This guide is designed for visitors viewing the Hofstra University Museum’s exhibition American Perspectives: 1907-1992. Curated by Eleanor Rait, the Museum’s curator of collections, the exhibition features 36 Hofstra University Museum works of art. Created over an 85-year time span, the exhibition exemplifies the predominant art movements of the 20th century.

This guide will invite you to look carefully and thoughtfully, and to learn about the Modernist Art period and beyond. The exhibition is arranged chronologically to give visitors a broad historical overview of the major art movements. As you walk through this exhibition, you will find paintings, prints and photographs on the walls, complemented with sculptures on pedestals.

To discover the roots of early modernism, we must first look back to the end of the 1880s and 1890s in Europe. The heart of the art world was in Paris, and artists depicted landscapes and intimate scenes of everyday life using natural light, rapid brushwork and a slightly colored palette. This movement became known as Impressionism because artists such as Edgar Degas, Claude Monet and Pierre-Auguste Renoir were attempting to capture the subjective impression of light in a scene.

Many American artists traveled to Europe to attend exhibitions, see new works and to sculpt studios for training in these avant-garde techniques and developments. By the turn of the century, France was the new center on the scene, growing out of Post-Impressionism. Odilon Redon and Henri Matisse championed strong avant-garde techniques and developments. By the turn of the century, the art world was in Paris, and artists depicted landscapes and intimate scenes of everyday life using natural light, rapid brushwork and a slightly colored palette. This movement became known as Impressionism because artists such as Edgar Degas, Claude Monet and Pierre-Auguste Renoir were attempting to capture the subjective impression of light in a scene.

The New York Times called Peterson one of the foremost female painters in New York.
In the 1950s and early 1960s, the term “American Scene Painting” referred to a popular style during the Great Depression, which was seen as an attempt to define a uniquely American style of art. Artists associated with this movement included Grant Wood, John Steuart Curry and Andrew Wyeth. This movement was concerned with depicting rural life and was critical of the modernism he had seen in Europe, and Paris. After he returned to New York in 1912 and Benton was an artist from Missouri who trained at the Chase School of Art in New York with Willem de Kooning, who was a native of Chicago, and she received her B.F.A. and M.F.A. in Chicago. As a member of the Broadc这是一种的运动，such artists explored the surface of the canvas, without suggesting an interpretation. These paintings are considered to be the origin of the movement, called Photo Realism, in which painters created canvases in a style closely resembling photographs. While at times the subject matter can have a strong emotional impact, it often does not convey any particular message. The founding members of the movement are Richard Estes for his street scenes, and Chuck Close for his large portraits. The artist used photo-derived images and developed his own technique of silk-screen painting using thousands of dots and colors. The dots were handmade, and the entire canvas was hand-painted and then printed, and used the layers to separate warm colors from cool colors.

Contemporary art refers to new forms of artistic expression from 1975 to the present. It seeks to deconstruct accepted imagery, past labels and categories, with a special focus on gender, ethnicity and sexual and feminist identities that were previously marginalized. Contemporary art explores the emergence and proliferation of late 20th century technology. Artists have embraced a full range of electronic media such as computer software, video, Internet, animation, robotics, information technology, sound, performance art and many others. An important art movement of this time was Super Realism (also called Photo Realism) in which painters created canvases in a style closely resembling photographs. While at times the subject matter can have a strong emotional impact, it often does not convey any particular message. The founding members of the movement are Richard Estes for his street scenes, and Chuck Close for his largescale portraits. The artist used photo-derived images and developed his own technique of silk-screen painting using thousands of dots and colors. The dots were handmade, and the entire canvas was hand-painted and then printed, and used the layers to separate warm colors from cool colors.