

American Fine Art Open House

Just Off Madison features public gallery showings at normally private New York venues

November 19, 5-8 p.m.

Just Off Madison New York, NY www.justoffmadison.com

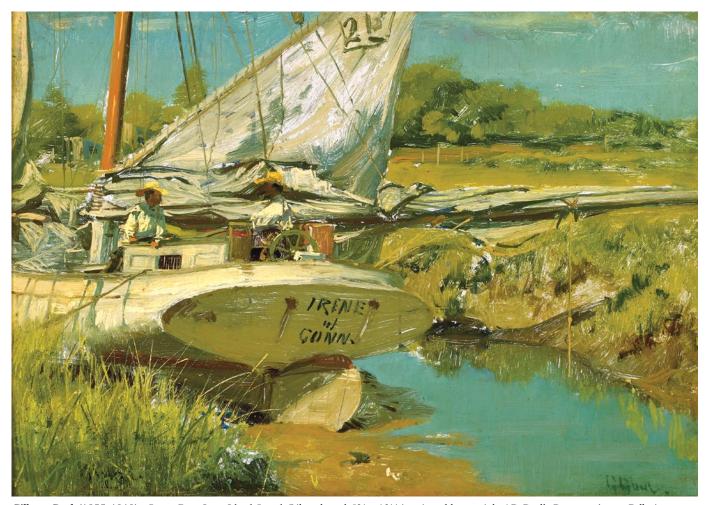
rt collectors looking to peruse historic American fine art in a relaxed environment can revel in an art lover's dream of an open house, *Just Off Madison*, this November. Coinciding with *The American Art Fair* at Bohemian National Hall in New York, 12 normally appointment-only Upper East Side galleries within walking distance of each other open their doors to the public.

Just Off Madison, now in its seventh year in conjunction with the fair, features galleries from East 67th through 79th streets, between Fifth and Park avenues. The event gives fair- and auction-goers a chance to unwind

after the events and peek inside these exclusive venues, allowing art collectors to mingle with their peers and meet gallery owners.

"Just Off Madison is always a great way for us to meet the public and see faces who might not otherwise visit us, and a great opportunity for people to see things they might otherwise miss," says Jonathan Spies, gallery director for Menconi + Schoelkopf Fine Art.

Not only does the event give galleries



Gilbert Gaul (1855-1919), Oyster Boat, Long Island Sound. Oil on board, 95% x 13½ in., signed lower right: 'G Gaul'. Courtesy Avery Galleries.



Mary Cassatt (1844-1926), Little Girl in a Large Red Hat, ca. 1881. Oil on canvas, 17½ x 15½ in., signed lower left: 'Mary Cassastt'. Courtesy Menconi + Schoelkopf Fine Art.

the ability to freely open their doors, *Just Off Madison* brings the gallery participants together and strengthens the collective. Founder Betty Krulik, owner of Betty Krulik Fine Art, Ltd., started the event in 2008 to make the galleries accessible to clients and friends without the need for an appointment, and says the event has morphed into a collaboration among all gallery owners.

This year marks an earlier date compared to the past, with Just Off Madison occurring before December's Art Basel in Miami and the holiday rush. The galleries look forward to the earlier date as a way to give more prominence to the event.

Galleries on the roster give art fans a diverse set of styles to look forward to. Offerings include paintings from the American art inventory at GRAHAM, as well as a sculpture exhibition by American and European figurative and animal sculptors of the 19th and 20th century. Menconi + Schoelkopf Fine Art displays 19th-and early-20th-century paintings by American impressionism, the



Kimber Smith (1922-1981), 2 Roses & Yellow Tulip, 1980. Acrylic on canvas, 60 x 36 in., signed bottom center: 'KS'; signed verso: 'KS 1980'; inscribed: '5 FEET x 3, 2 Roses & Yellow Tulip'. Courtesy GRAHAM.



Charles Demuth (1883-1935), Seascape, ca. 1915. Watercolor on paper, 9% x 13% in. Courtesy Kraushaar Galleries.



Jo Davidson (1883–1952), Torso of a Young Girl, 1932. Burgundy limestone, 36½ x 14 x 13 in., signed base, left side: 'Jo Davidson/1932'. Courtesy Conner • Rosenkranz, LLC.



Henry Roderick Newman (1843-1917), View of Florence, 1877. Oil on canvas, 26 x 36 in., signed and dated lower right center: 'H R Newman 1877'. Courtesy Betty Krulik Fine Art, Ltd.

Ashcan School and early American modernism artists. At James Reinish & Associates, Inc., visitors will find a selection of canvas and paper works by artists of the American Abstract Artists group of the 1930s and '40s, including Jean Xceron, Werner Drewes, John Sennhauser, and the Park Avenue Cubists, including George L.K. Morris, Charles Shaw, and Albert Gallatin.

Just Off Madison visitors also have the opportunity to discover lesser-known artists. At Meredith Ward Fine Art, for example, abstract paintings by Albert Swinden, active in the American Abstract Artists group in the 1930s and muralist for the Federal Art Project of the Works Progress Administration, will be on display.

"We'll be featuring some new discoveries in the gallery by artists

> who were central to the development of American art during their lifetime, but have fallen off the radar screen," Meredith Ward, owner of the gallery, says. "We find people always enjoy learning about these 'undiscovered' artists and having an opportunity to expand their knowledge of American art."

Besides potential sales, galleries at *Just Off Madison* greatly look forward to making new connections with those passionate about art.

"We tend to keep a low profile in New York, and *Just Off Madison* gives us the chance to visit with a number of collectors and museum folks whom we only get to see a few times each year," says Richard Rossello, principal of Avery Galleries.

Katherine Degn, director at Kraushaar Galleries, adds, "As always, we are looking forward to the fall edition of *Just Off Madison* because of the range of visitors it brings, from our colleagues, both commercial and at museums; collectors, both local and from out of town; and people who are just interested in looking at quality art they might not otherwise see."

Participating galleries are Avery Galleries; Betty Krulik Fine Art, Ltd.; Conner • Rosenkranz, LLC; Debra Force Fine Art, Inc.; James Reinish & Associates, Inc.; GRAHAM; Jonathan Boos; Kraushaar Galleries; Lois Wagner Fine Arts, Inc.; Menconi + Schoelkopf Fine Art; Meredith Ward Fine Art; and MME Fine Art, LLC.



Albert Swinden (1901-1961), *Untitled Abstraction No. 59*, 1946. Gouache on paper, 10% x 13¾ in., signed and dated lower right: '46 / A SWINDEN'. Courtesy Meredith Ward Fine Art.



Eastman Johnson (1824-1939), Catching Up on the News (Reading the News). Oil on board, 10 x 13¼ in., signed lower right: 'E Johnson'. Courtesy Lois Wagner Fine Arts, Inc.



Frederick Carl Frieseke (1874-1939), *The Mansard Room*, 1920-26. Oil on canvas, 25½ x 32 in., signed lower left: 'F. C. Frieseke'. Courtesy Debra Force Fine Art, Inc.



Alfred Henry Maurer (1868-1932), Still Life, ca. 1928-31. Oil and gold leaf on gessoed panel, $8\% \times 10\%$ in. Courtesy James Reinish & Associates, Inc.

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