



Cornell **CAU**
Education Vacations

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Dear Participants,

We are so excited to welcome you to our new summer CAU course Art for Its Time: Reflections of Recent American Movements. It will be a whirlwind as we look at a decade a day, beginning with the 1930s and the works produced for the Works Progress Administration, a program that kept many artists working through a unique government program, and we'll also look at the influence of the Mexican muralists, which had such a large impact on the artists of that era. The beginning of the Abstract Expressionist movement are embedded in this decade. This subject will be one that continues through the next two days.

On Tuesday we'll examine art that reflects the influence of European artists searching for asylum in America, a move that led to New York becoming the new center of the art world, as well as examining art created as a response to the Second World War. And we will continue to look at abstraction as it evolved in the 1940s.

Wednesday, our short day, will tie up these artistic trends as we sum up the changes that two decades wrought within the field of American art.

Thursday brings us to the turbulent sixties. Pop Art, the Vietnam War, the rise of the Civil Rights Movement and we'll end with the Feminist movement of the 1970s. Each decade is incredibly rich which is reflected in the collections across the Cornell Campus. We are planning "field" trips to the ILR Library, Kroch Library Rare and Manuscript Collection, and the Textile Collection and will meet with the specialists from those collections to round out our understanding of those times.

This course coincides with the 50th anniversary of the Johnson Museum and we will enjoy examining some of the many treasures from the collection. We will provide short articles in advance to enhance our conversations and appreciation of the works we will be viewing so stay tuned for those!

On the practical side, we won't be doing any excessive walking but it's always good to wear comfortable shoes as you explore the campus and the sites we will be visiting. There will be some standing and some easily accessible walking involved each day.

Please feel free to reach out to us and let us know what drew you to this course and if there's a particular artist or art movement that you hope we will discuss. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you all in July!

Kind regards,

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