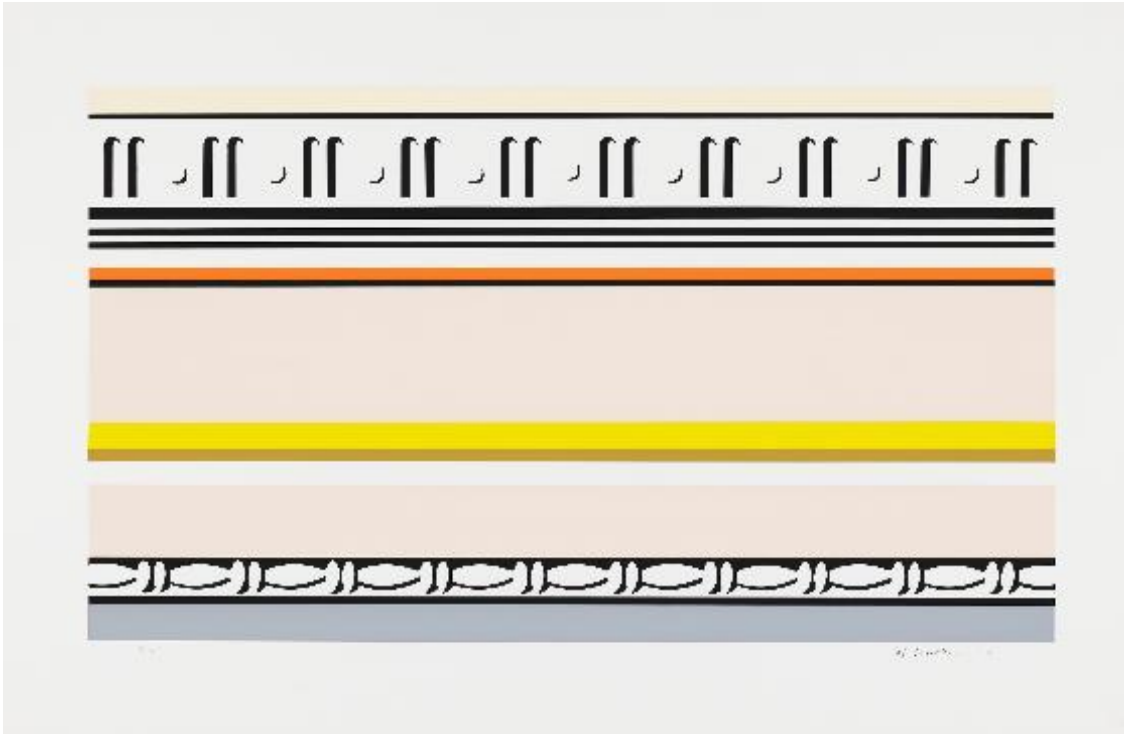


PRESS RELEASE



Roy Lichtenstein (1923-1997), *Entablature VIII*, 1976. Embossed screenprint and collage: sheet, 29 1/8 × 44 7/8 in. (74 × 114 cm); image, 21 13/16 × 38 in. (55.4 × 96.5 cm). Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; The Roy Lichtenstein Study Collection, gift of the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation 2019.141. © Estate of Roy Lichtenstein

ORDER AND ORNAMENT: ROY LICHTENSTEIN'S ENTABLATURES TO PROVIDE FOCUSED EXAMINATION OF ARTIST'S PROCESS

NEW YORK, July 29, 2019 – Opening September 27, *Order and Ornament: Roy Lichtenstein's Entablatures* will present a concentrated selection of fifteen works on paper related to the artist's *Entablatures* series, as well as a display of preparatory materials. The first exhibition at the Whitney devoted to the artist since the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation's transformative gift of the Roy Lichtenstein Study Collection, this focused look at a single pivotal series illustrates how the gift allows the Museum to examine the artist's work in new ways.

Order and Ornament highlights Lichtenstein's inventive processes and techniques across drawings, collages, prints, photographs, and archival materials, including one of the artist's sketchbooks. The works included in the capsule presentation range from never-before-exhibited photographic studies that initiated the *Entablatures* series in the early 1970s to the technically complex prints that form its culmination in 1976. Inspired by the architectural facades and ornamental motifs the artist encountered around Wall Street and elsewhere in Lower Manhattan, the works in the exhibition address many of Lichtenstein's central artistic themes while demonstrating a unique emphasis on texture, surface, relief, and reflectivity.

"The *Entablatures* series is an incredibly rich body of work, representing a high watermark for material experimentation in Lichtenstein's career. Multilayered in its formal and conceptual references, the series offers an incisive and drily ironic look at the intersection of contemporary art, Classical and modern architecture, and hackneyed emblems of, in the artist's words, "the establishment," said David Crane, curatorial fellow.

Named for the horizontal structures that rest atop the columns in Classical Greek architecture, Lichtenstein's *Entablatures* series represents a distinctly American derivative, one based in revivalist, industrialized imitations that were built en masse in the early twentieth century. By isolating these, Lichtenstein traces the effect of mass production and replication on cultural forms, much as he had done in his earlier Pop paintings of comics and consumer goods. A sustained investigation into pattern and repetition, the *Entablatures* series also underscores the echoes of Classical order embedded within the contemporaneous serial structures of Minimal sculpture and Color Field painting.

Order and Ornament: Roy Lichtenstein's Entablatures will be on view in the Susan and John Hess Family Gallery on the Museum's third floor.

Curatorial Credit

This exhibition is organized by David Crane, curatorial fellow.

Roy Lichtenstein Study Collection

An agreement between the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation and the Whitney established The Roy Lichtenstein Study Collection, initiated with a promised gift from the Foundation of over 400 examples of Lichtenstein's work in all media and from all periods of his working career, from the early 1940s to the artist's death in 1997. The collection comprises paintings, sculptures, prints, photographs, drawings, tracings, collages, and maquettes by the artist, as well as studio materials selected to represent Lichtenstein's artistic practice and process. The Foundation's planned gifts to other institutions in addition to the Whitney will encourage collaborations between the Museum and a host of other institutions throughout the country and internationally.

Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art

Spilling Over: Painting Color in the 1960s	March 29–August 18, 2019
2019 Whitney Biennial	May 17–September 22, 2019
The Whitney's Collection: Selections from 1900 to 1965	Opens June 28, 2019
Jason Moran	September 20, 2019–January 5, 2020
Order and Ornament: Roy Lichtenstein's Entablatures	Opening September 27, 2019
Rachel Harrison Life Hack	October 25, 2019–January 12, 2020
Alan Michelson: Wolf Nation	October 25, 2019–January 12, 2020
Pope.L: Instigation, Aspiration, Perspiration	Opens October 10, 2019
Making Knowing: Craft in Art 1950–2019	November 22, 2019–January 2021
Vida Americana: Mexican Muralists Remake American Art, 1925–1945	February–May 2020
Agnes Pelton: Desert Transcendentalist	March 13–June 21, 2020
Julie Mehretu	June 26–September 20, 2020
David Hammons: Day's End	2020
Jasper Johns	Opens Fall 2020

The Whitney Museum of American Art is located at 99 Gansevoort Street between Washington and West Streets, New York City. Museum hours are: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday from 10:30 am to 6 pm; Friday and Saturday from 10:30 am to 10 pm. Closed Tuesday except in July and August. Adults: \$25. Full-time students, visitors 65 & over, and visitors with disabilities: \$18. Visitors 18 years & under and Whitney members: FREE. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 7–10 pm. For general information, please call (212) 570-3600 or visit whitney.org.

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