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**TREASURES FROM THE BOSTON ATHENÆUM:
Summer Installation 2009**

The Boston Athenæum presents treasures from its own collection,
in a special summer installation open to the public.

(BOSTON) The Boston Athenæum presents a summer installation of works from its prestigious collections. The installation opens May 27 and runs through August 28, 2009, at 10 ½ Beacon Street on Beacon Hill near the State House. Admission to The Boston Athenæum's gallery is FREE and open to the public. Hours are Monday 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. and Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. For more information, call (617) 227-0270 or visit www.bostonathenaeum.org.

The paintings, sculptures, drawings, photographs, and manuscripts in this summer installation draw from the collections of the Boston Athenæum and add to the wealth of objects always on public view on the Athenæum's first floor. Over 40 artists are represented, ranging from Italian and Scottish to American and from the 16th to the 21st century. The objects on view are as varied in style as in subject matter, and include: a portrait by the 16th-century Bolognese master Annibale Carracci; works by American painters John Singleton Copley, Gilbert Stuart, Washington Allston, John Singer Sargent, Maud Morgan, and Polly Thayer; sculptures by Horatio Greenough, Thomas Crawford, and William Morris Hunt; views of Boston, painted and photographed;; and nineteenth-century chromolithography.

The installation provides a rare opportunity to look closely at both familiar favorites and seldom seen items, all treasures meant to please, surprise, and stimulate the senses. Since its founding in 1807 as a private literary association, the Boston Athenæum has always collected a wide range of objects as well as books, as a way to foster culture, knowledge, and art. The result is a

unique, hybrid collection, which continues to support the institution's engagement in the cultural life of Boston.

About the Boston Athenæum

The Boston Athenæum, founded in 1807, is one of the oldest and most distinguished independent libraries in the United States.. The building's first floor is open to the public, including the Norma Jean Calderwood Gallery, which features new exhibitions several times a year. In other public areas of the building, works of art from the Athenæum's permanent collection are on display on a rotating basis."New members are always welcome. In addition to library borrowing privileges, members enjoy access to beautiful research rooms with wireless internet access and admission to many events, including concerts, lectures, book groups, children's story hours, and a delightful bi-weekly Athenæum afternoon tea. The Library offers fellowships and research opportunities for scholars who wish to use the Athenæum's special collections. For information about membership, including discounted membership for young people, visit www.bostonathenaeum.org.