

WHITNEY

PRESS RELEASE

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Roy and Dorothy Lichtenstein in Lichtenstein's Washington Street studio, circa 1992. Artwork © Estate of Roy Lichtenstein, courtesy the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation Archives. Photograph © Christine de Grancy

DOROTHY LICHTENSTEIN ANNOUNCES DONATION OF ROY LICHTENSTEIN'S GREENWICH VILLAGE STUDIO TO THE WHITNEY MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART

A Long-Time Champion of Lichtenstein's Art and a Downtown Neighbor, Whitney Selects Johnston Marklee to Adapt the Lichtenstein Studio as Home of Its Independent Study Program

NEW YORK, NY, February 23, 2022 — Dorothy Lichtenstein, widow of Roy Lichtenstein, and Adam D. Weinberg, Alice Pratt Brown Director of the Whitney Museum of American Art, today announced that the Lichtenstein family has promised to donate the late artist's studio building to the Museum. The Whitney, which since moving downtown in 2015 has been a neighbor of the studio, operating four blocks north on Gansevoort Street, will adapt the space to serve as the first permanent home of its widely influential Independent Study Program, which was founded in 1968.

Dorothy Lichtenstein said, "Thanks to Roy, this building has been the site for artistic and intellectual endeavors, both for himself and for the people who have long gathered here. I can't think of a more

meaningful use for the studio than for the Whitney to carry his legacy far into the future, building on and expanding the role of the Foundation in supporting contemporary art and artists.”

Adam D. Weinberg said, “This is a magnificent act of generosity on the part of Dorothy Lichtenstein and the Lichtenstein Estate and is all the more meaningful because of Roy’s history with the Whitney and the many times in recent years they have extended their hand to our museum. We’re profoundly grateful to be entrusted with this major part of New York’s cultural heritage and are excited to keep Roy’s legacy vital through the programs of our Independent Study Program, which nurtures the next generation of artists, curators, and scholars.”

The adaptation of the studio is being made possible through the generous support of visionary lead donors including Museum trustees Laurie Tisch, Nancy and Fred Poses, Pamella and Daniel DeVos, Jen Rubio and Stewart Butterfield, Fern and Lenard Tessler, and close friends of the Whitney, David Cancel and Gloria H. Spivak.

The building at 741/745 Washington Street was constructed in 1912 as a metalworking shop. Roy Lichtenstein (1923–1997) bought the approximately 9,000-square-foot building in 1987 and used it after renovation as his New York residence and studio from 1988 to 1997. In the years since, the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation has utilized the building for various activities, including the preparation of the archives and creation of the catalogue raisonné.

The close relationship between Roy Lichtenstein and the Whitney began in 1965, when his work was included in both the *1965 Annual Exhibition* and *A Decade of American Drawings, 1955–1965*, and continued through dozens of exhibitions, the most recent of which included *Three Landscapes: A Film Installation by Roy Lichtenstein* (2011–12) and *Order and Ornament: Roy Lichtenstein’s Entablatures* (2019–20). He also led seminars in the Whitney’s Independent Study Program. In 2018, the Whitney and the Foundation announced a partnership to create a Roy Lichtenstein Study Collection for the exhibition, conservation, and study of Lichtenstein’s work. To date, the Foundation has gifted the Whitney more than 400 works by Lichtenstein (paintings, drawings, prints, sculptures, artist photographs, study, research, and reference materials) and more than five hundred photographs by Harry Shunk and Janos Kender (Shunk-Kender), which record the actions and performances of numerous artists—among them Gordon Matta-Clark, Keith Sonnier, John Baldessari, Mel Bochner, Dan Graham, Robert Morris, Richard Serra, Lawrence Weiner, and William Wegman—that took place at Pier 18 on the Hudson River, close to where the Whitney now stands.

The Whitney intends to relocate its highly selective Independent Study Program (ISP) into the building in summer 2023, during the year of Roy Lichtenstein’s centennial. During the summers, when not in use by ISP, the Museum expects to use the building for a diverse set of educational programs, including residencies, teacher training, and teen programs.

Established in 1968, ISP has instructed more than two generations of artists, curators, art historians, and critics but until now has operated out of a variety of leased quarters. Ron Clark has led the program for more than fifty years and has enlisted distinguished, long-term faculty to ISP, including Benjamin Buchloh, Douglas Crimp, Hal Foster, Isaac Julien, Mary Kelly, Barbara Kruger, Laura Mulvey, Craig Owens, Yvonne Rainer, and Martha Rosler. Alumni of ISP include artists Jennifer Allora, Gregg Bordowitz, Tony Cokes, Danielle Dean, Mark Dion, Andrea Fraser, LaToya Ruby Frazier, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Renée Green, Jenny Holzer, Emily Jacir, Glenn Ligon, Rirkrit Tiravanija, and Julian Schnabel; museum directors

Richard Armstrong, Johanna Burton, Madeleine Grynstejn, and Lisa Phillips; critics and art historians Huey Copeland, Miwon Kwon, Pamela M. Lee, and Roberta Smith; and curators Carlos Basualdo, Naomi Beckwith, and Sheena Wagstaff.

The Whitney has conducted a focused search for an architect to adapt 741/45 Washington Street and has selected the architecture firm Johnston Marklee. Established in 1998 in Los Angeles by Sharon Johnston, FAIA, and Mark Lee, the firm has been recognized nationally and internationally with more than fifty major awards and numerous publications. Projects undertaken by Johnston Marklee are diverse in scale and type, spanning fourteen countries throughout North and South America, Europe, and Asia. Recent projects include the Menil Drawing Institute, on the campus of the Menil Collection in Houston, which opened in November 2018; a renovation of the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, which opened in September 2017; and the new UCLA Graduate Art Studios campus in Culver City, California. Envoie Projects will serve as the owner's representative for the project.

Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art

Public Art Project: David Hammons: Day's End	On permanent view
My Barbarian	Through February 27, 2022
Labyrinth of Forms: Women and Abstraction, 1930–1950	Through March 13, 2022
Jennifer Packer: The Eye Is Not Satisfied With Seeing	Through April 17, 2022
Whitney Biennial 2022: Quiet as It's Kept	April 6–September 5, 2022
At the Dawn of a New Age: Early Twentieth-Century American Modernism	May 7, 2022–January 2023
Martine Gutierrez: Supremacy	September 2022–March 2023
Edward Hopper's New York	October 19, 2022–March 5, 2023
no existe un mundo poshuracán: Puerto Rican Art in the Wake of Hurricane Maria	November 23, 2022–April 23, 2023
The Whitney's Collection: Selections From 1900 to 1965	Ongoing

About the Whitney

The Whitney Museum of American Art, founded in 1930 by the artist and philanthropist Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney (1875–1942), houses the foremost collection of American art from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Mrs. Whitney, an early and ardent supporter of modern American art, nurtured groundbreaking artists when audiences were still largely preoccupied with the Old Masters. From her vision arose the Whitney Museum of American Art, which has been championing the most innovative art of the United States for ninety years. The core of the Whitney's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit American art of our time and serve a wide variety of audiences in celebration of the complexity and diversity of art and culture in the United States. Through this mission and a steadfast commitment to artists, the Whitney has long been a powerful force in support of modern and contemporary art and continues to help define what is innovative and influential in American art today.

Visitor Information

The Whitney Museum of American Art is located at 99 Gansevoort Street between Washington and West Streets, New York City. Public hours are: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10:30 am–6 pm; Friday, 10:30 am–10 pm; and Saturday and Sunday, 11 am–6 pm. Closed Tuesday. Member-only hours

are: Saturday and Sunday, 10:30–11 am. Visitors eighteen years and under and Whitney members: FREE. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 7–10 pm.

Effective January 29, 2022, all visitors aged 5 and older must show proof of two vaccine doses or a single Johnson & Johnson dose for admission to the Whitney, in accordance with New York City requirements. Visitors over 18 will also be asked to show photo identification. Face coverings are required for all visitors, and timed tickets must be booked in advance. For complete visitor guidelines, visit whitney.org.