FOR RELEASE ON WEDNESDAY 26 MARCH 2014:
Statement on Self-portrait by Sir Anthony Van Dyck, 1640-1

Save Van Dyck appeal receives significant boost as painting offered to National Portrait Gallery for £10 million

The Art Fund and the National Portrait Gallery are pleased to announce that the campaign to save Van Dyck's self-portrait for the nation has received a significant boost. Following discussions between the owner of the painting, Alfred Bader, the art dealer Philip Mould, and the collector, James Stunt, the National Portrait Gallery now has the opportunity to purchase the work for £10 million. This new offer gives the *Save Van Dyck* campaign, which has four months remaining and originally needed to raise £12.5 million, an improved chance of ensuring that the portrait remains on public display forever. The application process for an export licence has also now been halted.

To date the campaign has raised £3.6 million, with contributions already made by more than 8,000 members of the public.

Stephen Deuchar (Director, The Art Fund) and Sandy Nairne (Director National Portrait Gallery) said:

"Following this turn of events we are grateful for this helpful development which now offers a better chance for this special painting to be acquired for the nation and shared with everyone."

Tuesday 25 March 2014

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We have been asked to circulate the following comments:

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The Bader family said:

'Alfred Bader CBE, an established philanthropist on both sides of the Atlantic, has been impressed by the public's response to the painting, and the efforts that both the Art Fund and the National Portrait Gallery have made to keep the picture on public display. He very much hopes that the National Portrait Gallery is able to complete the rest of its fundraising challenge.'

Philip Mould OBE said:

'Watching the public reaction to Van Dyck's *Self-portrait* develop in this unprecedented way has been amazing, and, for this lover of British historical portraiture, reassuring. The picture has become an iconic focal point, and for many the thought of it going to the United States would be like losing a chunk of Stonehenge. I am delighted to be able to help the National Portrait Gallery's campaign in this way.'

Press enquiries for Philip Mould and the Bader family should be addressed to the Philip Mould Ltd 020 7499 6818

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James Stunt said:

‘When I agreed to buy this great portrait I didn't expect the huge swell of public opinion and the strength of emotion its export would generate. In light of the people's passion to purchase the Van Dyck for the nation I have carefully reconsidered my position and have decided, with Dr Bader and Mr Mould's agreement, to withdraw from the process. I trust that my withdrawal, together with the reduced price at which the painting is now being offered, will see the appeal succeed and that Van Dyck's final self portrait will permanently hang in the National Portrait Gallery.’

Press enquires for Mr Stunt should be addressed to Sean Bellew, Atelier PR 07973 234 040

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