

# WHITNEY

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## Press Release

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Jasper Johns (b. 1930), *Three Flags*, 1958, Encaustic on canvas  
50th Anniversary Gift of the Gilman Foundation, Inc., The Lauder Foundation, A. Alfred Taubman, Laura-Lee Whittier Woods,  
and purchase 80.32

## REINSTALLATION OF THE WHITNEY'S COLLECTION OPENS JANUARY 30

NEW YORK, January 28, 2008 -- A new installation of the fifth floor of the Whitney Museum of American Art, highlighting a selection of works from the Whitney's collection, goes on view Wednesday, January 30, 2008. Curated by Carter Foster, *The Whitney's Collection* features new juxtapositions of some of the Museum's most well known works, as well as works that have been unseen by the public for years and three new acquisitions: a Calder sculpture from the early 1930s, made of painted metal, wire and wood; a 1964 wall sculpture by Robert Morris; and a never-before-executed wall drawing by the late Sol LeWitt.

To greet arriving visitors, Ed Ruscha's *Large Trademark with Eight Spotlights* (1962) is juxtaposed with Jeff Koons's monumental vacuum cleaners. A gallery of postwar masterworks places Robert Rauschenberg's *Yoicks* (1953), Jasper Johns's *Three Flags* (1958), and Andy Warhol's *Green Coca-Cola Bottles* (1962) side by side. A roomful of Abstract Expressionists includes Jackson Pollock's *Number 27, 1950* (1950), Willem de Kooning's *Woman and Bicycle* (1952-53), Franz Kline's *Mahoning* (1956), Joan Mitchell's *Hemlock* (1956), and Philip Guston's *Dial* (1956); the Pollock hangs next to Robert Morris's wall sculpture *Hand and Toe Hold* (1964), a 2007 addition to the Whitney's collection.

A room of works involving the figure includes Paul Cadmus's *Sailors and Floosies* (1938), Andrew Wyeth's *Winter Fields* (1942), and selections from Jacob Lawrence's *War Series* (1946-47), hanging alongside works by Edward Hopper, *South Carolina Morning* (1955) and *A Woman in the Sun* (1961). Three sculptures by Claes Oldenburg fill a small gallery. A room devoted to works of purist abstraction features an early Ad Reinhardt and works by Josef Albers, Burgoyne Diller, Mary Heilmann, and Ellsworth Kelly. A selection of works celebrating the theme of "City and Machine" includes a Peter Cain painting, a Carl Andre floor sculpture, and Joseph Stella's *The Brooklyn Bridge: Variation on an Old Theme* (1939), while works by Charles Sheeler, Ralston Crawford, and Stuart Davis hang nearby. An 8 x 8 foot wall drawing by Sol LeWitt, *Scribbles (Whitney)* (2007), one of the artist's last works which has never been executed before, is on view in nearby gallery.

"This presentation endeavors to reflect the way artists think and work as much as specific art historical movements. Artists tend to use history rather than follow it, taking ideas in a non-linear fashion as needed for their own work. Likewise, this installation is not chronological but presents works spanning the 20<sup>th</sup> century that share common influences and ideas rather than strict art historical periods or categories," said curator Carter Foster. These groupings reflect areas of particular strength in the permanent collection and include "Form Building, Form Breaking," "City and Machine," "The Figure and its Realities," and "Mind, Body, Gesture." In

some galleries, pairings of works create a dialogue between objects otherwise unrelated in terms of time or place. Smaller galleries have more focused displays that explore select topics in greater depth. More recent and contemporary art appears throughout the floor and demonstrates how certain conceptual and formal concerns relate to both past and current art making.

### ***About the Whitney***

The Whitney Museum of American Art is the leading advocate of 20<sup>th</sup>- and 21<sup>st</sup>- century American art. Founded in 1930, the Museum is regarded as the preeminent collection of American art and includes major works and materials from the estate of Edward Hopper, the largest public collection of works by Alexander Calder, Louise Nevelson, and Lucas Samaras, as well as significant works by Jasper Johns, Donald Judd, Agnes Martin, Bruce Nauman, Georgia O'Keeffe, Claes Oldenburg, Kiki Smith, and Andy Warhol, among other artists. With its history of exhibiting the most promising and influential American artists and provoking intense critical and public debate, the Whitney's signature show, the Biennial, has become the most important survey of the state of contemporary art in America today.

#### ***Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art:***

The Whitney's Collection	Opens January 30, 2008
Kara Walker	Through February 3, 2008
Lawrence Weiner	Through February 10, 2008
Television Delivers People	Through February 17, 2008
Two Years: Additions to the Collection, 2006-07	Through February 17, 2008
Beth Campbell: Following Room	Through February 24, 2008
Demuth's Late Paintings of Lancaster	February 23-April 27, 2008
2008 Whitney Biennial	March 6-June 1, 2008
Polaroids: Mapplethorpe	May 3-September 7, 2008
Buckminster Fuller: Starting with the Universe	June 26-September 21, 2008
Alexander Calder: The Paris Years	October 16, 2008-February 15, 2009

*The Whitney Museum is located at 945 Madison Avenue, New York City. Museum hours are: Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., closed Monday and Tuesday. Admission is \$15 for adults; Members, children (ages 11 and under), and New York City public high school students free. Senior citizens (62 and over) and students with valid ID: \$10. There is a \$6 admission fee for a pass to the Kaufman Astoria Studios Film & Video Gallery only. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 6-9 pm. For information, please call 1-800 WHITNEY or visit [www.whitney.org](http://www.whitney.org)*