



Stettheimer Dollhouse Returns to the Museum of the City of New York's Galleries After Comprehensive Conservation Project

Press Preview: November 19, 2024, 10 a.m. to noon

New York, NY – [October 17, 2024] – The Museum of the City of New York (MCNY) is pleased to announce a new exhibition, *The Stettheimer Dollhouse in a New Light*. Opening on November 22, 2024, the exhibition heralds the dollhouse's return to the galleries following an extensive conservation project.

Handcrafted over nearly two decades by Carrie Stettheimer, the dollhouse encapsulates the elegance and vibrancy of New York City in the post-World War I era. As the city blossomed into a hub of art, theater, literature, and fashion, this extraordinary miniature world reflects the stylish lives of the Stettheimer sisters—Carrie, Ettie, and Florine—who were influential figures in New York's early 20th-century artistic community. While Ettie was a novelist and Florine a celebrated painter, Carrie devoted herself to this intricate creation, representing the avant-garde artistic circle of the 1920s.

A significant artistic enterprise in its own right, the dollhouse also features miniature works by renowned artists such as Marcel Duchamp and Gaston Lachaise, showcasing the vibrant cultural milieu of the time.

Curator Lilly Tuttle noted, "The Stettheimer Dollhouse is not just a stunning object; it is a testament to the creativity and cultural vibrancy of its time. This conservation project has allowed us to showcase its beauty and significance in a way that will engage and inspire our visitors."

Stephanie Hill Wilchfort, Ronay Menschel Director and President of the Museum, added, "We are thrilled to celebrate the return of this extraordinary work of art. The dollhouse invites us into a rich narrative about the lives and passions of the Stettheimer sisters, making it a must-see for anyone interested in New York's artistic heritage."

When the dollhouse is on view in the Museum's third floor galleries, it will be accompanied by dolls created in the 1970s by John Darcy Noble, the former curator of MCNY's toy collection. Using Florine Stettheimer's portrait of Carrie as a model, he aimed to imbue each doll with a style and character he described as "thoroughly Stettheimer." Noble

designed elaborate outfits from rich fabrics like tulle and chiffon to mirror the looks of notable figures in the Stettheimer circle, including Gertrude Stein and Edward Steichen, as well as the sisters themselves.

The dollhouse's conservation was done in collaboration with [Art Conservation Group](#), a New York-based studio that specializes in object conservation.

Please visit the Museum's website to learn more about the exhibition and the conservation of the dollhouse. High resolution images of the dollhouse are available upon request.

About the Museum of the City of New York

The country's first and largest city museum, the Museum of the City of New York fosters an understanding of the distinctive nature of urban life in the world's most influential metropolis. Through history, popular culture, and art, the Museum explores New York City's influence nationally and globally. Named the "Best Museum" in Time Out New York's "Best of the City 2021", MCNY holds a 750,000-object collection and hosts two permanent exhibitions; two immersive films; and four rotating exhibitions in its historic building at the top of Museum Mile.

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