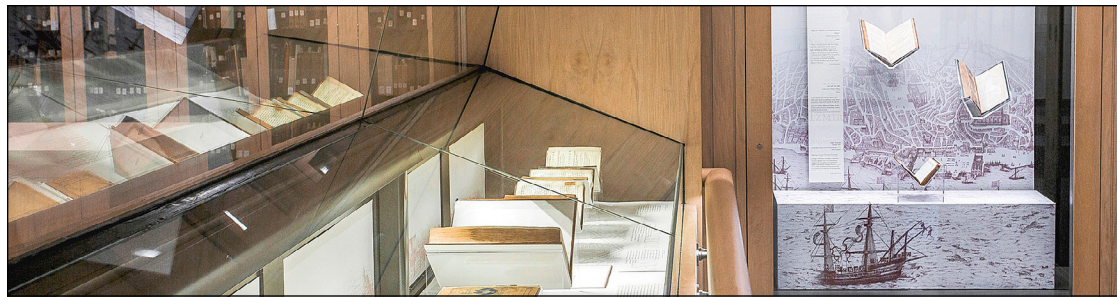


Center For Jewish History & Blavatnik Archive Unveil New Exhibition

NEW YORK CITY — The Center for Jewish History (CJH) and the Blavatnik Archive have announced the opening of their latest collaborative exhibition, “The Dreyfus Affair in Postcards: Going Viral at the End of the Nineteenth Century.” The exhibit offers a unique perspective on the infamous Dreyfus Affair through the lens of “Dreyfusard” and “anti-Dreyfusard” postcards from the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries.

The Dreyfus Affair began in 1894 with the false accusation and unjust conviction of Alfred Dreyfus, a Jewish officer in the French army. The events not only rocked France but also divided it deeply, bringing the nation nearly to the brink of civil war. This political scandal drew international attention, with prominent figures such as Émile Zola, Marcel Proust and Claude Monet supporting Dreyfus, while others, including Jules Verne and Edgar Degas, opposed him. The affair tested the impartiality and fairness of the French justice system and served as a pivotal moment for reevaluating societal attitudes toward religious and ethnic minorities.

Julie Chervinsky, director of the Blavatnik Archive, shared her thoughts on the exhibit, “By focusing on a vibrant popular medium — the picture postcard — we hope to bring to life the key events, stakes and impact of the Dreyfus Affair. Despite being more than 100 years old, these post-



Installation view of “The Dreyfus Affair in Postcards: Going Viral at the End of the 19th Century,” courtesy the Center for Jewish History.

cards carry imagery and messaging with acute contemporary relevance and remind us of the dangers posed by nationalism and antisemitism to justice and personal rights.”

Dr Gavriel Rosenfeld, president of the Center for Jewish History, expressed his enthusiasm for this collaboration, “Our partnership with the Blavatnik Archive has allowed us to present a compelling narrative of the Dreyfus Affair through a unique visual medium. These postcards offer an early form of social commentary and provide valuable insights into the power of the era’s media to shape the perception of historical events.”

Made possible by the generous support of the Blavatnik Family Foundation, the exhibition features expert commentary from Professor Maurice Samuels (Yale University), who sheds light on how picture postcards — an innovative and widely popular medium of the time — documented the controversy and allowed supporters and opponents of Dreyfus to com-

municate their views in what can be seen as an early form of social media.

Professor Samuels, author of *Alfred Dreyfus: The Man at the Center of the Affair*, highlighted the significance of the postcards,

“These postcards from the Dreyfus Affair provide a picture of a nation torn in two by antisemitism, much like our current moment. Many of them also happen to be fascinating works of art. Seeing how political divisions manifested themselves through images gives us a new perspective on an important historical event and sheds light on the way that popular culture infiltrated new realms of experience at the end of the Nineteenth Century in France.”

The Center for Jewish History is a vibrant hub for

exploring and preserving the Jewish History. Through exhibitions, events and educational programs, the center fosters a deeper understanding of Jewish history and culture.

The Blavatnik Archive is a nonprofit foundation dedicated to preserving and disseminating materials that contribute to the study of Twentieth Century world history, with a special focus on Jewish culture, World Wars I and II and Soviet history. Founded in 2005 by the businessman and philanthropist Len Blavatnik, the archive reflects his commitment to cultural heritage and supports primary source-based scholarship and education.

The exhibit is on view until November 1 at the Center for Jewish History at 15 West 16th Street. For information, www.cjh.org or 212-294-8301.

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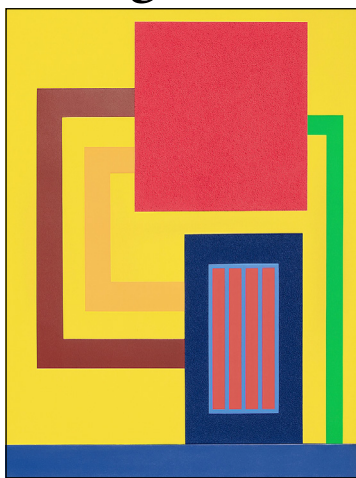
September 3rd to September 8th
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Ackland Art Museum Presents ‘Arranged’

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Ackland Art Museum presents “Arranged: Recent Acquisitions of Modern and Contemporary Paintings” on view through September 1. Taking its title from a newly acquired work by Peter Halley, “Arranged” brings together a varied selection of more than 30 recent acquisitions of modern and contemporary paintings by 22 artists. Following similar exhibitions highlighting new additions to the collection of photographs (“PhotoVision,” 2014), modern prints and portfolios (“One of Many,” 2017) and drawings (“Drawing Attention,” 2021), “Arranged” offers a diverse range of significant paintings from the 1950s to the present that have entered the Ackland’s collection by gift, promised gift and purchase over the past half-dozen years. Twelve of the works are on view for the first time.

Highlights include works by UNC-Chapel Hill alums Frank Faulkner, Herb Jackson (with two paintings each) and Mark Brown; a powerful group of Color Field works by Jules Olitski and other painters of his generation such as Stanley Boxer, Jack Bush and Friedel Dzubas; and individual paintings by Greg Drasler, Jeff Elrod, Shanequa Gay,



“Arranged” by Peter Halley (American, b 1953), 2007, acrylic, fluorescent acrylic, and Roll-a-Tex on canvas, 82 by 67 inches. Ackland Fund, 2020.20. ©2024 Peter Halley.

John Gibson, Peter Halley, Reggie Burrows Hodges, Val Lewton, Allan McCollum, Beverly McIver and Philip Taaffe. The Ackland has also collected internationally, and “Arranged” presents works by Etel Adnan (Lebanon), Esther Mahlangu (South Africa), Pin-aree Sanpitak (Thailand), Aníbal Villacis (Ecuador) and John Walker (Great Britain).

Ackland Art Museum is at 101 South Columbia Street. For information, 919-966-5736 or www.ackland.org.

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