THE RENEE & CHAIM GROSS FOUNDATION



PRESS RELEASE

Foundation offers expanded tour times, Wednesday-Saturday

May 2, 2019, New York City—The Renee & Chaim Gross Foundation is pleased to announce expanded House & Studio Tour times from Wednesday through Saturday of the historic home, studio, and art collections of American sculptor Chaim Gross and his wife Renee in Greenwich Village. The increased availability will allow a broader audience to visit the Foundation by increasing evening and weekend hours.

New tour times are:

Wednesdays, 3 and 6 pm Thursdays, 3 and 6 pm Fridays, 1 and 3 pm Saturdays, 1 and 3 pm

House & Studio Tours at the Foundation are approximately one hour long and explore three floors of the historic LaGuardia Place building. Admission is \$15 per person. Tours cover Gross's first-floor sculpture studio and gallery, renovated in 1963 by the artist and later restored in 2017-18, as well as the Foundation's special exhibition space on the second floor. The third floor houses the Grosses' living and dining space featuring hundreds of works from their extensive private art collection, including important American paintings by Marsden Hartley, Willem de Kooning, Milton Avery, Jacob Lawrence, and others, installed by the artist with his African, Oceanic, Pre-Columbian, and decorative arts and preserved as it was during his lifetime. The Foundation has been called a hidden treasure of New York City and is featured in the acclaimed guidebooks *111 Places in New York That You Must Not Miss* (Emons, 2015) and *111 Museums in New York That You Must Not Miss* (Emons, 2018). Public tours are limited to eight people. Online reservations are requested through Eventbrite and should be booked by following the link on the Foundation's website. Tours are scheduled from the week after Labor Day through the end of June. The Foundation is closed for scheduled tours in July and August.

About Chaim Gross

Chaim Gross (1904-91) was an American sculptor whose prolific career spanned seven decades. Gross emigrated from war-torn Europe in 1921 and studied at the Educational Alliance Art School, Art Students League, and Beaux-Arts Institute of Design. He had his first solo show in 1932 at Gallery 144, leading to acquisitions by major American museums including The Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art. He is known primarily for his direct carvings in wood and his soaring bronzes, often depicting families or acrobats. His work is in collections throughout the United States, with a significant portion at the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, D.C. A great philanthropist as well as a great collector, Gross donated hundreds of objects to museums around the world. He collected broadly, with a focus on the work of his American contemporaries and African arts. His outdoor bronze sculpture *The Family* (1979), gifted to the City of New York in 1991, continues to be an attraction in Bleecker Street Playground at the corner of West 11th Street and is only a short walk from the Renee & Chaim Gross Foundation.

About the Foundation

The Renee & Chaim Gross Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization incorporated in New York State in 1988. The Foundation's mission is to further the legacy of Chaim Gross through high-quality research, exhibitions, and educational activities around the historic building and art collections for audiences in New York City and beyond. For more information, please visit the Foundation's website at www.rcgrossfoundation.org.

For more information about the Renee & Chaim Gross Foundation, please contact Sasha Davis, Executive Director, at <u>sashadavis@rcgrossfoundation.org</u>