LEGACY: THE EMILY FISHER LANDAU COLLECTION AT THE GRAND RAPIDS ART MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS WORKS BY THE ARTISTS WHO DEFINED CONTEMPORARY ART

Exhibition features 80 Works by 40 American Artists, including Andy Warhol, Jasper Johns, Ed Ruscha, Barbara Kruger, and Richard Artschwager.


Related programs throughout the course of the exhibition include a ticketed lecture on January 29 with GRAM’s Director, Dana Friis-Hansen, and Adam D. Weinberg, the Alice Pratt Brown Director of the Whitney Museum of American Art; an exclusive GRAM Member Preview and Member Day; The After Party, a public and late-night preview for Legacy; and a special Instagram campaign (details on all events listed below).

"These are the artists that took risks, that made powerful statements that resonated locally, nationally, and around the globe," said Dana Friis-Hansen, GRAM Director and CEO. "They were gamechangers, experimenting with new styles and formats that form the very basis for the contemporary art of our era. These are the artists who pushed the boundaries from the sixties through the nineties, and are still making powerful statements today."

GRAM’s presentation of Legacy: The Emily Fisher Landau Collection is divided into sections focused on Gestural Abstraction, Geometric Abstraction, Pop Art, Conceptual Art, Narrative Art, Identity Politics, and also features in-depth presentations by Richard Artschwager, Rodney Graham, Jasper Johns, and Ed Ruscha.

Drawn from Emily Fisher Landau’s spectacular donation of over 400 modern and contemporary works of art to the Whitney Museum of American Art, this exhibition of 80 works traces the themes and ideas that have shaped art since the late 1960s—abstraction, conceptualism, postmodernism, questions about the relevance of painting in the aftermath of minimalism, debates about representation, “culture wars,” and a revived interest in personal narratives.

Additionally, Legacy illuminates the sociopolitical issues at the forefront of the 1980s downtown New York scene. Important works by Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Robert Mapplethorpe, Peter Hujar, Nan Goldin, Keith Haring, David Wojnarowicz, and Lorna Simpson tackle tough subject matter, including AIDS, politics, and gender and race issues.

Legacy is accompanied by a major hardcover catalogue available for purchase in The Museum Store and an audio guide with commentary from Whitney Director Adam D. Weinberg, containing recorded interviews and commentary from many of the artists themselves. Visit the website to learn about related drop-in tours, studio workshops, and more.
This exhibition was organized by the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York.

Opening Week Events

About Emily Fisher Landau
One of the preeminent collectors of post-war American art in the United States, Emily Fisher Landau is a long-time friend, trustee, and supporter of the Whitney Museum of American Art. She began collecting art in the late 1960s, and has focused on building an important collection of contemporary American art since the early 1980s. She consistently supported risk-taking artists, who “portray the world we are living in now.” Landau advised, “Never stop learning. Never stop looking. Art is the greatest teacher.”

GRAM Instagram Challenge
Keep your eyes on GRAM’s social media channels! Every three weeks throughout the course of the exhibition, GRAM will post prompts (and related #tags) inspired by works of art and themes in Legacy. Guests are encouraged to take a photo based on this prompt, post the photo on their own Instagram accounts, and use the prompt-specific tag to share their image. At the end of each prompt, the top submissions will be selected by GRAM’s Curators, reshared on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, and will rotate through a display on a TV in GRAM’s galleries.

MORE LEGACY-RELATED PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Lecture: Directors’ Discussion
Adam D. Weinberg, Alice Pratt Brown Director, Whitney Museum of American Art
Dana Friis-Hansen, Director and CEO, Grand Rapids Art Museum
Wednesday, January 29, 2014. 7:00 p.m.
$15 admission; $5 for GRAM Members and students
Seating is first come, first served
Join a lively discussion with Whitney Director Adam D. Weinberg and GRAM Director Dana Friis-Hansen, focusing on Emily Fisher Landau’s legacy and collecting American Art. Galleries will be closed at this time; lecture guests will receive a ticket to return when the exhibition opens February 2.

GRAM Member Preview Party
Friday, January 31, 2014. 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Members have the first opportunity to experience Legacy: The Emily Fisher Landau Collection during this exhibition preview party! View works of art by some of the most groundbreaking contemporary artists, learn more from GRAM docents (volunteer art educators) stationed in the exhibition galleries, and enjoy complimentary refreshments and a cash bar.
RSVP by January 24, 2014 at 616.831.2909
memberpreview.kintera.org

The After Party (Public Preview)
Friday, January 31, 2014. 9:30 p.m. – midnight
Members free, non-members $5 cover
Galleries stay open until midnight! Invite your friends to preview Legacy: The Emily Fisher Landau Collection and enjoy a cash bar and music.

Member Day
Saturday, February 1, 2014. 10:00 am – 5:00 p.m.
Can’t make it to the preview party? Take a full day to preview Legacy: The Emily Fisher Landau Collection, exclusively for GRAM Members! Enjoy snacks and beverages from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, activities throughout the museum all day long, conversations with museum docents in the galleries, and a lecture by GRAM’s Director and CEO, Dana Friis-Hansen.
Member Lecture:
*(Stop) Making Sense: Directions and Disruptions in Contemporary Art History*
Saturday, February 1, 2014. 3:00 p.m.
With Dana Friis-Hansen, Director and CEO, Grand Rapids Art Museum

DROP-IN ACTIVITY:
Drop-in: Family Saturdays
Every Saturday, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Free with admission, free for GRAM Members
Escape the everyday and step into a world of creativity and new ideas! Drop in with friends or family to explore hands on art-making activities, interactive learning spaces, and more in the studio. This program rotates through new exhibition-related themes each month. Learn more at artmuseumgr.org.

WORKSHOP:
What's Your Status?
Tuesday, February 4, 2014. 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
$50 Members, $60 non-members
Explore your status outside of social media on an expedition into your personal narrative through letterpress and design. Journey through a variety of media in Legacy: The Emily Fisher Landau Collection, and practice letterpress printmaking in the studio with featured artist Chris Fox of Not Design.

WORKSHOP:
Creativity Uncorked: Legacy
Friday, February 7, 2014, 7:00 – 9:30 p.m.
Doors open at 6:15 pm.
$25 for Members, $30 for non-members
Activate your mind and express yourself while exploring the diverse body of work seen in Legacy: The Emily Fisher Landau Collection. Make a statement in the studio and share your thoughts and ideas about the world happening around you. Experiment with today’s contemporary printmaking methods while being inspired by significant cultural and art history images and icons.

COURSE:
Altered Photography
Tuesday & Wednesday, April 8 & 9, 2014
9:00 am – 12 noon
$100 Members, $120 non-members
Capture your spring break memories and the world around you by building a camera and developing your own film in the studio. Travel through the galleries on a guided adventure featuring specially selected work by Rodney Graham, Cy Twombly, and Stephen Hannock.

TOURS:
Docent Guided Tours of the exhibition are available throughout the course of the exhibition. Visit artmuseumgr.org for details.

FILM SHOWINGS:
February 13, 7:00pm - Herb and Dorothy, 2008
March 13, 7:00pm - Herb and Dorothy 50x50, 2013
April 3, 7:00pm - Herb and Dorothy, 2008
April 24, 7:00pm - Herb and Dorothy 50x50, 2013

LIST OF ARTISTS IN *LEGACY: THE EMILY FISHER LANDAU COLLECTION*
- Carl Andre
- Richard Artschwager
• Felix Gonzalez-Torres
• Peter Hujar
• Jasper Johns
• Glenn Ligon
• Agnes Martin
• John McLaughlin
• Ed Ruscha
• John Baldessari
• Matthew Barney
• Nayland Blake
• Peter Cain
• Gregory Crewdson
• Willem de Kooning
• Carroll Dunham
• Eric Fischl
• Nan Goldin
• Rodney Graham
• Keith Haring
• Jenny Holzer
• Michael Hurson
• Neil Jenney
• Joseph Kosuth
• Barbara Kruger
• Annette Lemieux
• Sherrie Levine
• Robert Mapplethorpe
• Richard Prince
• Martin Puryear
• James Rosenquist
• Susan Rothenberg
• Allen Ruppersberg
• Lorna Simpson
• Kiki Smith
• Mark Tansey
• Al Taylor
• Cy Twombly
• Andy Warhol
• David Wojnarowicz

**Concurrent Exhibitions**

**The Stuart & Barbara Padnos Foundation Collection**, on view through March 30, 2014.

This exhibition represents some of the most important works of art drawn from a West Michigan collection, and focuses on modern artists including Pablo Picasso, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Auguste Rodin, and more. Following the exhibition’s end, the works will be rotated through the Museum galleries through the collection’s five-year loan period.

**GRAM Selects ArtPrize 2013: Encore**, on view through October 12, 2014

This exhibition showcases some of the strongest ArtPrize works selected from nine different ArtPrize 2013 venues.

**About the Grand Rapids Art Museum**

Focusing on art, design, and creativity, GRAM provides diverse platforms for experiences, ideas, and dialogue that enrich the human spirit and build practical learning skills. Through dynamic
exhibitions, collections, learning initiatives, and community collaborations, GRAM increasingly serves as a cultural beacon and civic anchor. Established in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids, the Art Museum is internationally known for its distinguished design and LEED® Gold certified status. Established in 1910 as the Grand Rapids Art Association, GRAM has grown to include more than 5,000 works of art, including American and European 19th and 20th century painting and sculpture and more than 3,000 works on paper. Embracing the city’s legacy as a leading center of design and manufacturing, GRAM has a growing collection in the area of design and modern craft.

For GRAM's hours and admission fees, visit artmuseumgr.org or call 616-831-1000.

Museum Hours:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Thursday: 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Sunday: 12 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Closed Mondays

Museum Admission:

General Admission:
GRAM Members – Free
Adults - $8.00
Senior Adults & College Students(W ID) - $7.00
Youth (ages 6-17) - $5.00
Children under 6 – Free

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