house museum in 1990. Over 90% of Clayton's furnishings are original, and a dynamic schedule of public tours of the home is offered year-round.

The Car and Carriage Museum displays vintage automobiles and carriages, presents exhibitions on transportation design, and educates visitors about western Pennsylvania's role in automotive history.

In addition to preserving and presenting its vast collections, the Frick offers programs that

interpret them. A dynamic schedule of public programs illuminating the era during which Pittsburgh became one of the nation's most important cities is offered. The Frick's educational programs serve over 14,000 individuals annually, and 125,000 people visit the museum each year.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Frick Art & Historical Center is located at 7227 Reynolds Street in Pittsburgh's Point Breeze neighborhood. Free parking is available in the Frick's off-street lot or along adjacent streets. For information, the public may call 412-371-0600 or visit the Frick online at [TheFrickPittsburgh.org](http://TheFrickPittsburgh.org).

**For additional information or images, please contact Greg Langel, Media and Marketing Manager, at 412-371-0600 ext. 524 or [GLangel@TheFrickPittsburgh.org](mailto:GLangel@TheFrickPittsburgh.org).**

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*The Frick Art & Historical Center, a museum, historic site and cultural center, serves the public through preservation, presentation, and interpretation of the fine and decorative arts and historically significant artifacts for all residents of and visitors to Western Pennsylvania.*