

NEWS RELEASE

# Legendary Folk Artist Bob Dylan's First Permanent Public Work Of Art To Be Featured At MGM National Harbor

#### 9/7/2016

Dylan's "Portal" Reflects America's Industrial Past As Permanent Part of the Property's Art Program NATIONAL HARBOR, Md., Sept. 7, 2016 / PRNewswire/ -- When MGM National Harbor opens its doors in Prince George's County, Maryland later this year, guests will be ushered into the \$1.3 billion resort casino through "Portal," a sculpted iron archway designed by legendary folk artist Bob Dylan. The 26-foot by 15-foot custom piece will adorn the west entrance as part of the property's art collection and is Dylan's first permanent work of art for a public space.

"Mr. Dylan is undoubtedly one of the greatest musicians of our time, but his incredible metalwork sculptures are a testament to his creative genius and ability to transcend mediums," said Jim Murren, Chairman and CEO of MGM Resorts International. "As a company founded upon entertainment, we're truly inspired by artists who channel their energy into diverse paths. We're proud to collaborate with Mr. Dylan and bring his vision to MGM National Harbor's Heritage Collection in a way that enhances this sensory resort experience."

## For high-resolution images, please visit: <a href="http://mgm.re/jtMosd">http://mgm.re/jtMosd</a>

Dylan has sculpted iron pieces for family and friends for the past 30 years, but it wasn't until 2013 – at London's Halcyon Gallery in an exhibition called Mood Swings – that his metal artwork was first viewed publicly. His works feature found objects, vintage scrap metal and industrial artifacts collected from junkyards. Dylan collects everything from farm equipment, children's toys, kitchen utensils and antique fire arms to chains, cogs, axes and wheels. He then welds these curiosities into thoughtfully juxtaposed masterpieces. Commissioned by MGM National Harbor to envision an open entrance, Dylan hand-selected unique objects and will weld a stunning composition into a soaring archway. Guests will walk through this incredible architectural artwork entitled "Portal" as they enter the new resort.

Gates are elemental in Dylan's body of welding work. The poet draws from their symbolism as doorways. "Gates

appeal to me because of the negative space they allow," said Dylan. "They can be closed, but at the same time they allow the seasons and breezes to enter and flow. They can shut you out or shut you in. And in some ways, there is no difference."

Although best known as a singer and songwriter – he has released 48 albums, written over 600 songs and sold more than 110 million records – Dylan also is a prolific visual artist who has exhibited his paintings for two decades. His combined creative output has influenced American art and culture in immeasurable ways.

Dylan's welding work pays homage to America's industrial core as well as his personal history. He grew up in Hibbing, Minnesota an "Iron Range" city home to one of the largest mines and iron ore deposits in the country, which supplied 90 percent of the nation's iron for World War II. At 75, Dylan has witnessed the transition of the American economy and the subsequent hard times that befell towns like Hibbing during his lifetime. His art – from his lyrics – "The Times They Are a–Changin'" – to the discarded and often obsolete metal items he collects and welds – reflect a bygone era. As a folk artist, Bob Dylan captures the nation's lament for the time before modern technology, when it was just the soil, the hand and the tool. Fittingly, each work of art contains a small metal buffalo, signed Black Buffalo Iron Works, followed by Dylan's signature.

The MGM National Harbor Heritage Collection will feature pieces from more than a dozen artists working with a variety of mediums including aluminum, clay, stainless steel, bronze, watercolors, photography and more. Objects will range from large-scale sculptures and paintings to photography and LED light boxes, creating a rich visual experience. Inspired by the heritage of the Capital Region, the MGM National Harbor Heritage Collection will showcase high-quality commissioned and procured works seamlessly integrated into the resort's public spaces, by visionary local and international sculptors, photographers and mixed-media artists.

For additional information about the artists being featured in the Heritage Collection at MGM National Harbor, please visit <a href="mailto:newsroom.mgmnationalharbor.com">newsroom.mgmnationalharbor.com</a>.

### **About MGM National Harbor**

The newest addition to the MGM Resorts International (NYSE: MGM) portfolio, MGM National Harbor's unrivaled setting offers stunning panoramic views of the eastern shore of the Potomac River in Maryland. The \$1.3 billion resort sits a short distance from Washington, D.C. to the north and historic sites, including George Washington's Mount Vernon estate across the river in Virginia. The 24-story, 308-room resort will feature premier amenities and experiences for locals as well as visitors from around the world including a dynamic casino with over 125,000 square feet of space that includes slots, table games and poker; a world-class spa and salon; an entertainment theater with flexible seating for up to 3,000; high-end branded retail; 27,000 square feet of meeting space; and restaurants from renowned local, national and international chefs. MGM National Harbor is slated to open in the fourth quarter of

2016.

## **About MGM Resorts International**

MGM Resorts International (NYSE: MGM) is one of the world's leading global hospitality companies, operating a portfolio of destination resort brands including Bellagio, MGM Grand, Mandalay Bay and The Mirage. The Company is in the process of developing MGM National Harbor in Maryland and MGM Springfield in Massachusetts. MGM Resorts controls, and holds a 73 percent economic interest in the operating partnership of MGM Growth Properties LLC (NYSE: MGP), a premier triple-net lease real estate investment trust engaged in the acquisition, ownership and leasing of large-scale destination entertainment and leisure resorts. The Company also owns 51 percent of MGM China Holdings Limited (HK: 2282), which owns the MGM Macau resort and casino and is developing a gaming resort in Cotai, and 50 percent of CityCenter in Las Vegas, which features ARIA Resort & Casino. MGM Resorts is named among FORTUNE® Magazine's 2016 list of World's Most Admired Companies®. For more information about MGM Resorts International, visit the Company's website at mgmresorts.com.

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