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Exhibition From The Collection of Gregg Blasdel and Jennifer Koch: *Vintage Inspired Lifestyle Marketplace* in February

Burlington, VT: (January 22, 2014) Vintage Inspired Lifestyle Marketplace on Flynn Avenue in Burlington is pleased to announce an exhibition of antique gambrels, entitled *From The Collection Of: Gregg Blasdel & Jennifer Koch*, February 7th -28th, 2014. There will be an opening reception Friday, February 7th, from 5:00 to 8:00pm. Vintage Inspired, A vibrant marketplace for antique dealers, artists and craftspeople, is located at 180 Flynn Avenue, and is open Monday through Saturday from 10am to 5pm and Sunday from 12pm to 4pm.

From The Collection Of: Gregg Blasdel & Jennifer Koch

Artist, educator, and avid folk art collector Gregg Blasdel and his partner, artist Jennifer Koch, exhibit their collection of antique gambrels - curved wooden sticks used to hang slaughtered animals for butchering. This exhibition not only displays a collection of unique objects, but gives a glimpse into the mind of the collector.

Gregg describes their collection in this way: "My interest in the gambrels originated from an aesthetic consideration of the form and finish of the object. There are no correct specifications and instructions regarding the proper way to make a gambrel. For such a simple object it is never carved the same way twice and each maker considers the shape and finish of the gambrel in entirely unique and personal terms. A general design description for a gambrel is that it a bent, curved piece of hardwood that has a width that can vary from 2 to 4 feet, an arching curve that is thicker at the peak of the curve and tapers to the ends. It often has several carved notches on each end. It has become obvious to me after years of collecting gambrels that some makers are more inclined to see the form and finish of the object in more purposeful and aesthetic ways than other makers. All gambrels have a utilitarian use but some are casually prepared for use and others are more sophisticated in terms of attention top detail and

form. The selection of wood, exactness of cutting and shaping and the detail of finish vary from maker to maker. Many have smoothly finished surfaces and display considerable attention to the carving of the wood while others are casually carved and retain the marks of a carving tool."

2012 Barbara Smail Award winning artist Gregg Blasdel has been a part of the Vermont art scene since the 1970s. He received his MFA from Cornell University in 1967, and taught at the Whitney Museum in New York City soon after. He relocated to Vermont in the 1970s to teach art at the University of Vermont and then St. Michael's College in the 80s. Blasdel has lectured around the country about art and architecture and his drawings, sculpture and prints have been exhibited around New England and in New York City. Gregg Blasdel lives in Burlington, Vermont with his wife and frequent collaborator Jennifer Koch, owner of *Frames For You And Mona Lisa Too*. Jennifer, also a Barbara Smail Award winner in 2007, has been working on three extended series of works; *Specimen* a collection of constructions made with found objects, *Marriages of Reason* a series of collaborative print made with Gregg Blasdel and *Scissor Drawings* collages made with and inspired by a 1925 Funk & Wagnalls' dictionary, which will be on display at the Vermont Metro Gallery at The BCA Center from January 24-March 22nd, 2014.

Vintage Inspired Lifestyle Marketplace on Flynn Avenue in Burlington, VT is a funky & accessible source of vintage goods for inspired lifestyles. It is a delight for shoppers wanting to combine a love for antiques, curious goods and art. Owner, Mary Heinrich Aloï has a truly inspired eye and her shop is a destination for in-the-know pickers, collectors, and art lovers. For more information and directions to the Marketplace, please visit www.vintageinspired.net

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