



The New
School
Collects

The art collection
of the New School
for Social Research

University Committee on
the Art Collection

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Chairperson
Thomas Cahill
Elaine Dannheisser
Carol Goldberg
Anthony Grant
Agnes Gund
Betty Levin
Vera List
Joshua Mack
Irvine R. MacManus, Jr.
Kynaston McShine
Meryl Meltzer
John McDonald Moore
Ronald W. Moore
Marlica Sawin
Pari Stave



The New School for Social Research, founded in 1919 has long been known for its leadership in the arts. The university home on Twelfth Street, begun in 1929, marks the beginning of that involvement. It is a major work in the oeuvre of Vienna Secessionist architect Joseph Urban and was intended to reflect the New School's commitment to the visual arts and modernity in general. The great excitement the building generated as it rose amid the artistic and intellectual ferment of Greenwich Village led both Jose Clemente Orozco and Thomas Hart Benton to offer their services to the new enterprise. They were eagerly accepted, and both artists were commissioned to paint murals for the new building. For the official opening in 1931, the Societe Anonyme, directed by Katherine Dreier, organized an exhibition of the most contemporary art of the day which included Klee, Kandinsky, Leger, Man Ray, Mondrian and Ernst. Design also was an early concern and, concurrently, an exhibition of contemporary domestic furnishings could be seen at the New School.

In the ensuing years, the New School continued to emphasize the vital role of the arts in academic life. It also expanded its international base with the establishment of the University in Exile in 1933, later renamed the Graduate Faculty, to provide a haven for intellectuals and artists escaping totalitarian regimes in Europe. This was particularly appropriate since the New School was established after two of its founders resigned from Columbia University over a question of freedom of expression, still one of the guiding principles of the university. Over the years, such noted figures as Meyer Schapiro, Leo Stein,

Rudolf Arnheim, Lewis Mumford, George Grosz, Virgil Thomson, Stuart Davis, Berenice Abbott, Lisette Model, Yasuo Kuniyoshi, John Cage, Larry Rivers and Ronald Bladen, taught at the New School. Martha Graham and Aaron Copland collaborated with Isamu Noguchi to create "Appalachian Spring" at the New School, and a Noguchi chair from its set remains in the university's collection. The courses in modern art and

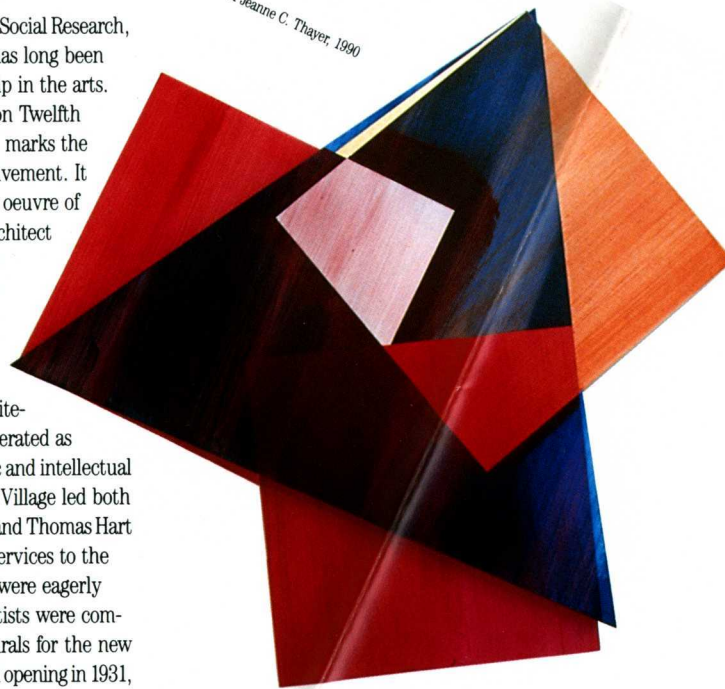
"Students and faculty at the New School share a unique experience as they move through its corridors and classrooms. The walls are a veritable gallery of the modern epoch; tangible representation of the university's commitment to established masters of our time, as well as to the contemporary cutting edge. . . . Not only is the New School today the single university with the largest commitment to arts education in America, it has a long tradition of extending its resources to artists, both established masters and emerging young talent, in the development of its collection and recruitment of its faculty."

David C. Levy
President and Director
The Corcoran
Washington

music taught at the New School probably the first to be found in the United States.

The year 1960 was important for the visual arts at the New School. It was then that the New School Center was created with the Albert A. List Foundation to celebrate the new building. This center houses the permanent collection of art and design, an ongoing program that includes Artistic Theory, other exhibitions, art and design shows, collections, and workshops.

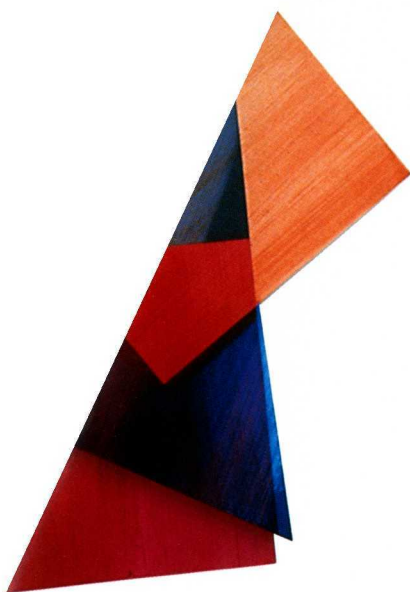
DOROTHEA ROCKBURN
Two Angels, 100 Years, 1984
oil paint and gold leaf
on gessoed linen
67 x 60 x 4"
Gift of Jeanne C. Thayer, 1990



Cover:
JOSE CLEMENTE OROZCO
The Table of Brotherhood, 1931
one of five frescoes created
for the former dining room
of the New School for
Social Research, now room 712.

HANS HAACKE
Helmshorn Country (Unfolded), 1990
silkscreen on paper with
cibachrome in two parts
edition, 11/36
48 x 25" each
Gift of Agnes Gund, 1990

BERENICE
City Arabs
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23 x 17"
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Berenice
Gift of Ver



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Washington, D.C.

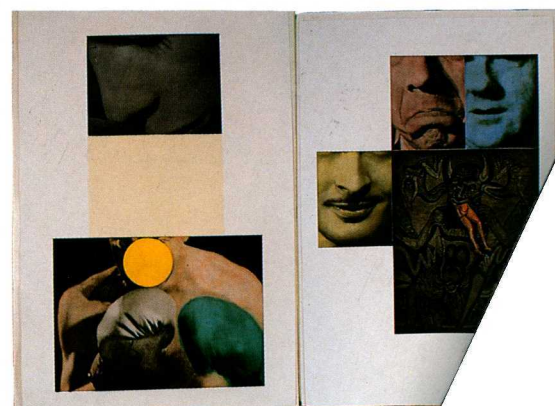
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The year 1960 was important for the visual arts at the New School. It was then that the New School Art Center was created with a grant from the Albert A. List Foundation to celebrate the new Graduate Faculty Building. This center was a home for the permanent collection and an ongoing program of special exhibitions that included a series called "The Artistic Thinking of Our Time" and other exhibitions devoted to political art and work from private collections. Shows such as "Museum Leaders Collect" that included work owned by William Rubin, Thomas Messer, William Lieberman and Dorothy Miller and exhibitions of work from the Nelson Rockefeller and List family collections were highlights. Under the 25-year directorship of Paul Mocsanyi, many provocative exhibitions were held at the New School. Käthe

Kollwitz, Max Pechstein, Otto Dix, and Ben Shahn were included in several political shows, and noted artists such as Willem De Kooning, Alberto Giacometti, Jasper Johns, Grace Hartigan, Jacob Lawrence, Louise Nevelson, Bob Thompson, Lee Krasner and Romare Bearden were included in other exhibitions. The Center also hosted important historical exhibitions including an Italian drawing show that featured Bellini, Carpaccio, Canaletto, Tintoretto, and Titian.

The New School's commitment to providing a forum for the newest developments in the arts prompted the university to provide a temporary home for the New Museum of Contemporary Art. It also led to its mergers with Parsons School of Design, Otis Art Institute of Parsons (in Los Angeles) and, more recently, the Mannes College of Music. Mainly through the generosity of Life T. Vera G. List, art is made available to students to borrow and New School students, faculty and staff enjoy free admission to the Museum of Modern Art and the New Museum of Contemporary Art.

JOHN BALDESSARI
Heaven and Hell, 1988
two color etchings
edition, 18/45
47 1/2 x 31 1/2" each
Purchase, 1989



"I'm excited about our art collection. . . . such a variety of challenging work by artists and known artists usually seen in student exhibitions."



BERENICE ABBOTT
City Arabesque, New York, June 9, 1938
black and white silverprint
23 x 17"
reproduced courtesy of
Berenice Abbott/Commerce Graphics Ltd., Inc.
Gift of Vera G. List, 1987

(folded), 1990

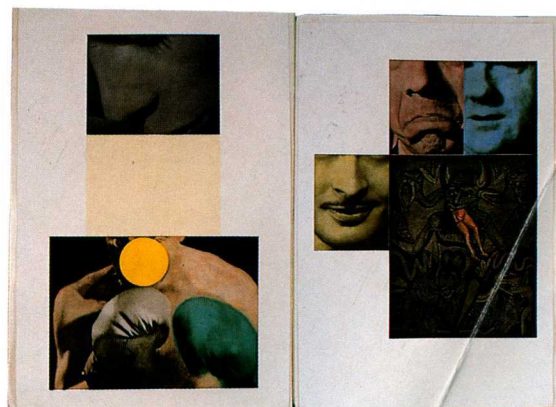
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**Amy Goldberg
B.F.A. student
Parsons School
of Design
a division of the
New School for
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41 1/2 x 29 1/2"
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LUIS CRUZ AZACETA
Aids, Time, Death, 1989
acrylic and ink on paper
41 1/2 x 29 1/2"
Purchase, 1989



LORNA SIMPSON
Screen I, 1986
three black and white
silverprints in wooden screen
73 1/2 x 48 x 31"
Purchase, 1988

the lobbies, hallways and other public spaces in the various New School buildings. Among the other artists included in the collection are Nancy Spero, David Wojnarowicz, Adrian Piper, Sue Coe, Feliz Gonzalez Torres, Susana Solano, Ursula Von Rydingsuand, Mark Luyten, Elaine Reichek, David Hammons, Alfredo Jaar and Komar & Melamid.

An exciting new project to be undertaken by the Committee harks back, in concept, to the early days of the New School, when Orozco and Benton were commissioned to make works for Urban's new building. The New School has now commissioned sculptor Martin Puryear and architect Michael Van Valkenburgh to collaborate on a new design for its courtyard. This project will produce a total environment which will function as a site for contemplation and for special events for the thousands of visitors to the New School as well as its academic community. It is symbolic of the New School's history and continuing commitment to the arts, and it will become the heart of the university's academic complex and the focus of its art collection.

KATHLEEN GONCHAROV
Curator
May, 1991

PETAH COYNE
Untitled #474, 1987
wood, metal, polymer medium
on mud and various
other materials
200 x 63 x 45"
Gift of Vera G. List, 1988

