

MISHKIN GALLERY

People in the City: Modern Portraits from the Baruch College Art Collection

September 16 – December 11, 2026

People in the City draws from photographs and prints in the permanent collection of Baruch College to look at how artists in the city have represented lovers, passersby, colleagues, and icons. From the construction of the contemporary celebrity image to the anonymous but instantly recognizable figure of the New Yorker, these works have shaped the genre of modern portraiture and help us understand what it meant to be human in the city between 1929-1986. **Edward Steichen's** celebrated *In the Studio* portfolio (1929-1932) is a defining work of modernist photography featuring Marlene Dietrich, Joan Crawford, and Rudolph Valentino. **Milt Hinton's** lively studio photographs of Billie Holiday, Count Basie, and other jazz greats document historic sessions and show musicians posing for the pages of *Esquire* magazine. Significant works by **Gary Winogrand** and **Jerome Liebling** capture mid-century metropolitan denizens on the street, while **Andy Warhol's** Polaroids of Dolly Parton and Sylvester Stallone and portraits taken for his *Interview* magazine are complicated by more intimate images of lovers and friends. Iconic portraits and self-portraits by **Alex Katz**, **Cindy Sherman**, and **Robert Longo** meditate on the role of representation and figuration in postwar American art. This exhibition examines portraiture through the lens of photographers and artists who helped to critically define the medium, and in turn, the urban individual.

The Baruch College collection, shaped by major charitable gifts and directed by the Mishkin Gallery, is a notable collection of modern and contemporary art with a focus on photography and works on paper. The Mishkin Gallery makes great art an active part of campus life at Baruch College through exhibitions, inclusive public programs, collection stewardship, and opportunities for experiential learning to expand understanding. This exhibition is organized by Maika Pollack, Mishkin Gallery Director, with support from public and private donors including The Gramercy Park Foundation, the Edith B. Stein Symposium Fund, Friends of the Mishkin Gallery, the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences at Baruch College (CUNY), Alfred Berger, Marge Fisher, Mona and Milton Hinton, Bernard Levine, Aaron Schechter and Elaine Abrams Schechter, the Class of 1992, the MONY Life Insurance Company, and The Andy Warhol Foundation Photographic Legacy Program. The Mishkin Gallery is located at 135 E. 22nd Street, NY. Gallery hours are M-F, 11 am – 6 pm and by appointment. For further information contact Marisa Malone at mishkingallery@baruch.cuny.edu or (646) 660 6653.

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Baruch College, CUNY
135 E. 22nd st. at Lexington
New York, NY

@mishkingallery
mishkingallery.baruch.cuny.edu