



AMERICA ABROAD

ART AS DIPLOMACY



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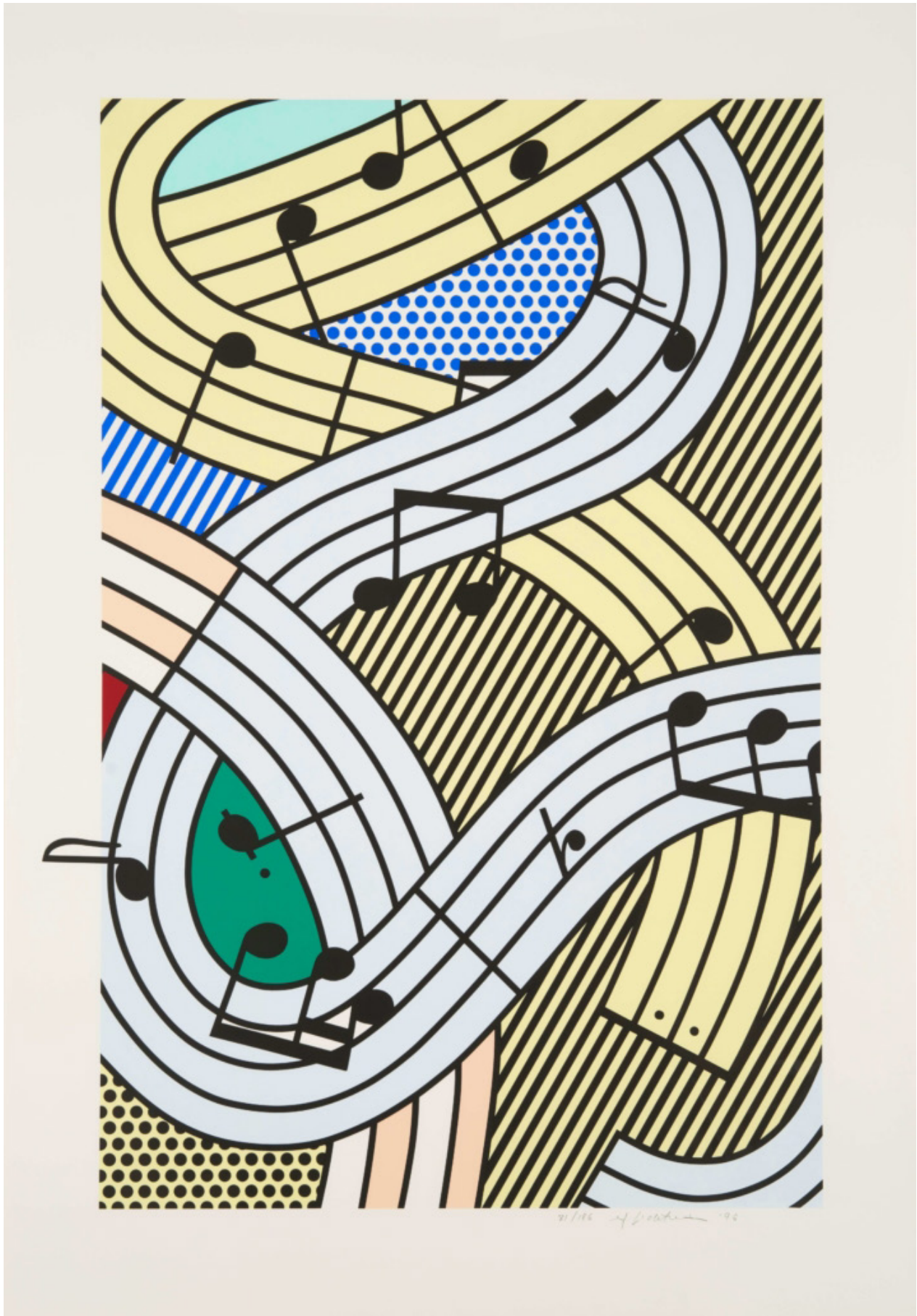
ART AS DIPLOMACY

For nearly 40 years, the Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies (FAPE) has been the public-private partnership dedicated to providing permanent works of American art for U.S. embassies worldwide. FAPE enhances our country's diplomatic efforts by contributing artworks that serve as silent ambassadors, bridging cultures and fostering mutual understanding.

In 2026, the United States will commemorate the 250th anniversary of our founding and FAPE will mark its 40th year of operations. To celebrate these milestones, FAPE, in collaboration with International Arts & Artists, will bring the works from its Original Print and Photography Collections to communities across the United States. The traveling exhibit, which will kick off in 2026 and run through 2030, will celebrate freedom of expression through art.

1. James Rosenquist, *The Stars and Stripes at the Speed of Light*, 2000, lithograph, 49 7/8" x 35 3/16" framed. Gift of the artist. Image: © James Rosenquist.





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2. Roy Lichtenstein, *Composition III*, 1996, screenprint, 54 7/8" x 38 5/16" framed. Gift of the artist and Gemini G.E.L. Image: © Estate of Roy Lichtenstein.
3. Sidney B. Felsen, Roy Lichtenstein "drawing" with black tape onto mylar illuminated by a light table in preparation for *Composition I*, 1995, digital photograph from *The Artist Observed* portfolio, 49" x 71" framed. Gift of the artist with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © Sidney B. Felsen.

THE ORIGINAL PRINT COLLECTION

began in 1989 when Frank Stella donated *The Symphony* in an edition large enough for a print to be sent to every U.S. embassy. It is FAPE's longest-running program, and we welcome a new artist's edition each year. There are now 35 artists in the Collection.

THE PHOTOGRAPHY COLLECTION

was founded in 2013, and each year a work is donated. Today, the Collection includes art by 16 artists.

4. Carrie Mae Weems, *Echoes For Marian* (detail), 2014, digital C-print, 73 1/2" x 61 1/2" framed. Gift of the artist with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © Carrie Mae Weems. Courtesy of the artist and Jack Shainman Gallery, NY.





5. William Wegman, *View Points* (detail), 2005, pigment print, 40" x 48" framed. Gift of the artist with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © William Wegman Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.



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American artists have shaped global perceptions of the United States since our nation's founding. Early colonists documented our landscapes, while post-World War II movements—Abstract Expressionism, Minimalism, and Pop Art—shifted the global art scene from Europe to the United States. Today, in the digital age, American art continues to challenge stereotypes and provide insight into our communities, reinforcing the idea that what unites us is greater than what divides us.

FAPE's Collection represents artists from different generations, like Ellsworth Kelly, a World War II veteran who studied art in Paris under the G.I. Bill; artists from Gee's Bend, Alabama, whose family descended from enslaved people; and artists born abroad but who have decided to call America home, like Julie Mehretu, originally from Ethiopia. Since FAPE's founding, the collection has been available to Ambassadors and State Department personnel to curate collections of their own. FAPE covers the cost of framing, crating, and shipping.



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6. Julie Mehretu, *Vertiginous Fold*, 2014, aquatint/spit bite, 36" x 50" framed. Gift of the artist and G.E.L. with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © Julie Mehretu.
7. Sidney B. Felsen, *Julie Mehretu painting onto a copper plate in the Gemini Artist Studio (detail)*, 2013, digital photograph from *The Artist Observed* portfolio, 49" x 71" framed. Gift of the artist with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © Sidney B. Felsen.



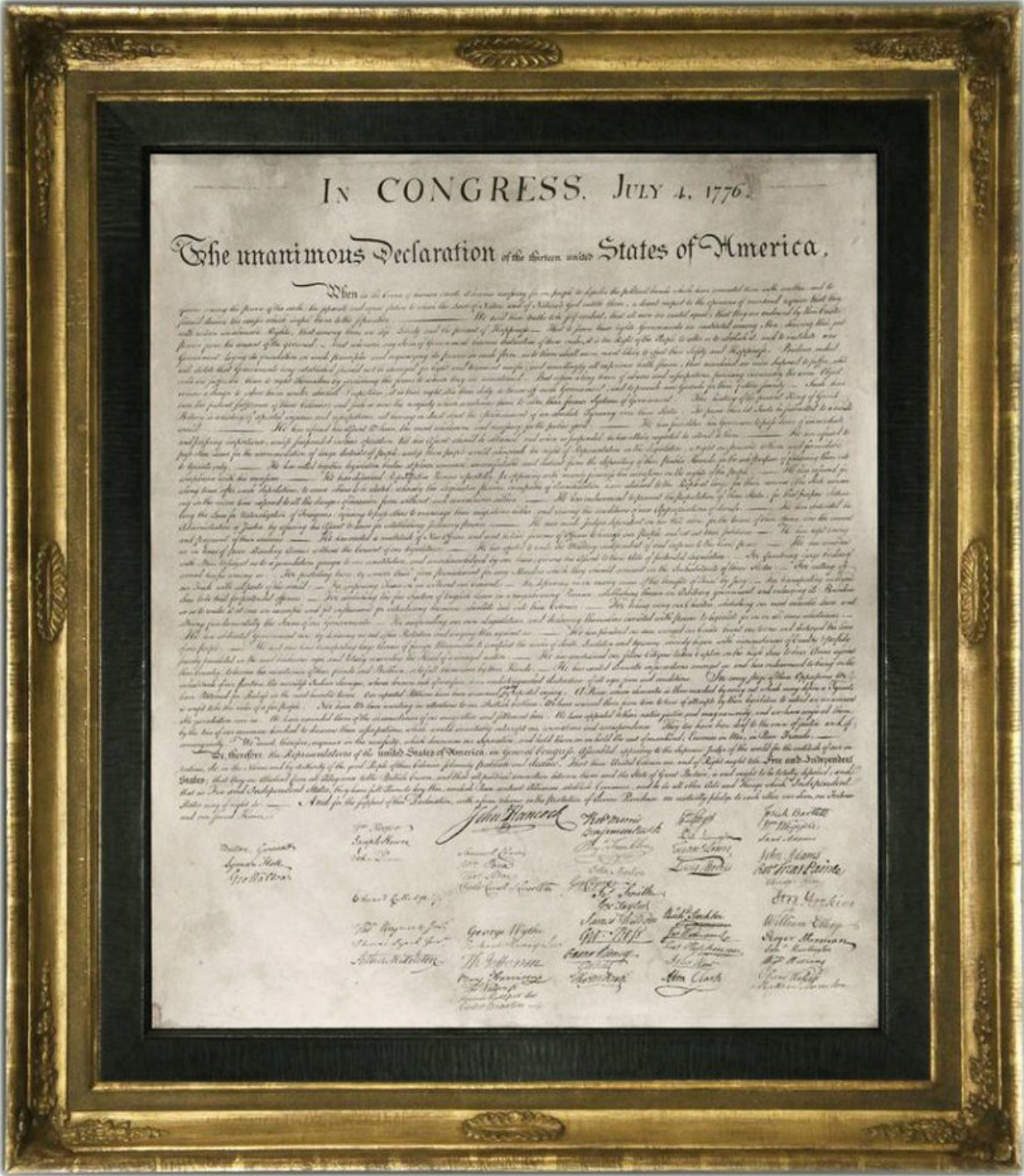
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THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

The Declaration of Independence established the foundations of free expression in America. It affirmed that governments must protect people's rights to "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness," as the U.S. Constitution later did by guaranteeing freedom of speech, press, assembly, and petition. In 2013, David M. Rubenstein, philanthropist and Co-Founder and Co-CEO of the Carlyle Group, donated a replica of the 1823 William J. Stone Engraving of the Declaration of Independence, which will be included as a cornerstone of the exhibition

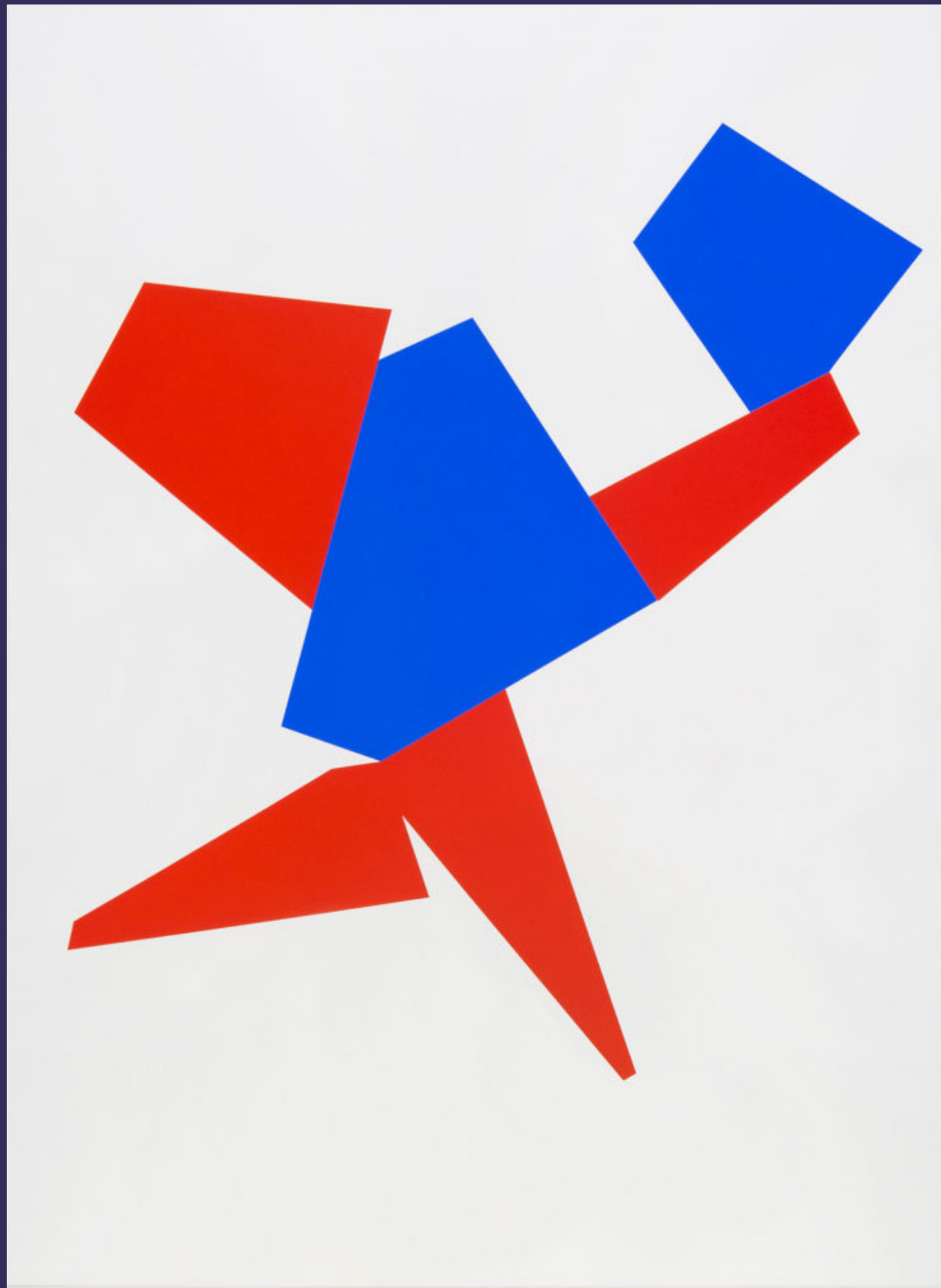
for viewers to consider how our freedom of expression has evolved since the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776.

America Abroad: Art as Diplomacy will prompt visitors to explore how artists have used those rights to share their ideas, inspire others, and build bridges between different communities around the world. Audiences will also have a chance to learn about diplomacy and see American art from an international perspective, as if they were a visitor at one of our embassies.



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8. Tina Barney, *Color Guard* (detail), 2007, chromogenic color print, 32" x 38" framed. Gift of the artist with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © Tina Barney.
9. Replica of the Declaration of Independence, William J. Stone engraving, 1823, 40" x 35" framed. Gift of David M. Rubenstein.



10. Joel Shapiro, *Toss-up*, 2012, screenprint, 42 1/4" x 32 3/4" framed. Gift of the artist and Gemini G.E.L. with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © Joel Shapiro Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.

PARTNERSHIPS

BANK OF AMERICA 

Since 2011, Bank of America has been FAPE's official sponsor. More than 35 editions have been added to our Original Print and Photography Collections thanks to their annual gift.

A portion of Bank of America's 2025 donation to FAPE has been earmarked to the framing and crating of the exhibition. Their support allows FAPE and IA&A to champion and showcase outstanding American art and the generosity of our nation's artists across the country.



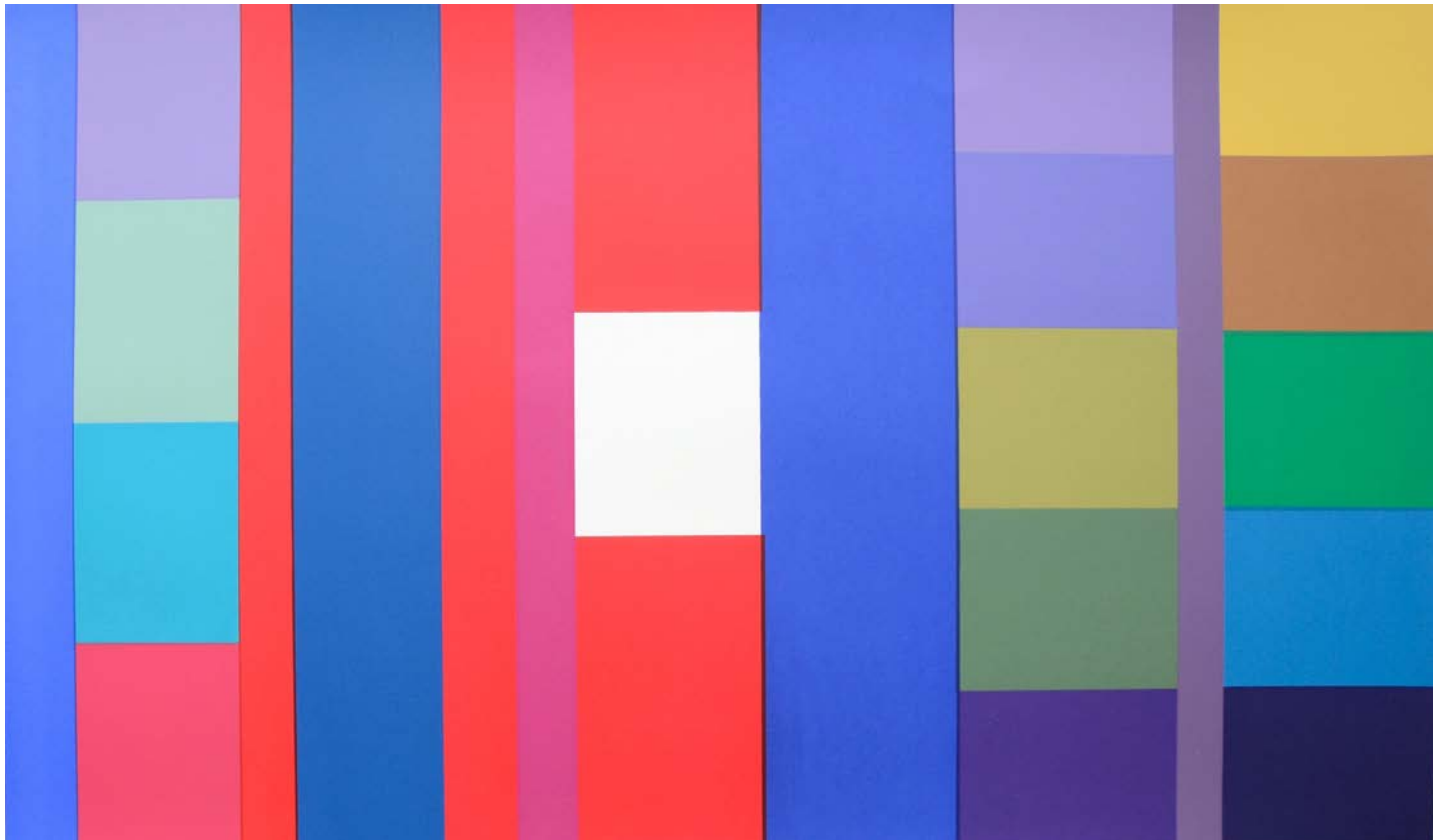
In 2007, FAPE added prints created by four Gee's Bend quilters, Mary Lee Bendolph, Louisiana Bendolph, Loretta Bennett, and Loretta Pettway, to our Original Print Collection. Paulson Fontaine Press generously donated the publishing of these editions.



Gemini G.E.L. ^{LLC} has been extremely supportive of FAPE, contributing the publishing of 10 print editions to our Original Print Collection. Founded in 1966, Gemini is an artists' workshop and publisher of limited edition prints and sculptures. At Gemini, the artists do all of the drawing or carving directly onto the printing elements. The edition is hand-printed by Gemini's master printers, and each print is signed and numbered by the artist as well as embossed with the Gemini 'chop.' Gemini has collaborated with more than 60 highly accomplished artists in lithography, etching, screen printing, woodcut, and a variety of sculptural materials.



Universal Limited Art Editions (ULAE) has generously contributed the publishing of the Carmen Herrera and Julian Lethbridge print editions.



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11. Sam Gilliam, *Colors*, 2018, silkscreen, 30" x 44" framed. Gift of the artist with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © Sam Gilliam Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.
12. Jeff Koons, *Play-Doh*, 2015, archival pigmented inkjet, 44" x 37 ½" framed. Gift of the artist with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © Jeff Koons.
13. Glenn Ligon, *Left Leaning*, 2016, aquatint/drypoint, 33" x 28" framed. Gift of the artist with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © Glenn Ligon.
14. Julian Lethbridge, *Hop and a Skip*, 2023, lithograph, 28" x 23" framed. Gift of the artist and Universal Limited Art Editions with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © Julian Lethbridge.
15. Philip Pearlstein, *Above Santa Fe*, 2019, lithograph, 38" x 48 ½" framed. Gift of the artist with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © Philip Pearlstein.



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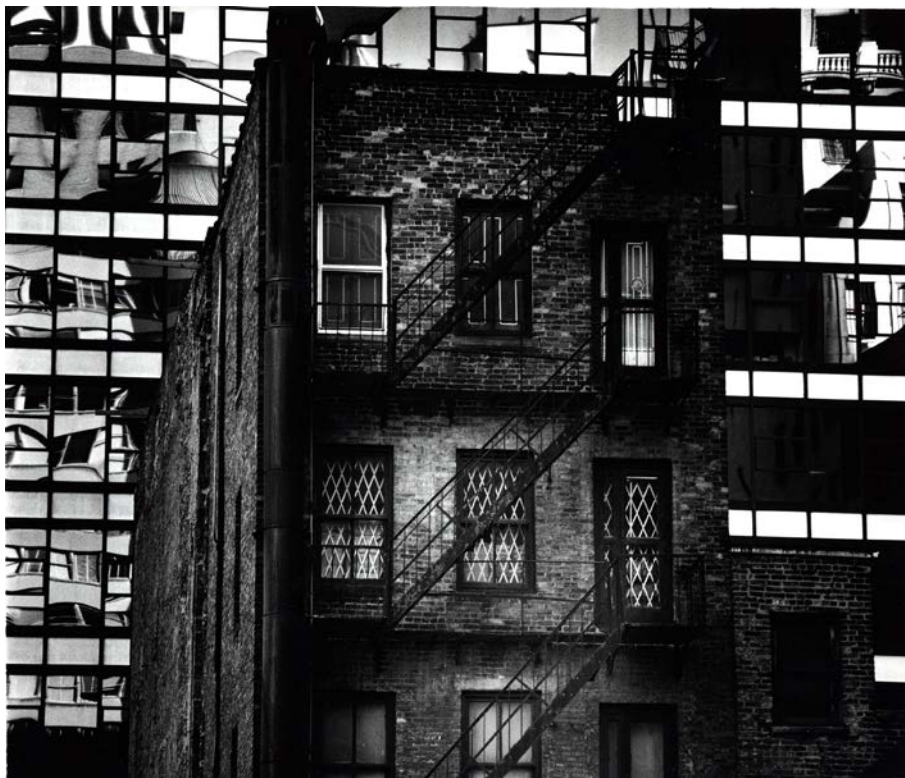


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16. Louisiana Bendolph, *Still have Joy/Tears of Pride*, 2007, aquatint/soft-ground etching, 42 $\frac{3}{16}$ " x 39" framed. Gift of the artist and Paulson Fontaine Press. Image: © Louisiana Bendolph.
17. Loretta Pettway, *Bricklayer*, 2007, aquatint/soft-ground etching, 41" x 33 $\frac{3}{8}$ " framed. Gift of the artist and Paulson Fontaine Press. Image: © Loretta Pettway.

18. Mary Lee Bendolph, *Down the Road*, 2006, aquatint/soft-ground etching, 37 $\frac{5}{16}$ " x 35 $\frac{5}{16}$ " framed. Gift of the artist and Paulson Fontaine Press. Image: © Mary Lee Bendolph.
19. Loretta Bennett, *Yellow Jack*, 2006, aquatint/soft-ground etching, 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ " framed. Gift of the artist and Paulson Fontaine Press. Image: © Loretta Bennett.
20. Robert Rauschenberg, *Domicile*, 1996, lithograph, 43 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 30" framed. Gift of the artist. Image: © Robert Rauschenberg Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY.





21. Brett Weston, portfolio of *Building Reflections*, c. 1980, silver gelatin prints, approximately 22" x 18" framed. Gift of the Christian Keesee Collection. Image: © Brett Weston.



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22. Diana Walker, *A Stop in New England on the Fourth of July* (detail), c. 1970s, archival inkjet print, 17" x 20" framed. Gift of the artist. Image: © Diana Walker.

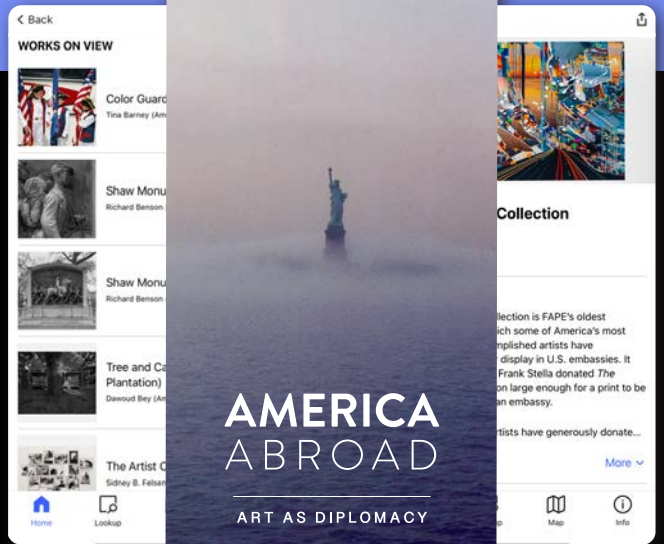
PROGRAMMING SUPPORT



FAPE, in partnership with IA&A, is committed to supporting related programming at exhibiting institutions. We will place a focus on educational aspects and community outreach that will enrich the local communities and spread appreciation for diplomacy and soft power.



America Abroad: Art as Diplomacy



BLOOMBERG CONNECTS DIGITAL GUIDE

Bloomberg Connects is a free mobile app developed by Bloomberg Philanthropies to enhance the arts and culture experience for visitors to museums, galleries, and other cultural institutions. The app features interactive guides to over 350 museums, galleries, gardens, and cultural spaces. QR codes on wall plaques and other printed materials will allow visitors to access the digital guide for the exhibition and explore behind-the-scenes content.

Bloomberg Connects has also offered to partner with any hosting institution that would like to start their own guide. The onboarding period is approximately 12 weeks, and Bloomberg Connects staff leads a thorough orientation process. They offer marketing support, collateral materials, transcription services, audio recording equipment, printed plaques and materials, among other resources—all at no cost. The Bloomberg Connects staff are also available on an ongoing basis for support and guidance.



FRONT Joel Grey, *The Statue of Liberty* (detail), 2023, pigment print, 62" x 43 3/4" framed. Gift of the artist with additional funding provided by Bank of America. Image: © Joel Grey.

BACK Elizabeth Murray, *Deep Blue C*, 2001, lithograph/screenprint, 34 13/16" x 49 3/16" framed. Gift of the artist and Gemini G.E.L. Image: © Elizabeth Murray.

EXHIBITION SPECIFICATIONS

Number of Works

Approximately 65 prints and photographs

Organized by

International Arts & Artists,
Washington, D.C.

In Collaboration with

Foundation for Art and
Preservation in Embassies

Booking Period

12 weeks

Requirements

Moderate security;
2,000–2,500 square feet

Shipping

Exhibitors pay outgoing shipping
costs within the contiguous U.S.

Tour

October 2026–December 2030

Contact

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