HISTORIC FINE ARTS MUSEUM AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY WILL TEMPORARILY CONVERT TO STUDY CENTER

Grey Art Gallery at NYU will remain closed until fall 2021, serving as a study center for University students in the interim.

The Grey Art Gallery at New York University, which has been closed to the public since March 14, 2020, in accordance with NYU’s plan to limit the spread of COVID-19, will remain closed until fall of 2021. The exhibition Taking Shape: Abstraction in the Arab World, 1950s–1980s, which opened January 9, 2020, and was on view when the museum closed, will not reopen to the public. Rather, this fall, the upper level of the Grey Art Gallery will be transformed into a temporary study center for NYU students. Fortuitously, the Grey had previously decided to cancel all exhibitions for the 2020–21 academic year in order to implement infrastructure updates.
This is not the first time that this corner of the Silver Center for Arts and Science at NYU has functioned as study hall and art institution. From 1927 to 1943, the space housed both NYU’s South Study Hall and A. E. Gallatin’s Gallery (later Museum) of Living Art. The great-grandson of Albert Gallatin, who founded NYU in 1831, A. E. Gallatin (1881–1952) was an artist who also amassed an impressive collection of artworks, including paintings by Pablo Picasso, Fernand Léger, and Joan Miró. Decades after closing in 1943, the space reopened in 1975 as the Grey Art Gallery, caretaker of the New York University Art Collection and the Abby Weed Grey Collection of Modern Asian and Middle Eastern Art.

With its emphasis on experimentation and interpretation, the Grey—like Gallatin’s Museum of Living Art—serves as a laboratory for the exploration of art in its historical, cultural, and social contexts. The Gallery is pleased to provide NYU students with a place to study and participate in online classes during the pandemic. Grey Art Gallery Director Lynn Gumpert notes, “These are extremely difficult times on many levels, and we at the Grey are pleased to work with our colleagues to ensure the well-being of NYU students as they continue to adapt to new learning challenges.”

We look forward to welcoming students and visitors back to the museum during the 2021–22 academic year, when exhibitions resume. In the meantime, the Grey will remain active in the digital sphere, with virtual public programs and an array of online projects and resources that allow us to engage not only with the NYU community but also with audiences worldwide. We welcome you to explore our website at greyartgallery.nyu.edu to learn about our collections, future exhibitions, and digital projects.

About the Grey Art Gallery
The Grey Art Gallery is New York University’s fine arts museum, located on historic Washington Square Park in New York City’s Greenwich Village. It offers the NYU community and the general public a dynamic roster of engaging and thought-provoking exhibitions, all of them enriched by public programs. With its emphasis on experimentation and interpretation, and its focus on studying art in its historical and sociocultural contexts, the Grey serves as a museum-laboratory.

Exhibitions organized by the Grey have encompassed all the visual arts: painting, sculpture, drawing and printmaking, photography, architecture and decorative arts, video, film, and performance. In addition to producing its own exhibitions, which often travel to other venues in the United States and abroad, the Gallery hosts traveling shows that might not otherwise be seen in New York and produces scholarly publications that are distributed worldwide.

General Information
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