

An early look inside Lucas' art collection

Norman Rockwell's "Saying Grace" was sold at Sotheby's for a record price in 2013, but the buyer was never identified.

Until now: The work, originally made as an illustration for the Thanksgiving issue of the *Saturday Evening Post*, was purchased by filmmaker George Lucas at a price reported at the time to be \$46 million, to add to the extensive art collection he has amassed over four decades.

If Lucas is successful in building what is now called the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art in the Bay Area, the Rockwell painting will be among the potentially thousands of works on display.

The filmmaker's effort to build his museum is a movielike saga in itself. Turned down by the Presidio Trust for a site at Crissy Field, stymied by court challenges to a location in Chicago, museum leaders are now looking seriously at San Francisco's Treasure Island and at Exposition Park in Los Angeles.

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Art

To date, news reports on the museum have centered on architecture and city planning, but the heart of the institution — as with any such effort — is the art. The *Chronicle* has obtained exclusive access to a substantial part of the museum collection, which will draw on the 40,000 paintings, works on paper and film-related materials in Lucas' collection. Our report on the museum and its value to the Bay Area appears in print this Sunday, Sept. 4; subscribers have premium access to the story online now, at <http://bit.ly/2lucas-art>.

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Sotheby's

► For an exclusive look at the George Lucas collection of narrative art, go to <http://bit.ly/2lucas-art>.

"Saying Grace" (1951) by Norman Rockwell was sold to George Lucas for his collection.