

RALPH FASANELLA

Born 1914, New York, NY; died 1997.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 *Ralph Fasanella: Lest We Forget*, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.; American Folk Art Museum, New York, NY
Ralph Fasanella: The Art of Social Engagement, AFL-CIO Headquarters, Washington, D.C.
Everyday Heroes: Ralph Fasanella's Paintings of American Life, Fenimore Art Museum, Cooperstown, NY
- 2013 *Ralph Fasanella: A More Perfect Union*. Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY
Fasanella's Lawrence, Lawrence Heritage State Park Gallery, Lawrence, MA
- 2008 *Ralph Fasanella: Passionate Visionary of New York*, Art League of Long Island, Dix Hills, NY
- 2007 *Ralph Fasanella (1914-1997): Artist of the People*, ACA Galleries, NY
- 2002 *Ralph Fasanella's America*, Fenimore Art Museum, Cooperstown, NY; The New York Historical Society, New York, NY; The Mennello Museum of American Folk Art, Orlando, FL
- 2001 *Ralph Fasanella's America*, Fenimore Art Museum, Cooperstown, NY
Ralph Fasanella's American Panorama: A Memorial Exhibition, ACA Galleries, New York, NY
- 2000 *Fun City: Celebrating the Life of Ralph Fasanella*, Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY
Working People: The Art of Ralph Fasanella, Bread and Roses Cultural Project, New York, NY
Ralph Fasanella, The Main Street Gallery, Dobbs Ferry, NY
- 1999 *Urban Utopia: The Folk Art of Ralph Fasanella*, Avram Gallery, Southampton College, Long Island University, South Hampton, NY
- 1996 *Double Play: Baseball Paintings by Ralph Fasanella and John Dobbs*, ACA Galleries, New York, NY
- 1993 *"This Guy's Painting our Lives": Ralph Fasanella Worker Activist/Worker Artist*, Natural History Museum, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- 1990 Russell Rotunda, Russell Building, Washington, D.C.
- 1989 Jewett Hall Gallery, University of Maine, Augusta, ME
Paintings and Drawings from the Mill Series, Middlesex Community College, Lowell, MA; O'Leary Library Gallery, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, MA; Governor's State Room, Rhode Island State House, Providence, RI
- 1988 *Paintings and Drawings from the Mill Series*, Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, Andover, MA; Lawrence Visitor Center, Lawrence Heritage State Park, Lawrence, MA
- 1987 Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, MA
Blue Hill Cultural Center, Pearl River, NY
- 1986 *Urban Visions: The Paintings of Ralph Fasanella*, Tampa Museum of Art, Tampa, FL
- 1985 Hostos Art Gallery, Hostos Community College, Bronx, NY

Urban Visions: The Paintings of Ralph Fasanella, Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY; New York State Museum, Albany, NY; New Bedford Whaling Museum, New Bedford, MA; Museum of Art, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

- 1984 Galerie Felicie, New York, NY
Fenimore House Museum, Cooperstown, NY
- 1983 Fenimore House Museum, Cooperstown, NY
- 1981 Jay Johnson's America's Folk Heritage Gallery, New York, NY
Grey Art Gallery, New York University, New York, NY
- 1980 Gallery 1199, New York, NY
- 1979 Nardin Gallery, New York, NY
Posner Gallery, Milwaukee, WI
Columbia Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1977 Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, Andover, MA
- 1976 Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY
- 1974 Coe Kerr Gallery, New York, NY
- 1973 *Ralph Fasanella – Primitive Painter*, Shaw-Rimington Gallery, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Xerox Gallery, Rochester, NY
- 1972 Automation House Gallery, New York, NY
- 1968 *Ralph Fasanella*, St. Augustine's Church, The Bronx, NY
- 1966 Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY
- 1957 *Ralph Fasanella Paintings*, James Gallery, New York, NY
- 1954 *Ralph Fasanella*, The Teachers Center, New York, NY
- 1948 ACA Galleries, New York, NY
- 1947 *Painting by Ralph Fasanella*, ACA Gallery, New York, NY

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 *Introspective, a show of artists' self portraits*, Bravin Lee, New York, NY
The Armory Show, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY
World Made By Hand, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY
- 2014 The Armory Show, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY
- 2013 Outsider Art Fair, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY
- 2011 *Grandma Moses and the 'Primitive' Tradition*, Bennington Museum, Bennington, VT
- 1994 *Special Selections*, Hill Gallery, Birmingham, MI



- 1988 *City Folk – Ethnic Traditions in the Metropolitan Area*, Paine Webber Art Gallery, New York, NY
(presented by the American Folk Art Museum)
- 1987 *Diamonds Are Forever - Artists and Writers on Baseball*, New York State Museum, Albany, NY
Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, Washington, D.C.; followed by national tour
through 1982
The Grand Game of Baseball, Museum of the Borough of Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY
Play Ball: The Art of Baseball, The Castle Gallery, College of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY
- 1986 *Tides of Immigration*, Museum of the Borough of Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY
- 1984 *Beyond Tradition: Contemporary American Folk Art*, The Katonah Gallery, Katonah, NY;
followed by a national tour through 1988
American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, NY
- 1983 Rizolli Gallery, New York, NY
Staatliche Kunsthalle, West Berlin, Germany
- 1982 American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, NY (also exhibited 1983)
- 1981 *Champions of American Sport*, The National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.; followed by a national tour through 1984
Images of Labor, Gallery 1199, New York, NY
- 1977 *Acquisitions: 1974–1977*, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.
- 1958 National Academy of Design, New York, NY
- 1947 *Social Art Today*, ACA Galleries, New York, NY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2013 *Ralph Fasanella: A More Perfect Union*. New York: Andrew Edlin Gallery.
- 2001 D'Ambrosio, Paul S. *Ralph Fasanella's America*. Cooperstown: Fenimore Art Museum.
Elias, Robert, ed. *Baseball and the American Dream: Race, Class, Gender and the National
Passtime*. Armonk: M. E. Sharpe.
Fleming, Maria, ed. *A Place at the Table: Struggles for Equality in America*. New York: Oxford
University Press.
Zandy, Janet, ed. *What We Hold in Common: An Introduction to Working-Class Studies*. New
York: Feminist Press at the City University of New York.
- 2000 Green, James R. *Taking History to Heart: The Power of the Past in Building Social Movements*.
Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press.
- 1993 *Images: Pictorial History of Italian-Americans*. New York: Center for Migration Studies of New
York.
- 1988 Okun, Rob A., ed. *The Rosenbergs - Collected Visions of Artists and Writers*. New York:
Universe Books.
Wallock, Leonard. *New York: Culture Capital of the World*. New York: Rizzoli International
Publishers.
- 1987 Gordon, Peter. *Diamonds are Forever: Artists and Writers on Baseball*. San Francisco:
Chronicle Books.
Kurtz, Bruce D. *Visual Imagination: Art Introduction to Art*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall.

- 1986 Giordano, Joseph, ed. *The Italian-American Catalog*, New York: Doubleday.
- 1985 Foner, Philip and Reinhard Schultz. *The Other America*. Newbury Port: Journeyman Press.
- 1984 Bihalji-Merin and Nabojša-Bato Tomasevic. *World Encyclopedia of Naive Art*, New York: Scala Arts Publishers, Inc.
- 1983 Chwast, Seymour and Steven Heller. *The Art of New York*. New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc.
Foner, Philip and Reinhard Schultz. *Das Andere Amerika* (German) Berlin: Elefant Press.
Johnson, Jay and William Ketchum, Jr. *American Folk Art of the 20th Century*. New York: Rizzoli International Publishers.
- 1982 Rodman, Seldon. *Artists in Tune with Their World*. New York: Simon and Schuster.
Von Blum, Paul. *The Critical Vision*. New York: South End Press.
- 1981 Casewitz, Curtis W. *Making a Living in the Fine Arts*. New York: Collier Books.
Foner, Moe. *Images of Labor*. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press.
Pachter, Marc, Amy Henderson, Jeanette Hussey and Margaret Christman. *Champions of American Sport*. New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc.
Rosenak, Chuck and Jan Rosenak. *Museum of American Folk Art Encyclopedia of American Folk Art and Artists*. New York: Abbeville Press.
- 1980 Berger, John. *About Looking*. New York: Pantheon Books.
- 1979 Bishop, Robert. *Folk Painters of America*. Boston: E.P. Dutton & Co.
- 1975 Horwitz, Elinor Lander. *Contemporary American Folk Artists*. Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott & Co.
Möllerström, Sten, ed. *Glad Konst!* Malmö, Sweden: Bra Böcker
- 1974 Hemphill Jr. Herbert W. and Julia Weissman. *Twentieth Century American Folk Art and Artists*. Boston: E.P. Dutton & Co.
- 1973 Fasanella, Ralph and Patrick Watson. *Fasanella's City*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

ARTICLES

- 2014 Rosenberg, Karen. "The Working Class Made Colorful: 'Ralph Fasanella: Lest We Forget' at the American Folk Art Museum," *New York Times*, August 30.
O'Sullivan, Michael, "Art Review: 'Ralph Fasanella: Lest We Forget'," *Washington Post*, June 5.
- 2011 Cotter, Holland, "American History, Sliced to Order," *New York Times*, July 31.
- 2010 Fasanella, Marc, "The Utopian Vision of an Immigrant's Son: The Oil on Canvas Legacy of Ralph Fasanella," *Italian Americana Art*, Summer.
- 2008 Genocchio, Benjamin, "Bold, Colorful and Detailed," *New York Times*, May 18.
- 2002 Saltz, Jerry, "Working Class Hero," *artnet*, June 12.
Glueck, Grace, "Where Nitty Met Gritty On Jampacked Canvases," *New York Times*, May 31.
Leduff, Charlie, "Neighborhood Report: City Lore; A Self-Taught Artist's Blue-Collar City and What's Left of It," *New York Times*, March 24.
- 2000 Lombardi, D. Dominick, "Recalling the Life of Ralph Fasanella," *New York Times*, August 13.
- 1999 Braff, Phyllis, "Works on Paper, With a Difference," *New York Times*, February 20.

- 1997 Smith, Roberta, "Ralph Fasanella, 83, Primitive Painter, Dies," *New York Times*, December 18.
Gonzalez, David, "Making Art That Imitates One Man's Life," *New York Times*, May 14.
- 1995 D'Ambrosio, Paul D. "Ralph Fasanella: The Making of a Working-Class Artist." *Folk Art* 20, no.2, Summer.
- 1993 Carroll, Peter. "Ralph Fasanella limns the story of the workingman," in *Smithsonian*, August, pp. 58-59.
- "The Street of Dreams," *New Yorker*, Cover, May 31.
- 1990 Howe, Marvin, "Son of Immigrants, a Self-Made Artist May Arrive, Symbolically, on Ellis I.," *New York Times*, May 27, 1990.
- 1989 Nacelewicz, Tess, "Mill scenes strike a chord," *Lewiston Daily Sun*, May 25.
- 1988 Rothenberg, Alex, "Work pays off as Lawrence acquires strike art," *Boston Globe*, May 2.

FILM/TELEVISION

- 1990 *Unknown Secrets - Art in the Rosenberg Era*, Green Mountain Post Films, includes interview with Ralph Fasanella
Forever Baseball - The American Experience Series, PBS, includes interview with Ralph Fasanella
- 1988 *Ralph Fasanella - Italics Episode 4*, Italian-American News Institute, The City University of New York, Graduate Center
- 1987 *CBS Sunday Morning with Charles Kuralt*, November *Diamonds are Forever Exhibit*, including two paintings by Fasanella - "Night Game - Yankee Stadium" and "Sandlot Game"
- 1986 *CBS Sunday Morning with Charles Kuralt*, October 5, Ralph Fasanella in New Bedford, during exhibit at the Whaling Museum
- 1985 *Urban Visions - Ralph Fasanella*, Herbert F. Johnson, Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, June
- 1981 *Ralph Fasanella: Song of the City*, Jack Ofield, Director, 25 min., color, 16mm
- 1979 *The Dick Cavett Show*, WNET/THIRTEEN, January 2
- 1977 Mike MacIntyre, BBC/TV

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover, MA
Administration Building, State of Rhode Island, Providence, RI
American Folk Art Museum, New York, NY
Baseball Hall of Fame, Cooperstown, NY
City Hall, Bedford, MA
Ellis Island Immigration Museum, New York, NY
Harold Washington Public Library, Chicago, IL
Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.
Labor Museum and Learning Center, Flint, MI



Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitors Center, Lawrence, MA
Lewiston/Auburn College, Lewiston, ME
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
Milwaukee Museum of Art, Milwaukee, WI
New Bedford City Hall, New Bedford, MA
New York State Historical Association –Fenimore House Museum, Cooperstown,
NY Oakland International Airport, Oakland, CA
Oakland Public Library, Oakland, CA
O'Leary Library, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, MA
Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.
State Capitol Building, Lansing, MI
United States Capitol Building, Washington, D.C.
U.S. State Department, Washington, D.C.