

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**SAILOR AND NURSE CAUGHT KISSING
AT THE DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIR**

**Dutchess County Fairgrounds to Host Iconic Kissing Couple
and Rosie the Riveter bronze sculptures by Seward Johnson**

Rhinebeck, New York. (August 16, 2017) — On Tuesday, August 22, 2017, the dramatic *Embracing Peace* sculpture by renowned American artist Seward Johnson, will be installed at the Dutchess County Fair. Also on public view, will be the inspiring life-size sculpture of Rosie the Riveter by beloved 87 year old American artist Seward Johnson entitled *Can Do!* A collaboration between The Seward Johnson Atelier, a not for profit entity that encourages the placement and sharing of public art, and the national Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive organization, has brought the enduring kissing couple and WW2 icon to the fairgrounds.

A passion for detail, an uncanny realism of pose and a striking palette are qualities often connected with the works of American sculptor Seward Johnson. Well-known for recreating life in our times in vividly realistic bronze, Johnson steps back into history with his work entitled *Embracing Peace*, to pay homage to the veterans of World War II. At a time when we are losing these heroes in great numbers – statistics suggest that 1600 people of this generation pass daily – it is an ideal time to honor their service and sacrifice. With this sculpture, Seward Johnson breaks the barrier of the two-dimensional, delivering a captivatingly lifelike, monumental three-dimensional interpretation of the iconic image that encapsulated the relief of the conclusion of the war, and the joy of the homecoming. This artwork honors the memory of the past, reminding us of the sacrifice of a nation, and awakens a younger generation to a turning point in our nation's history. *Embracing Peace* is bronze, 5 ft 10 inches tall and 950 lbs.

“With this work, I wanted to evoke a time of unity. The moment captured in the embrace of these two strangers encapsulates the spirit of having fought a successful campaign defending our values, and celebrates the expression of sheer joy at the homecoming.” Seward Johnson

Paula Stoeke, Curator at the Seward Johnson Atelier notes, *“This sculpture of Rosie is a reminder of the contributions of women during WWII, including the thousands who stepped forward to build the planes, ships, vehicles and other equipment necessary to succeed and reach a peaceful resolution. This Rosie will also encourage the sharing of memories between generations, giving granddaughters and daughters an opportunity to hear stories from their often humble mothers and grandmothers.”* *Can Do!* is bronze, 5 ft 5 inches and 450 lbs.



About The Seward Johnson Atelier and Artist Seward Johnson:

The Seward Johnson Atelier, Inc., was created to promote the appreciation of, and education about, sculpture and public art in general, utilizing the creation, maintenance, sales and public placement of Seward Johnson's artwork as its instrument.

For additional information about the artist or the sculpture, contact:

THE SEWARD JOHNSON ATELIER, INC.

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About The Spirit of '45:

The mission of the *Spirit of '45*, is to promote the observation of Spirit of '45 Day, the annual day honoring the legacy of the men and women of the WWII that was passed unanimously by the U.S. Congress in 2010 which is now observed on the second weekend of August in communities throughout America.

For additional information about the Spirit of '45, contact:

Keep the the Spirit of '45 Alive

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Embracing Peace by Seward Johnson © 2004 The Seward Johnson Atelier, Inc.

www.sewardjohnsonatelier.org Photo by Carl Deal III

Can Do! by Seward Johnson © 2015 The Seward Johnson Atelier, Inc.

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SEWARD JOHNSON ARE AVAILABLE IN HIGH RESOLUTION UPON REQUEST

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