



The Art Students League of New York

Now Open: The Art Students League of New York's "Art Under Construction" An Outdoor Gallery on 57th Street

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New York, N.Y. June 27, 2017--The illustrious history and the contemporary vitality of the Art Students League is now on display in *Art Under Construction*, an innovative street gallery in front of the League's 125-year-old building on 57th Street. The gallery transforms scaffolding pillars into an exhibition of work by League alumni and current instructors.



"Our new gallery outside celebrates the artistic construction that thrives *inside* the League," says League Board President Ellen Taylor. "For 125 years on 57th Street, the League and its instructors have taught hundreds of thousands of art students. We're proud to share with the public the diverse work of our instructors and alumni, and to mark our Landmark building's 125 years as a home to art and artists."

Art Under Construction is located at 215 West 57th Street in Manhattan and is produced with the help of ArtBridge, which transforms construction spaces into canvases for artists. The Nordstrom Tower being constructed next door to the League is expected to be one of the tallest buildings in New York.

Art Under Construction dresses scaffolding pillars with banners showcasing reproductions of work by League artists including representational painters Peter Cox, Leonid Gervits, Sharon Sprung, and Costa Vavagiakis; and abstract artists Bruce Dorfman, Ronnie Landfield, Knox Martin, and Larry Poons. Among other featured artists are Will Barnet, Roy Lichtenstein, Louise Nevelson, and Jackson Pollock.

Thoughts about art by other prominent League artists are also on display. Visitors can ponder quotes from League alumni such as Robert Rauschenberg ("Having to be different is the same trap as having to be the same.") and Mark Rothko ("A painting is not *about* an

experience – it *is* an experience.”). Other quoted artists include former League students Louise Bourgeois, Norman Rockwell, Georgia O’Keeffe, and Ai Weiwei.

The gallery will exhibit new works and quotes over the course of the construction.

About the Art Students League of New York

The Art Students League of New York is one of America’s premier art schools. It was founded in 1875 by artists, for artists, to provide affordable studio-based art education of the highest quality. Great artists have trained, taught, and exhibited at the League throughout its rich history. Classes, lectures, workshops, exhibitions, and professional development programs continue the League’s legacy of supporting students who intend to make art a profession, and cultivating a spirit of community among artists. Among its prominent instructors and students, the League counts Thomas Eakins, Frederic Remington and Reginald Marsh, Georgia O’Keeffe, Norman Rockwell, Jackson Pollock, Robert Rauschenberg, Mark Rothko, Jacob Lawrence, Louise Nevelson, and Ai Weiwei, among many others. Today, thousands of students each year study drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking and mixed media at the League. www.theartstudentsleague.org