

News Release

Press Office

T 212.423.3271

F 212.423.3232

Works Drawn from Gift to the Jewish Museum from the Barnett and Annalee Newman Foundation on View Beginning in April

The Gift: Works from the Barnett and Annalee Newman Foundation Collection

April 11 through November 3, 2019

New York, NY, March 21, 2019 – The Jewish Museum presents ***The Gift: Works from the Barnett and Annalee Newman Foundation Collection***, the first in a series of exhibitions drawn from the Foundation’s donation of artworks to the Jewish Museum.

The Gift is installed within [Scenes from the Collection](#), the Jewish Museum’s third-floor collection exhibition. It will be on view from April 11 through November 3, 2019.

The Jewish Museum received a [major gift](#) from The Barnett and Annalee Newman Foundation, established in 1996 by Annalee Newman, the artist's widow. This exhibition focuses on part of that gift which included artworks from the Newmans' personal collection. These works were gifts to the couple from their artist-friends, and include intimate pieces by Adolph Gottlieb, John Graham, Jasper Johns, Alexander Lieberman, Robert Gray Murray, Claes Oldenburg, Robert Rauschenberg, Aaron Siskind, and Frank Stella. Archival documents on loan from the Barnett Newman Foundation accompany the works on view, and comprise photographs, letters, and sketches shared amongst the artists.

The gift from the Barnett and Annalee Foundation also included funds to endow the Jewish Museum’s first curatorial position dedicated to contemporary art. *The Gift* is organized by Kelly Taxter, the Museum’s Barnett and Annalee Newman Foundation Curator of Contemporary Art.

The Gift: Works from the Barnett and Annalee Newman Foundation Collection highlights the many ways that artists support each other. The Newmans lived surrounded by artists, and their friendships and careers were sustained by decades of impassioned conversation and collaboration. For example, Tony Smith regularly organized the hanging of Newman’s exhibitions while Aaron Siskind photographed them. Newman was an inspirational figure. He unwaveringly supported artists of his own and younger generations, was always available for challenging and spirited dialogue, wrote press releases and catalogue texts, and served as a mentor. Materials from the Newman archives featured in the exhibition illuminate the many exchanges – both personal and professional – that nourished these relationships.

The Jewish Museum
1109 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10128
TheJewishMuseum.org

Under the auspices of
The Jewish Theological Seminary

Jewish Museum

The title of the exhibition is borrowed from the cultural critic Lewis Hyde's 1983 book *The Gift: Creativity and the Artist in the Modern World*. "A work of art is a gift," writes Hyde. "A work of art can survive without the market, but where there is no gift there is no art." This exhibition follows Annalee Newman's belief that her husband's paintings and the couple's own collection should be made visible to a wide public, especially to young artists. The Newmans were profoundly motivated by art's social and spiritual power, by its unique ability to confer gifts of insight, enjoyment, and understanding.

The exhibition is organized by Kelly Taxter, The Barnett and Annalee Newman Curator of Contemporary Art, The Jewish Museum, with Shira Backer, Leon Levy Assistant Curator, The Jewish Museum.

About the Jewish Museum

Located on New York City's famed Museum Mile, the Jewish Museum is a distinctive hub for art and Jewish culture for people of all backgrounds. Founded in 1904, the Museum was the first institution of its kind in the United States and is one of the oldest Jewish museums in the world. Devoted to exploring art and Jewish culture from ancient to contemporary, the Museum offers diverse exhibitions and programs, and maintains a unique collection of nearly 30,000 works of art, ceremonial objects, and media reflecting the global Jewish experience over more than 4,000 years.

Location: 1109 Fifth Avenue at 92nd Street, New York City
Hours: Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, 11am to 5:45pm; Thursday, 11am to 8pm; and Friday, 11am to 4pm.

Admission: \$18.00 for adults, \$12.00 for senior citizens, \$8.00 for students, free for visitors 18 and under and Jewish Museum members. Free on Saturdays and select Jewish holidays.

Information: The public may call 212.423.3200 or visit TheJewishMuseum.org

#

Press contact:
Daniela Stigh or Alex Wittenberg
The Jewish Museum
212.423.3330 or 212.423.3271
dstigh@thejm.org or awittenberg@thejm.org
pressoffice@thejm.org (general inquiries)

