



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

THE FRICK PITTSBURGH PRESENTS

CAST IN CHROME: THE ART OF HOOD ORNAMENTS

***New exhibition on view at the Car and Carriage Museum
April 24 – October 31, 2021***

PITTSBURGH, PA, April 15, 2021 – This spring, The Frick Pittsburgh celebrates some of the automobile industry’s most instantly recognizable and intricately crafted artistic motifs with the opening of *Cast in Chrome: The Art of Hood Ornaments* at the Car and Carriage Museum on Saturday, April 24. This special exhibition explores the evolution of these miniature works of art, from their inception in the 1910s as a means of monitoring radiator temperature to their transformation into expressions of status and personal expression throughout the early 20th century.

Cast in Chrome, which features more than 30 hood ornaments, and three cars on loan, in addition to objects from the Frick’s permanent collection, will be organized thematically with sections devoted to female figures, animals, mythology, art-deco-inspired motifs, and the great space race— when airplanes and rockets made their way onto hoods. Each theme will be accompanied by a featured automobile marque from the 1920s through 1940s, a selection of illustrative hood ornaments, and clothing from the period. Visitors can expect to see some of the most iconic hood ornament emblems including Rolls-Royce’s famous Spirit of Ecstasy, represented by the Frick’s 1923 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost Salamanca town car, and Lincoln’s greyhound ornament on Helen Clay Frick’s 1931 Lincoln Model K Dual Cowl Phaeton.

The exhibition also features hood ornaments designed by makers well known for their pursuits in jewelry and glass design, including French artist and designer René Lalique. Lalique's glass hood ornaments, which were prized by wealthy motorists for their fragility, rarity, and decadence, were among the most opulent created during the automobile's golden age. The Frick is pleased to exhibit three of Lalique's hood ornament designs in *Cast in Chrome – Victoire (Victory)*, *Vitesse (Speed)*, and *Coq nain (Bantam rooster)*, each on loan from the Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation in Dearborn, Michigan.

MUSEUM ADMISSION AND SAFETY GUIDELINES

ADMISSION

Cast in Chrome: The Art of Hood Ornaments is free to all visitors. Timed tickets are required for entry to the exhibition, and will be available for reservation three days in advance of the visit date. Tickets may be purchased online at TheFrickPittsburgh.org/tickets, or by calling 412-371-0600.

HOURS

The Frick Pittsburgh is open to visitors during regular operating hours, Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

COVID-19 SAFETY

The Frick requires that all visitors wear a close-fitting face mask and maintain social distancing from those not in their party for the duration of their visit. The Frick maintains established safety precautions on campus including enhanced cleaning procedures, Plexiglass barriers at The Frick Art Museum admission desk and Grable Visitor Center customer service counters, and the provision of hand sanitizer across campus.

Detailed information regarding the Frick's COVID-19 safety guidelines for visitors is available at TheFrickPittsburgh.org/COVID-19.

EXHIBITION ORGANIZATION AND SUPPORT

Cast in Chrome: The Art of Hood Ornaments is organized by The Frick Pittsburgh. Major exhibition program support is provided by the Richard King Mellon Foundation. Additional support is provided by members of The Frick Pittsburgh.

ABOUT THE FRICK PITTSBURGH

Located on the estate of 19th-century industrialist Henry Clay Frick, The Frick Pittsburgh offers authentic experiences with art, history and nature that inspire and delight. Visitors of all ages and backgrounds are warmly welcomed to explore The Frick Art Museum, offering world-class collections of European art and Chinese porcelain alongside an active schedule of temporary exhibitions; Clayton, the Frick family's French château-style mansion (remodeled by architect Frederick J. Osterling in the 1890s); the Car and Carriage Museum; and a large working greenhouse designed by architects Alden & Harlow—all nestled on six acres of beautifully landscaped lawns and gardens in Pittsburgh's East End. Amenities include an Education Center, the Frick children's playhouse (also designed by Alden & Harlow), The Café at the Frick, and the Grable Visitor Center, which houses the Frick Museum Store. Information about The Frick Pittsburgh is available online at TheFrickPittsburgh.org.

For additional information or images, please contact Kaitlyn Clem, Marketing and Communications Associate, at KClem@TheFrickPittsburgh.org or 412-342-4025.

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